

# Progress

December 2022

Vol 4. No. 1

Fr John's Desk	2
Jubilee Anniversary	3
SVP	3
Meals on Wheels	4
Alone	4
Lions Club	4
Burrow Singers & Musicians	4
Eucharistic Adoration	4
Rosary	4
Coffee Morning	4
Children's Hour	4
Notice Board	4
Tidy Towns	5
PCA	5
Sustainable Energy	5
Upcoming Events	5
The Nativity	6
Children's Corner	7
Religious Services	8



Nollaig Shona

Have a Holy Christmas

## We have heard you!

Many parishioners in Portmarnock have been asking for the reintroduction of the parish Progress Magazine. It was one of the hot topics that people spoke about at our Synodal & Building Hope parish meetings earlier this year. At the Parish Parochial Council, it was agreed that a new Communications Committee would be established to oversee all forms of printed and online communications within the parish.

As Progress is one of the prime local communications platforms, we are reintroducing this publication in two formats: printed and on the internet, so we can maximize availability across the parish. The parish has been growing in the last number of years and the ability to physically deliver printed copies will continue to be a challenge. We are also cognizant that most of the new families arriving in the area are well versed in accessing online media. Also, we have an opportunity to be able to reach a wider age group including young adults and children. So, we are making sure that there is appropriate content for each level of viewer and that the content has the relevant controls regarding that content.

Given the wide variety of dynamic content that online media offers, it will not be possible to print all online content in the Progress Magazine. Therefore, the printed version will have material that is relevant to printed format, we will put references to the online material and how this material can be viewed on a laptop, tablet, or phone. Details of the launch of the online version will be announced in January.

I hope you will enjoy this renewed venture, and we welcome any feedback via our email at:

[progress@portmarnockparish.ie](mailto:progress@portmarnockparish.ie)

Wesołych Świąt Boże  
Narodzenie

Feliz Navidad

Христос Рождается!  
Khrystos Rozhdayetsia

## From Canon John's Desk

Dear Parishioners, Families and Friends



Every good wish and blessing to you and yours as we prepare to celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> Christmas of St. Anne's Parish. As I write, it looks as though our festivities both in the home and in the parish, can be more 'normal' as Covid retreats. For me, the parish Christmas celebrations and particularly the Christmas Masses are always very special. I look forward to being with you and your loved ones at the Christmas Eucharist and hope you will join us.

This Golden Jubilee year of St. Anne's has been very blessed and very busy. Congratulations to all those who celebrated their Sacraments during the year. We celebrated **188 Baptisms, 157 First Penance & First Holy Communions**, and **159 Confirmations**. I hope that these celebrations were privileged moments of grace for all the families, as they were for me. Above all, I pray, that the children will carry through life, beautiful memories of their celebrations here and will never forget how much God loves them. May they always carry the imprint of Jesus's love in their hearts and souls and so be led to fullness of life. The Families, Principals, Teachers, and school Secretaries all worked so well together to ensure a worthy celebration of the Sacraments co-ordinated by Ersilia Davidson, who joined the staff as Pastoral Secretary in 2021, and Sr. Noreen who has looked after Confirmation preparation for many years. Although we only celebrated **2 Weddings** in St. Anne's during the year many couples from the parish got married elsewhere, some in very exotic locations, however they did all, or part of their marriage preparation in the parish. We wish our newly wed couples a very blessed first Christmas together.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to all those who face Christmas still heartbroken from the loss of a loved one, particularly those for whom this is their first. For many among us there will be an empty space at this year's Christmas table. May God in this season of Advent, '*comfort and console his people*' and heal all the broken-hearted of our parish. We had **40 Funerals** in the Parish since last Christmas. The circumstances of each were very different not least in terms of age, the oldest was Carmel Geoghegan at 107 years, while Darren Flynn was just 27 and Daniel Burke only 25. Some families experienced the sudden death of a loved one while others had lived with illness for a long time. Whatever the circumstances we especially carry all the bereaved in our Christmas thoughts and prayers.

