

**A MEAL PRAYER FOR CHRISTMAS**



Loving God, on this Christmas day we give thanks that Jesus, your Son, has come into our world bringing us gifts of peace & joy.

Bless us as we sit down together at this table for our Christmas meal. Bless the food we share, and help us to remember those who are hungry. Be with our neighbours and our friends, all who are lonely, sick or away from home. We pray that our departed loved ones may now sit at your table in heaven.

May the joy of this feast give us strength and light, now and in the days ahead. **AMEN**

**GRACEFIELD GAA LOTTO RESULTS 19/12/22**

Numbers 13, 04, 29, 23 – No jackpot winner. €50 to:- Ray McEvoy / Charlotta Brereton / Jack & Mikey Costello / Ann O'Connor & to John Wallace. Promoter Prize: Christy Bryan Christmas Bonus €30 each to:- John Maher / Thomas Coleman / Olan O'Sullivan / Amanda Murphy

**PORTARLINGTON CREDIT UNION DECEMBER DRAW RESULTS**

€10,000 – Margaret (Marie) Lawlor €2,000 – Dawn Thompson & to Austin Brereton €1,000 – Teresa Mooney & to James Gallagher €500 – David Dunne/ Odhran Whelehan / Suraya Belelie / David Ryan / Bridin Fogarty / Patrick Cooper / Chelsea O'Callaghan / William O'Fingleton / Michael Dunne & Shona Mooney €350 – Susan Dunne / €300 Angela Kelly Congratulations to all our winners.

**EMO / RATH PARISH LOTTO 19/12/22**

Numbers 4, 6, 9, 23 No jackpot winner. €25 to each of the following:- Mena O'Connell / Millie Murphy / Adam O'Connell / Ollie & Tommy Lawlor / Paula Bourke. Next draw will take place on 9<sup>th</sup> January. Jackpot €7,600 Tickets available in Emo Shop, the Village Shop, Ballybrittas & the Parish Office, Portarlinton.

**OFFALY ALZHEIMER CAFE**

Bridge House Hotel – Tullamore. Mon. 9<sup>th</sup> January at 10.30am. Everybody welcome. For further info. contact Claire Dolan 087 7151323 or email [Claire.dolan@alzheimier.ie](mailto:Claire.dolan@alzheimier.ie)

**NATIONAL LIVE-IN SERVICE**

Are you, or is someone you know, living with a long term health condition? If so, then you may be interested in the 'Living Well Programme'. Living well is a FREE ONLINE, 6 week group self-management programme for adults living with long term health conditions such as asthma, COPD, diabetes, heart conditions, stroke 7 others, to name but a few. The Living Well Programme supports people to develop the skills and confidence to live with their health conditions. There are spaces available on our January programmes. To book a place contact Aine on 041 6850676 / 087 1140371 or Joanne on 041 6860710 / 087 4308735 or [www.hse.ie/livingwell](http://www.hse.ie/livingwell)



**CHRISTMAS DAY COLLECTION**

Collection for the support of the Priests of the Parish will take place at all Masses on Christmas Day. Envelope available in your development boxes or at the Church Porch.

**May the hope, peace, joy and love of Christ be with you and your loved ones this Christmas**



**PRAYER FOR OPENING GIFTS**



Let me just for a moment, Lord, hold this time in my heart. It is about mysteries and gratitude, unknowing and wrong sizes, snippets of ribbon and screams of delight. Help me to remember the immense love you have for each of us in this room. With each gift that is opened, no matter how perfect or not, let me feel again the many ways you gift us each day, especially with your presence in our hearts and the presence of each other in our lives.

**ONCE UPON A TIME...**

When the song of the angels is stilled, When the star in the sky is gone, When the kings and princes are home, When the shepherds are back with their flock, The work of Christmas begins: To find the lost, To heal the broken, To feed the hungry, To release the prisoner, To rebuild the nations, To bring peace among brothers & sisters, To make music in the heart. *Howard Thurman*

