

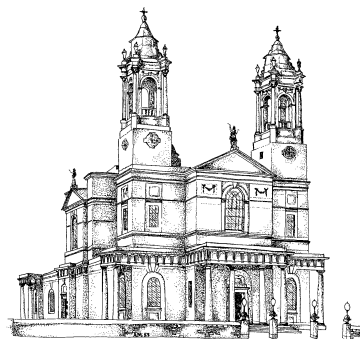
**MASSES FOR THE WEEK (Ss. Peter & Paul's Church)
(Saturday, 12th December - Sunday, 20th December)**

Saturday:	6.30 p.m.	Bridie, Freddie, William & Tony Warby
Sunday:	9.00 a.m.	Mass for the People of the Parish
	10.30 a.m.	Joe Gavin
	12 noon	Sr. Mercy & Sr. Mairéad Watson
Monday:	9.30 a.m.	Michael, Sally & Marie Casserly
	7.30 p.m.	"NOVENA" Brian Fallon & deceased family, Peter Fallon, Maevé Craughwell(1st anniversary), Sean & Maureen Brennan, Oliver Craughwell & Michael Anthony Naughton.
Tuesday:	9.30 a.m.	Private Intention
Wednesday:	9.30 a.m.	Paddy, & Eileen Gallagher. May & Jim Smith
Thursday:	9.30 a.m.	Thanksgiving Mass
Friday:	9.30 a.m.	Private Intention
	7.30 p.m.	"SHARED MASS" Hubert & Eileen West, Pauline Kelly (Month's Mind) Tony Downey, Patrick & Mary McCaul, Kathleen Reilly, Gerry Walsh (1st Anniversary), Mary Ward, Michael Kelly Snr. & Jnr. Bernard Kelly & Phyllis Macken (nee Kelly.)
Saturday:	9.30 a.m.	Maureen Kelly
	6.30 p.m.	Karen Harkins
Sunday:	9.00 a.m.	Mass for the People of the Parish
	10.30 a.m.	Joe Geraghty
	12 noon	Breda Grenham

REST IN PEACE

AGNES MASTERSON, R.I.P., The Park, Deerpark Rd, Athlone.
LARRY BLACKWEIR, R.I.P., Abbey Lane & England, who died in Kilkenny
KIERAN McMANUS, R.I.P., Nure
BRUCE SAVAGE, R.I.P., Shannon, Co. Clare (brother of Anne Savage, Dún Ard)
 May God grant them eternal rest and comfort and console their bereaved families relatives and friends.

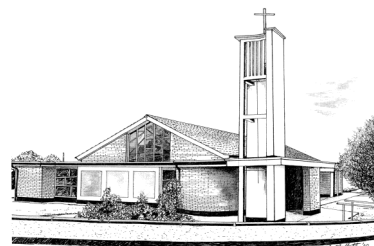
OFFERTORY COLLECTION: Sunday, 6th December..... € 2035.00
MAINTENANCE COLLECTION: € 675.00



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Church of Our Lady of the Wayside, Clonown

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Ss. Peter & Paul's Parish

Athlone
Drum & Clonown

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Newsletter

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

13th DECEMBER 2015



John answered them all, saying, "I am baptizing you with water, but one mightier than I is coming. I am not worthy to loosen the thongs of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire." — Lk 3:16

REFLECTION - Steps to Joy



Each Advent a friend of mine does something remarkable. She goes through her wardrobe and divides her clothing. Anything she has not worn that year is cleaned, neatly folded and given to the St. Vincent de Paul Centre in her locality. When she began this practice six years ago, initially it was hard to part with her favourite items. She was even tempted to wear something just so she could hold onto it! Now, however, she gives away her belongings with ease and even delight. She has discovered some practical steps that bring joy to her own life and the lives of others.

We might look at today's Gospel in the light of such deeds. When the crowds asked John how to prepare for the Messiah's coming, John outlined certain steps to take. These steps targeted four important areas of life. In fact, the things that John targeted then are the same ones that we might focus on today. They address our relationship to clothing, food, money and power.