During the year we were asked by Pope Francis to prepare for the forthcoming world Synod of Bishops to be held in Rome in 2023 and 2024. The Synod, we were informed, is not a one-off event in the life of the church, but rather, a way of '*being*' church. The whole church is called to renewal, beginning with our own parish. How do we begin the process of renewal? By '*walking together*' more closely, which is what the word '*synod*' means. Archbishop Farrell launched a new Diocesan development process entitled **Building Hope**. The Diocese issued a format for organising meetings for both the Synod and **Building Hope**. Our parish attendance seemed quite low with 118 and 67 participants respectively. However, it turned out it was among the highest levels of participation in the diocese. The conversations and discussions were lively, honest, well led, accurately recorded, and speedily submitted to the Diocese. As we enter Advent, Archbishop Farrell has written to each parish advising that our response to **Building Hope** had been analysed and he was now acting on the findings. He confirmed that following the consultation our present partnership with Malahide, Yellow Walls and Kinsealy will continue. There will be a further phase of **Building Hope** in the New Year.

Other highlights of the year were the renewal of our PPC (Parish Pastoral Council) under the new Chair, David Sweeney. Some of the members are veterans of the Council, while over half are first time members. The PPC has the task of forwarding the mission of evangelisation, which is the core purpose in every parish. Archbishop Farrell has urged each PPC to prioritise missionary and outreach activities and so renew the continuity of parish life. With Matt Dunphy as Chair, the Parish Finance Committee, with only four members, continued to oversee the Finances and Properties of the Parish with the assistance of Margaret Corcoran, our parish Finance Secretary. It has been said that Finance Committees look after the '*body*' of a Parish while the PPC attends to its '*soul*'. During Covid the Finance Committee while overseeing day-to-day items also managed the installation of the new zinc roof, a new lighting and sound system, replacement of defective fire doors, new outdoor lighting, Covid '*proofing*' of the church and Parish Centre as well as the ongoing restoration/maintenance of the church grounds. The Parish owes an immense debt of gratitude to the Finance Committee whose renewal and recruitment of new members is a task for the coming year. We are also extremely fortunate to have such a vibrant and active Jubilee Committee chaired by Michael O'Brien, who organised the magical Family Fun afternoon on our main Jubilee Day in October.

The Parish Centre is up and running again under the ever-vigilant care of volunteer Manager, Pauline Geoghegan and her Team. Pauline also organised our very successful Golden Jubilee pilgrimage to Lourdes in September. The Parish continues to operate so fruitfully on the volunteer efforts of all our Ministers, both Liturgical and Outreach. May I offer a very sincere word of thanks and a Happy Christmas to all our Ministry groups, Staff and Volunteers. A final word of thanks to the new Communications team under Chair Brian Heery, whose work together has caused Progress to 'rise from the ashes'.

Nollaig Shona agus Beannachtaí na Feile daoibh go léir.

**Canon John**

## Jubilee Anniversary



St Anne's Parish Portmarnock recently celebrated their 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary a true family celebration. Archbishop Diarmuid Farrell held a special Jubilee Mass which was followed by an afternoon of fun for all the family. Portmarnock Village was filled with the sounds of music and laughter as locals were treated to a barbeque while the live music, a magic show and face painting got underway. Another feature of the day was an art exhibition and sale by the Portmarnock Art Group.



A host of people young and old came together to celebrate the golden jubilee of St Anne's Church in Portmarnock, Co. Dublin. The colourful event had face painting, music, magic, cake and more to mark 50 years of the establishment of the church in 1972. A Special Golden Jubilee Candle was lit in Lourdes recently during the annual parish pilgrimage.

Originally Portmarnock parish was a sub-parish of Baldoyle. A curate, Father Camac, covered the vast parish of Baldoyle, stretching from the Old Shieling in Raheny to the Hill of Malahide. With Father Camac's support, the local Portmarnock parishioners met at Comerford's Hall and set a task to build a church. The area was divided into districts and a weekly collection was arranged for one shilling per week. In 1933 Canon Field announced officially the building of the new chapel and a site was sought. Larry O'Neill, a former Lord Mayor of Dublin, and resident of Portmarnock, donated a site for the church in the centre of the village. His only request was that the church be dedicated to Saint Anne to whom he had a great devotion and so, Saint



Anne's 'tin church' came into being.