**SCHOOL ENROLMENT 2022/2023**

**Rath N.S.** – Junior Infants 2023: Thurs. 5<sup>th</sup> Jan. until Fri. 27<sup>th</sup> Jan. Forms available from our website [www.rathns.ie](http://www.rathns.ie) or phone Amanda at 057 8626270 or email [office@rathns.com](mailto:office@rathns.com)  
**Emo N.S.** – 5<sup>th</sup> January 2023 on line [emons.ie](http://emons.ie)  
**Cloneyhurke N.S.** – 13<sup>th</sup> January until 4<sup>th</sup> February 2023. Forms available at [info@cloneyhurke.net](mailto:info@cloneyhurke.net) or phone 057 8623271, alternatively from [www.cloneyhurke.net](http://www.cloneyhurke.net)  
**Scoil Naomh Eoin, Killenard** – Thurs. 12<sup>th</sup> Jan. until Fri. 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2023. Forms from [www.killenardschool.weebly.com](http://www.killenardschool.weebly.com) / Collect from school office / request by email to [office@naomheoin.ie](mailto:office@naomheoin.ie) or phone 057 8626217.  
**Scoil Phadraig, Canal Road** – 5<sup>th</sup> January until 26<sup>th</sup> January 2023. [www.stpatricksbns.ie](http://www.stpatricksbns.ie) or email [info@stpatricksbns.ie](mailto:info@stpatricksbns.ie) or writing to Scoil Phadraig, Canal Road, Portarlinton R32 Y6K7.  
**Presentation Primary School** - Early Intervention Classes (Preschool ASD). 5<sup>th</sup> January until 26<sup>th</sup> January 2023. Applicants must confirm acceptance of an admission offer by 20<sup>th</sup> March 2023.

**SUPPORT FOR THE PARISH**

If you wish to make a donation to Portarlinton / Emo Parishes, please see bank details below, where you can transfer directly to the Parish Accounts.

**PORTARLINGTON PARISH**

B.O.I. Portarlinton BOFIE2D  
Portarlinton Parish No. 1 Account  
IBAN - IE28 BOFI 9018 6154 5717 14  
Portarlinton Parish Clergy Fund A/C  
IBAN: IE59 BOFI 9018 6196 5850 57

**EMO PARISH**

B.O.I. Mountmellick BOFIE2D  
Emo Church No. 1 Account  
IBAN - IE16 BOFI 9018 1051 4302 54  
Emo Parish Clergy Fund Account  
IBAN: IE34 BOFI 9018 1022 2378 77

**CHARITABLE DONATIONS**

Any Parishioner giving more than €250 to the Parish will entitle the Parish to a tax refund. This includes donations made by both PAYE persons and Self Employed persons. On this basis any Parishioner who contributes €250 or more to the Parish in 2022, this donation will entitle the Parish to a tax rebate. Forms available from the Parish Office. Sincere thanks for your generosity in contributing to the Parish.

**PORTARLINGTON PARISH ENVELOPES**

The envelope boxes are available at the Church porches or from the Parish Office. The boxes contain weekly collection envelopes & special collection envelopes. To register write your name & address on 1<sup>st</sup> envelope. This contribution goes towards the upkeep of schools, churches & parish buildings. Sincere thanks for continued contributions.

**ST. BRIGID'S SOCIAL CLUB**

**CLONEYHURKE - R32 CY89**  
Social Dance Appreciation Night  
Ring in the New Year on Sat. 31<sup>st</sup> December with Pat Daly. Doors open 9pm. Admission €5. Refreshments served.

**ANAM CARA**

Anam Cara Midlands, the organisation that supports bereaved parents, is holding its monthly Parent Evening for bereaved parents on Wed. 11<sup>th</sup> Jan. at 7:15pm in the Mullingar Park Hotel. This event is free and open to all bereaved parents regardless of the age your child died, the circumstances of their death, or whether their death was recent or not. We also offer an online service. For more info call 01 4045378.

**USED STAMPS**

Used stamps needed for the missions. Drop them into 'The Nook', Patrick Street.

**ANNUAL LIONS CLUB**

Church Gate Collections in aid of Portarlinton Lions Club week end of 7<sup>th</sup> / 8<sup>th</sup> January. Please give generously.

**GOAL MILE**

Sponsored by A.I.B. The Goal Mile will take place in McCann Park on Christmas morning from 11am – 11.30am.



**PARISHES OF PORTARLINGTON & EMO**

**PRIESTS PHONE NUMBERS**

Very Rev. Thomas Dooley P.P. Tel: (057) 8643004 Rev. Joe O'Neill C.C. Tel: (057) 8646517  
Very Rev. Michael Noonan P.E. Tel: (057) 8623431

**PARISH OFFICE**

Tel: 057 8643004 - Email: [portarlintonparishoffice@eircom.net](mailto:portarlintonparishoffice@eircom.net) / Parish Office Hours: 9.30am – 1.30pm Mon. – Fri.  
Anniversary Masses, Baptisms and Weddings can be booked by contacting the Parish Office during opening hours.