Today we light the rose coloured candle, a symbol of our desire to prepare joyfully for the imminent birth of Jesus. Like my friend whose preparation is both active and enthusiastic, may we take some practical steps as we prepare to the coming of this Child, God's Joy made flesh. *(Kathryn Williams pddm)*

THANK YOU..... Ss. Peter & Pauls' Church Restoration Committee wish to thank most sincerely all those who helped and contributed in any way to the Neven Maguire Cookery Demonstration. It was a great success.

WE WELCOME INTO THE CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY

Kiera Josephine Hughes	Elljay Seán Byrne	Anna Eileen McManus
Ella Byrne	Matthew Martin Melville	Oisín Harkins Harney
Molly Moran	Mai McGowan-Murray	Lily Ann Lennon
Anna Kitty Lynch	Laura Nora Szentgyorgyi	Kacy Conroy
Thomas Gerard Robinson	Avery Denis Prendergast	Niamh O'Shaughnessy
Kate Alice McManus	Harry Rafferty Fallon	Philip Patrick Heavey
Melanie Mollaghan	Harry Patrick Finnegan-Cleary	

CONGRATULATIONS TO THEIR PARENTS.

CHRISTMAS MASS IN MONKSLAND COMMUNITY CENTRE ON THURSDAY, 17th DECEMBER AT 8 P.M. All Welcome.

ATHLONE METHODIST CHURCH, Northgate St. invite you to their annual **CAROL SERVICE** on Thursday, 17th Dec. at 8 p.m. in aid of St. Hilda's Services. Refreshments and chat afterwards

DRUM MASS INTENTIONS

Sat.	12th	8 p.m.	Mary Glynn, Crannaghmore
Sun.	13th	10 a.m.	Paddy & Elizabeth Halligan, Crannaghbeg
Mon.	14th		No Mass
Tues.	15th	7 p.m.	Paddy & Nicola Kelly, Drum Road
Wed.	16th	8 p.m.	Holy Hour
Thur.	17th	7 p.m.	Kathleen Naughton, Thomastown
Fri.	18th	7 p.m.	Eileen Murray, Crannaghmore
Sat.	19th	10.30 a.m.	Maureen Dunning, Thomastown (Month's Mind)
Sat.	19th	8 p.m.	Edward Griffin, Ardkeenan
Sun.	20th	10 a.m.	Thomas & Mary Hynes, Johnstown and deceased family.

Presentation of Gifts: Saturday, 19th December: Team 1.

ARDKEENAN N.S. CHRISTMAS CONCERT in Drum Parish Hall on Thursday, 17th December at 6.30 p.m. All welcome.

ATHLONE ARTS GROUP ... Exhibition in Town Centre shopping centre on Balcony beside M & S from 14th - 20th December.

DEAN KELLY N.S. CHRISTMAS MASS at 10 a.m. Wed. 16th Dec in school hall. All are welcome to attend. Tea/coffee and light refreshments served afterwards by Parents Association.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE MAIN BELL CIRCLE WINNERS FOR 7th December
€200: Brenda Duffy, €50: Frances Duffy, €30: May Cleary

CHRISTMAS PARISH BINGO Athlone Joint Parishes Bingo is holding a special Christmas Bingo on this Sunday night in Dean Crowe Theatre and St. Mary's Hall. Over €3,400 in prizes with €1,000 jackpot which must be won on the night. Christmas spots. Starting at 8 p.m. sharp.

Athlone Musical Society bring you "**CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT**" in Radisson Blu Hotel on Thursday, 17th Dec. at 7.30 p.m. The concert will raise funds for Athlone Musical society and will provided support for the Irish Motor Neurone Disease Association . Doors open at 6.30 p.m.

CLONOWN MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday	13th Dec.	Seán Shine (1st Anniversary)
Sunday	20th Dec.	Mary & John Flynn