Sunday, 23rd of July 1934, was a proud day for Portmarnock. Dr. Byrne, Archbishop of Dublin, blessed and dedicated the new church. As a chapel of ease to Baldoyle parish, it was a long time before ceremonies such as baptisms, weddings and confirmations were held in Portmarnock. St Anne's at that stage only offered the celebration of mass and confession.

The first dedicated priest for Portmarnock was, Father Gerard Haugh, who served in the parish until his death in 1984. The event

which made Portmarnock a proper townland occurred in 1972, when it became a parish in its own rite and no longer being resourced and managed from Baldoyle.



### Please Support SVP Christmas Annual Appeal

St Vincent de Paul Christmas indoor collection will take place at all Masses next weekend, 10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup> Dec. For many years now, caring people like you have been at the heart of a proud SVP tradition of giving to people facing great hardship at Christmas.

Amy's family are really struggling. Her father lost his small business last year and he's trying to keep everything together. But he can't keep up with all the bills. As prices continue increasing, he just can't afford food and fuel. Some days he has to choose between, feeding his children, or keeping them warm.

That is unless Amy's father picks up the phone to SVP... and you have given us, your local SVP Conference, the means to help them.

Your donation will help families like Amy's with basics such as food and fuel. You could give them some breathing space to pay their bills and keep their home warm. You can make sure they don't have to skip meals. You can reach out your hand to a neighbour in need. **You could save a family from impossible choices this Christmas.** So please, if you can, support our Annual Appeal and make a special Christmas gift to SVP. Thank you for helping families in need in your local community.

To donate to your local SVP please use the blues envelopes available at the back of the church, in Dunnes Stores and the Post Office in Portmarnock.



**ALONE**

**If you are over 60 years old and in need of advice, support, or information, call our National Support,**

**Call us on 0818 222 024**

**seven days a week from 8am – 8pm.**



## Children's Hour

...is a club for children held each Tuesday afternoon 3:30-4:45pm in the Parish Centre. We are a group of Mums and Grandmothers who wish to pass on our faith to young children in a warm and gentle manner. The afternoon is patterned after childhood winter days as remembered by our leaders. It sets out to be a warm, fun and welcoming 'afternoon with Grandma' featuring crafts, games, chat and the prayer woven seamlessly into the afternoon. We hope your child can join us each week. There is a suggested donation of €3 to cover cost (no child is refused entry because of lack of funds). This group is fully recognized and approved by St. Anne's Parish, the Pastoral Council and The Faith Development Group. Group.

**Have ARE YOU HOUSEBOUND?** Would you like to receive Holy Communion on a regular basis? Would you like a visit by the priest for the First Friday each month? This can be arranged by contacting the Parish Office at 8461561.



Portmarnock Parish Padre Pio Devotion is held on the last Friday of every month. Rosary is recited at 7:15pm followed by Mass at 7:30 & Confession.

## Lions Club



The mission statement of Lions International is to **empower volunteers to serve** their communities, meet **humanitarian needs**, encourage **peace**, and promote international understanding through our affiliation with **Lions Clubs International**.

Our club has been established in Portmarnock since 2004. Membership is open to anybody who wishes to volunteer their time. We would love to have you join us in our work at Portmarnock Lions Club. To contact us call: 089 4928446 or email [team@portmarnocklionsclub.com](mailto:team@portmarnocklionsclub.com)

## Meals on Wheels



The primary aim of Meals on Wheels is to develop a sense of security amongst those in the community that may feel isolated, or while recovering from a stay in hospital facilitates a smooth and comfortable transition to return home.

Volunteers are needed for a couple of hours once a month, call **Benita: 087 679 8673 or Frank: 086 372 6989**



**Bethany**  
Bereavement Support

*National Bereavement Support for Adults*

**" Grief is the price we pay for love"**

**We are a voluntary community and parish-based service. Our objective is to support the bereaved through the grieving process and our services are totally free of charge and confidential within the law.**

**Call: Malahide – 087 793 6189 or Edenmore – 085 207 6606**



## Coffee Morning

**THURSDAYS AFTER 10.00 am MASS IN THE PARISH COFFEE DOCK**  
Enjoy fresh scones and tea/coffee €3. All welcome



## Eucharistic Adoration

a devotion whereby members of a parish unite in making continuous Adoration before Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament for as many hours as may be possible.