**DIocese** [www.kandle.ie](http://www.kandle.ie)

**SAMARITANS 24-hour helpline:** 116 123 Email: [jo@samaritans.org](mailto:jo@samaritans.org)

**ST. VINCENT DE PAUL** 087 7640557 **AWARE** Lo-call Helpline 1890 303 302 **G.R.O.W.** [www.grow.ie](http://www.grow.ie) Info: 1890 474 474

**PARISH SAFEGUARDING REPRESENTATIVES:** Jackie McNulty; Frances O'Dwyer; Mary Joyce; Clare Nerney

Kathleen Sherry – Director of Safeguarding - Tel: 085-8021633 [dip@kandle.ie](mailto:dip@kandle.ie) E-mail [safeguarding@kandle.ie](mailto:safeguarding@kandle.ie)

**MASS TIMES**

**St. Michael's Church, Portarlinton**  
10am Daily Mass (Monday – Friday)  
6.15pm (Vigil – Sat.), 9am & 12.15pm Sunday  
**St. John's Church, Killenard** 10.30am Sun.  
**St. Paul's Church, Emo**  
7.30pm (Vigil – Sat.) & 11am Sun.  
**Sacred Heart Church, Rath** 9am Sun.



**CELEBRATION OF MASS VIA WEBCAM**

Link to live streaming from St. Michael's Church, Portarlinton  
[www.mcnmedia.tv/camera/st-michaels-church-portarlinton](http://www.mcnmedia.tv/camera/st-michaels-church-portarlinton)

Portarlinton & Emo Parish @EmoParish

**SUNDAY 25<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2022**

**The Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ**

**YEAR A**

**WEEKEND MASSES PORTARLINGTON**



**Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> December – 6.15pm**  
Jack Boylan, Spa St. (6<sup>th</sup> Anniv.); Bridie Denton, Kilmalogue Garden (6<sup>th</sup> Anniv.)  
Fiona Lamb, Avondale; Jim Lawlor, Lea Rd; Dec. members of the Broughail, McCormack, Power & Delaney Families; Anthony (Chappy) Maloney, Park Avenue (1<sup>st</sup> Anniv.); Johnny Allen, Assumpta Tce; Catherine, Mary, Fran, Joan, Pat, Jim & James Browne; Eileen & Vincent Meredith; Michael Moore, St. Michael's Pk; Elizabeth & Edward Moore, St. Patrick's Tce; Arthur & Ellen Thompson & son, Luke, Tullow; Mary & Ellen Malone, Kilbride; Matt & Gretta Quinn, daughter Angela & granddaughter Caroline & grandson Barry, Drogheda & Monasterevin, Paddy & Mary Ann Murray, Cushina; Sons Paddy Jnr. & Mike; Dan O'Donoghue, Cork; Peter Sheils, Birmingham; Molly & Frank Wyer, Cushina

**Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> December – 9pm Vigil**  
Clare O'Byrne, Station Rd; Tommy Dunne, Patrick's Ave; Sean & Eileen Powell, Spa St; Billy & Kathleen Whelan, Marian Hill; Tom & Mollie Keegan; Abe Evans; Tommy Keegan Jnr; Alan Jones & Noel Jones, Garryhinch; Annie Phillips, Seskin; Michael & Esther Murphy, Annamoe; Michael Murphy Jnr; Sean & Tom Murphy & dec. members of the Murphy Family; Michael & Cissie Emerson, Spa St; Cecil & Mary Ann Emerson, St. Michael's Pk; Pete McLaughlin, Kilmalogue Downs; Kathleen, John & Marion Kealey, Wicklow; Lily Melia; Matthew & Betty Sheedy, Clondoolusk; Patrick & Mary McNamara, Clondoolusk; Margaret Brereton, Monasterevin; Catherine & James Hennessy, Bracklone St; Oliver O'Reilly, Avondale; Tom & Susan Guinan, Tullamore

**Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> December – 9am**  
Robert Smart, Drogheda & Avondale (MM); People of the Parish

**Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> December – 12.15pm**  
Robert Smart, Drogheda & Avondale (MM); Lar Dempsey, Clondoolusk; Sheila, Elizabeth & Patrick Taylor, St. Michael's Pk. & Bradford; Emmett McConville; Tommy & Rose Hoey; Janina Guidene; Pedras Gudas; Regina Jablonskiene; Stase Bracskiene; Paddy Bennett & Dec. members of the Bennett Family, Main St; Dec. members of the Keogh Family, Shandra Dec. members of the Gorman Family, Mountmellick

**WEEKDAY ANNIV. PORTARLINGTON**

Mon. 26<sup>th</sup> Dec. – Sean O'Keeffe, Bishopswood (1<sup>st</sup> Anniv.)  
Tues. 27<sup>th</sup> Dec. –  
Wed. 28<sup>th</sup> Dec. – Alice McCann / Pat Butler  
Thurs. 29<sup>th</sup> Dec. – Joe Walsh, Bracklone St. / Christina Milner B/Day Rem.  
Fri. 30<sup>th</sup> Dec. –

**ANNIVERSARIES - KILLENARD**

**Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> December – 7.30pm**  
Jack & Kathleen Carroll, Ballycarroll  
Deirdre Conroy, Lea Road (15<sup>th</sup> Anniv.)  
Frank Noone (30<sup>th</sup> Anniv.); Una & Declan Noone, Ballycarroll; Thomas & Maureen McNamara, Lea; Marie & Bob O'Connor, Lea; Eamon Bailey & Jim Bailey, Ashgrove, Ballybrittas  
**Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> December – 10.30am**  
Deirdre Conroy, Lea Road (15<sup>th</sup> Anniv.)  
Paddy & Kathleen Costello, Bracklone St; Michael Hall, Monasterevin

**ANNIVERSARIES - EMO**

**Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> December – 9pm Vigil**  
Martin & Mary Gleeson, Morette;  
**Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> December 11am**  
Patrick & Annie Mangan & dec. members of the Mangan Family, Carn; Ellen Mulhall, Carn; Margaret McNamee, Carn; Margaret (Peggy) O'Connor, Rossmore, Vicarstown & deceased members of the O'Connor Family; Jackie Mullen; Veraluca Maria de Avilla; Edward (Neddy) Mulhall, Morette & dec. members of the Mulhall Family; Michael Moran, Killimy

**ANNIVERSARIES - RATH**

**Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> December – 7pm**  
Owen Boland, Ballintogher (M.M.)  
Eamon Bailey, Ashgrove, Ballybrittas  
Jim Bailey, Ashgrove, Ballybrittas  
Michael & Anna O'Connor, Courtwood  
Anne Tynan, Copperbeech, Jamestown  
Kathleen Boland, Jamestown; Pat Behan, Courtwood  
**Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> December – 9am**  
Johnny & Gret Kelly, Courtwood

**DECEASED**

Your prayers are requested for the following who died during the week:  
**Bernadette (Berlo) Greene**, Assumpta Terrace  
**Margaret Higgins**, Bracknagh  
**Jim (James) Brennan**, formerly Portarlinton  
**Ann Lawlor (nee Jordan)**, formerly Coolbanagher

**BAPTISMS**

We welcome into our Christian Community through Baptism  
**Portarlinton Parish**  
Ri Patrick Maree, Gracefield



**EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT**

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament continues on Tuesday's after the 10am Mass finishing with the Rosary at 7pm.

**PARISH CALENDAR 2023**

Parish Calendar for 2023 now available at the Church porch or in the Parish Office.

**THE PARISH OFFICE**

The Parish Office is closed for the Christmas Season and will re-open Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> January, 2023. We wish everyone a very Happy & Peaceful Christmas & New Year.

**CHRISTMAS GREETINGS FROM THE CATHOLIC GRANDPARENTS ASSOC.**



*Wishing the light of the Christmas star to you.  
The warmth of home & hearth to you.  
The cheer & good will of friends to you.  
The hope of a childlike heart to you.  
The joy of a thousand angels to you.  
The love of the Son & God's peace to you.  
With Christmas love and New Year's wishes.  
May Saint Joachim & Saint Anne, Grandparents of Jesus, bless all families.  
There is a candle lighting for you and your intentions at the Shrine of Our Lady of Knock.  
Catherine Wiley – Founder of the Catholic Grandparents Assoc.*

**The Priests of the Parish wish all Parishioners a Happy & Peaceful Christmas.**