**After 10:00 a.m. mass Wednesday until 1:00 p.m.**

**Shalom Room: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday – 10:30 a.m. to 4:45 p.m.**

**Monday evenings 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.**

## Burrow Singers & Musicians

Have recorded their 1<sup>st</sup> CD featuring the music and hymns sung at 12:00 Noon mass on Sundays. After costs the proceeds will go to Cancer Research, the cost is €10. They can be purchased from any group member or by calling 087 126 2941

## Rosary



Join in our daily Rosary in St. Anne's Church or via Webcam. Monday to Friday at 9:35 a.m.

## FLOWER ARRANGING CLASSES

Spring Session will commence on Wednesday Feb 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023, in the Parish Centre from 10:00a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

## Notice Board

### Tidy Towns

Portmarnock Tidy Towns have been entering the Tidy Towns Competition since 2015. We have been consistently increasing our marks and were awarded 19 extra marks in 2022. Tidy Towns is just not about flowers and litter picking. Biodiversity and Environment are now cornerstones of our work. We work closely with Fingal County Council Parks Service in improving our village. We apply for improvement grants from government and have achieved a lot in the short number of years we have been in existence.



We welcome new volunteers to help with our projects in 2023. We meet on the second Saturday of every month at 10.00am beside the Kiosk at the seafront and at the flower bed outside Jus de Vin.

CONTACT: Philomena O'Callaghan @ [tidytownsportmarnock@gmail.com](mailto:tidytownsportmarnock@gmail.com)

### PCA

Portmarnock Community Association was founded in 1973 – we will be celebrating our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary next year. The PCA has been the starting point for many of the organisations we now take for granted in our village. We work for the community in addressing issues that residents bring to our attention.

In recent years the main issues have been the development of the LIDL site and the new runway at Dublin Airport. We are the organisation that Fingal Co. Co. contact in relation to submissions for major development projects such as the South Portmarnock Development Plan and the new Greenway cycle route from Baldoye and onwards to Malahide. We welcome new members to our committee at our AGM which will be held in February 2023.

CONTACT: Maire O'Brien @ [portmarnock1@gmail.com](mailto:portmarnock1@gmail.com)

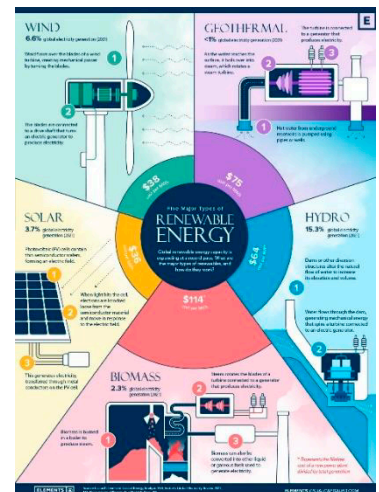
### Sustainable Energy

The Portmarnock SEC was founded in 2019. We established contact with the Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland and were advised to develop an Energy Master Plan for Portmarnock. This was quite an onerous project which was finally launched in the PSLC last month. We are one of only thirteen communities in Ireland to have our plan in place. Portmarnock SEC will be acting as the first point of contact for residents, businesses and community facilities who are planning to upgrade their heating, insulation, windows, and doors. Information on Individual projects such as attic insulation as well as complete retrofits will be available.

Ireland needs to reduce the use of fossil fuel, reduce energy usage and commence generating our own energy using PV panels on the roofs of our houses if we are to achieve the 2030 targets.

Portmarnock SEC is working to provide warmer homes and a sustainable future for this generation and for our children and grandchildren.

CONTACT: Megan Stewart (Rothwell) @ [portmarnocksec19@gmail.com](mailto:portmarnocksec19@gmail.com)



### Upcoming Events

**YOUNG DUBLIN ORCHESTRA** Will host a free concert, on Sunday, 18th December at 6.00p.m. in St. Anne's Church. Young adults from the Portmarnock/Malahide area are members of the Orchestra.

**ADVENT SERVICE – PREPARING FOR CHRISTMAS:** A service of Seasonal music and Reflection arranged by Maura Hughes and Kim Lynch will feature an array of local choral and soloist talent on Saturday 17th December at 7.30p.m. in St. Anne's Church. All welcome as we take a reflective and joyful opportunity to prepare for the 50th Christmas of our Parish.

**PORTMARNOCK SINGERS** The Portmarnock Singers will be joined by the Sea Sharps and the Fingal Children's choir to perform a selection of Choral and Christmas music on Sunday, December 11th at 8.00p.m. in St. Anne's Church. We would love to see you there and hope it would be a start to your Christmas celebrations. Tickets available at the door.

#### St. Anne's Parish, Portmarnock Mission Statement

To create a parish in Portmarnock where people treat each other with love and compassion and work together to build up a dynamic Christian community characterised by faith, mission, worship, and service.

#### Gluten Free Hosts

are available in St. Anne's Church at all Masses. You can approach the centre aisle at Communion time and either the priest or the Eucharist Minister will have the gluten free hosts.

## The Nativity

In those days, Caesar Augustus made a law requiring that everyone be listed who lived in the Roman Empire. They had to sign the book in their hometown. So, Mary said goodbye to her mother Anne and left from the town of Nazareth in Galilee with Joseph to go to Judea, where Bethlehem the town of David, lay. Joseph went there because he belonged to the family line of David. As Mary was expecting a baby soon, Joseph took a donkey for her to ride on for the journey. When they arrived all the



hotels were booked out. One Innkeeper at the insistence of his wife took pity on them and allowed them to use their stable, the only place they could find to stay.

That night the time came for the child to be born. Mary gave birth and it was a boy, just as the Angel Gabriel had told her and his name was Jesus. She wrapped him in baby blanket that her mother had made for her and placed him in a manger.



There were shepherds living out in the fields nearby. It was night, and they were looking after their sheep. An angel of the Lord appeared to them; they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you great news of great joy. It is for all the people in the world. Today in the town of David a Saviour has been born to you. He is Christ the Lord. Here is how you will know I am telling you the truth. Look where the star shines and you will find a baby wrapped in cloth and lying in a manger." Suddenly a large group of angels from heaven also appeared. They were praising God. They



sang, "May glory be given to God in the highest heaven! And may peace be given to those he is pleased with on earth!" The angels left and went into heaven. Then the shepherds said to one another, "Let's go to Bethlehem. Let's see this thing that has happened, which the Angel has told us about." So, they hurried off and found Mary and

Joseph and the baby. The baby was lying in the manger. When they saw the baby Jesus, they were so excited and ran to tell their friends the great news. Soon all the people started to come and look upon their saviour and the star shining down on where he lay. After Jesus' birth some wise King's arrived. They asked, "Where is the child who has been

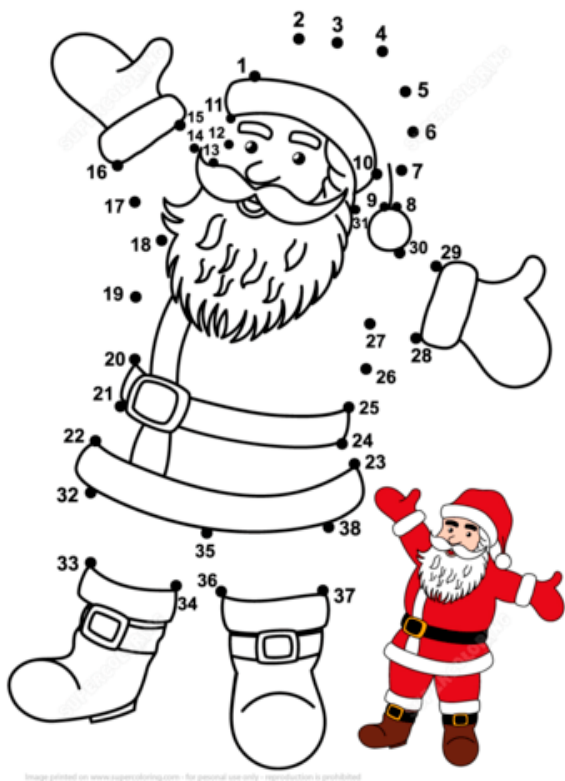


born to be king of the Jews? When we were in the east, we saw his star. Now we have come to worship him." The star they had seen when they were in the east went ahead of them. It finally stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they were filled with joy. The Wise Men went to the house. There they saw the child with his mother Mary. They bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures. They gave him gold, incense, and myrrh.





Why did the turkey play the drums in his band?  
Because he had drum sticks!



W	D	L	M	T	R	X	T	S	M	C	M
V	S	Q	N	E	Q	A	T	M	H	Y	K
W	W	O	N	S	H	H	T	R	O	C	T
B	X	U	X	C	G	E	I	S	O	S	S
G	L	F	O	I	F	S	L	N	L	A	E
V	B	I	L	R	T	E	R	H	N	T	E
X	K	C	T	M	N	A	G	T	T	O	R
S	I	J	A	Z	M	R	A	N	K	E	T
U	S	S	C	T	E	D	X	J	N	K	B
S	W	M	R	E	I	N	D	E	E	R	C
E	T	O	J	O	I	R	F	F	J	Q	E
J	P	S	E	V	L	E	X	X	I	G	N

- |             |          |           |
|-------------|----------|-----------|
| Bethlehem   | Blitzen  | Christmas |
| Elves       | Jesus    | Lights    |
| Portmarnock | Reindeer | Santa     |
| Snow        | Star     | Tree      |


CatholicBishops.ie



What do elves eat for breakfast?  
Snow Flakes!

What do monkeys sing at Christmas?  
Jungle Bells!


How did Santa open the front door?  
With a Tur-key!

Malahide	Yellow Walls	 <b>CONFESSION IN ST. ANNE'S CHURCH</b> PASTORAL AREA PENITENTIAL SERVICE on Monday, 19th December at 7.30p.m. Priests of the four parishes will attend.
Kinsealy	Portmarnock	

*Our Parishes Working Together*

SUNDAY MASS SCHEDULE		
MALAHIDE	SUN:	8.30am - 10.00am - 11.30am
YELLOW WALLS	SAT:	6.00pm
	SUN:	10.00am - 12.00pm
PORTMARNOCK	SAT:	6.30pm
	SUN:	10.30am - 12.00pm
KINSEALY	SUN:	11.00am.
WEEKDAY MASS		
MALAHIDE	Mon-Sat Thur	10:00am Service of the Word (No Mass)
YELLOW WALLS	Mon, Tue, Thur, Fri	9:30am
PORTMARNOCK	Mon, Wed, Thur, Fri	10:00am
KINSEALY	Wed & Fri	10:00am

**COME TO  
WORLD YOUTH DAY 2023**



**'MARY AROSE AND  
WENT WITH HASTE'**  
LUKE 1:39

Want to know more?  
Get in touch: [wgd@dubindioecese.ie](mailto:wgd@dubindioecese.ie)  
Archdiocese of Dublin

**WELCOME TO PORTMARNOCK PARISH**

If you are new to Portmarnock, you might like to register or contact St. Anne's Parish. Please use the Registration/enquiry form online at [www.portmarnockparish.ie](http://www.portmarnockparish.ie) and return it below: -

**St. Anne's Church & Parish Office & Parish Centre**  
 Strand Road, Portmarnock, Co. Dublin D13 WK33  
**Call on:** +353 1 846 1561  
**Email:** [stannes@portmarnockparish.ie](mailto:stannes@portmarnockparish.ie)  
**Parish Office/Centre:** Monday - Thursday 9:00am - 1:00pm  
**Reception Desk:** Open Monday to Friday 9:00am - 1:00pm

*Mass Cards in Irish or English in the Parish Office (signed Mass Card is €10) also Christmas & Greeting Cards. Novena Mass Cards (€3) and Christmas Cards (€4 packet of 6)*



Official Twitter page  
of His Holiness Pope  
Francis  
<https://twitter.com/Pontifex>

**Christmas Greetings from the Progress Team**

We wish all parishioners a very Happy Christmas and New Year. We hope you enjoy reading Progress. Thank you to all who contributed articles, letters, items of interest and community notices. Special Thanks to the volunteers who deliver 'Progress', hail, rain, or shine, to over 5,900 homes. It ensures that each home can feel part of the community and have awareness of all that is happening in the area.

We need more volunteers especially in the newer estates on Station Road. Please contact the office if you can assist.

To contribute an article or provide feedback:  
Email us at: [PROGRESS@PORTMARNOCKPARISH.IE](mailto:PROGRESS@PORTMARNOCKPARISH.IE)