

Mass intentions this Week in Ss. Peter & Paul's Parish
 All Masses are streamed on www.churchservices.tv/athlone.
 There are NO Masses in Drum or Clonown Churches due to the Coronavirus restrictions.
 All booked intentions will be included in the Mass from
 Ss. Peter & Paul's Church each day.

For the duration of the Coronavirus restrictions Masses will not be said in public to conform with Government Policy & for the protection of health.

Sunday 12th July

11:00 am

People of the Parish
 Thomas Duignan; Frank & Annie Dunleavy;
 Tommy & May Curley. Daughters Mary and Frances. Oldtown
 Gloria Walshe, Crannaghbeg. Seamus Reynolds.

Monday 9:30 am

Ann Ward (Baylough)

Tuesday 9:30 am

The Sick

Wednesday 9:30 am

Arthur & Angela Mc Carrick

Thursday 9:30 am

Dec. members of the McNamara & Walsh families

Friday 9:30 am

Michael & Frances Broderick & Dec. family members
 James Bell; Michael & Hughie Macken;
 Brendan Beirne.

Saturday 9:30 am

Teresa Whyte, Thomastown

Sunday 19th July 11:00 am

People of the Parish
 Paddy & Annie Fallon; Dan & Nell Egan;
 Joe & Delia Curley; Della Sheridan.
 Mary & Tom Hynes, Johnstown. & Dec. family members.

Thanks for your on-going support

Once again thank you for your continued generosity in dropping in your offerings through out the week. I also thank those of you who have made your donation through the online "Donation" button on our website.

These contributions are vitally important in these challenging financial times for our parish. We are grateful for all your support.

Prayers at Home

In these extraordinary times when we cannot gather for Mass, we would encourage you to download and print out this prayer booklet for use at home. Perhaps consider printing off some copies to pass on to people who may not have internet access. While you can pray this at any time, a good time to do so would be at the time Mass is normally celebrated in your local parish.

www.elphindiocese.ie/prayers-at-home-when-gathering-for-mass-is-not-possible/



Parish Newsletter

July 12th 2020

15th Sunday in Ordinary Time



Our Parish on-line

Email: stpetersparishathlone@gmail.com

www.sspeterandpaulsparishathlone.com

Facebook.com/Sspeterandpaulsparish -

Twitter ; @stpetersathlone

Live Camera Feed

www.churchservices.tv/athlone

Contact Details

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Ss. Peter & Paul's Office

Forthill House Secretary Ciara O'Connell 090 -6492171

Monday - Friday 9.30am - 1pm stpetersparishathlone@gmail.com

Fr. Bernard Ngalame C.C.

Forthill House, Battery Road, 089 4678885

Fr. Michael Hickey CSSp

(Drum / Clonown Areas) 090-6437125

Drum area Office

Catherine Higgins, Secretary 090 6437125 drumparish1@gmail.com

Deacon Tony Larkin

Chaplain Colaiste Chairáin 085 7392473 / deacontony17@gmail.com

Parish Organist;

Mr PJ Stacey 087 2486206

Safeguarding Officer;

Fr. John Deignan P. P.

Parish Pastoral Council;

Colm Naughton, *Chairperson* c/o Parish Office

Parish Finance Committee

Marie McEvilly, *Chairperson* c/o Parish Office

Sacristy Ss. Peter & Paul's Church (*attended at Mass times only*) 090 -6494150

Sacristans'

Christine Kenny & Tom O'Neill

Baptism, Confirmation & Marriage Certificates are issued from the Sacristy

THE PARISH OFFICES IN TOWN & DRUM REMAIN CLOSED AT THIS TIME

**Please remember to check in on your neighbours
 especially those who live alone or are elderly,
 a phone call or a kind gesture can make a huge difference to many.**

Preparing for a return to Public Masses

Dear Parishioner's

I am happy to be able to announce that after discussion with the Parish Pastoral Council and with the increase of numbers allowed at indoor gatherings we will return to Public Masses in a phased way from **Monday July 20th** in the Parish.

Mass times in all three churches will be in next Weekends Newsletter.

The following is a guideline for re-opening of our churches.

The Sunday / Holyday obligation has been suspended for the time being and those who cannot come to Mass are invited to participate on webcam or the parish radio link.

Please note, those who are concerned about their Sunday obligations any weekday mass fulfils all obligations for the foreseeable future.

- Those who are sick or have any symptoms of, or, confirmed COVID-19 should stay at home for the time being.
- Close contacts of a person who has a confirmed or suspected case of the virus should stay at home.
- It is suggested that those in the vulnerable category or with an underlying illness should also stay at home.

Practicalities When Public Masses Return

Entry to the churches will be through the main door only and all doors will be used to exit the church.

- Currently, with social distancing 100 parishioners can be accommodated at any one mass in Ss. Peter & Paul's Church, (approx. 30 in Drum & Clonown) this number will change as and when social distancing is relaxed.
- People will sit apart in seats to fulfil social distancing requirements.
- To ensure Social Distancing seats will be marked out by an Orange Sticker
However, one household can be seated together.

Please follow the instructions of the volunteers

- For the reception of Holy Communion in each church. Please follow the instructions of the Stewards.
- Holy Communion can only be distributed in your hand.
- We encourage all members of the congregation to wash and sanitise their hands before leaving home and perhaps bring their own pocket hand-sanitiser with them. If you are more comfortable wearing a face mask you may do so.
- People are encouraged not to bring unnecessary items into the church for mass. i.e handbags.

Parishioners attending Masses must adhere to the instruction of the Stewards when entering and leaving the church.

Everyone **MUST** use the sanitiser provided inside the Church and sanitise when entering the Church.

The contribution for the upkeep of the parish will not be taken up at mass. A basket will be placed on a table as you enter the church and you may place your offering/ contribution into it, you will be escorted to your seat. While we will try to accommodate you to sit as near to the place you normally sit please be aware that we cannot guarantee or reserve a seat for anyone.

Under the current guidelines we cannot allow any more than the safe recommended numbers into Masses, We apologise in advance if you are unable to get into the church for Mass and hope that you understand that this beyond our control.

- Without the help of volunteers and cleaners we cannot proceed to have all the Mass times as before.
- We must be able to show in advance that we have all the required people in place.
- Please see the video guide to returning to Mass on the Parish Website & on Facebook.

Special intention Candle

You can now light a white 7 day candle at our lady's altar in Ss. Peter & Paul's Church for any special intention.

This can be organised through the sacristy at a cost of €10. each.

This will be limited to three candles at a time for safety reasons.

Volunteers Still Needed

The need for volunteers (stewards and cleaners) for each mass is essential. Without the help of these people the church cannot reopen for public Masses.

Volunteers application form are available in the churches. They must be signed and placed into boxes provided. These must be returned as soon as possible. Training will be provided for those involved.

COVID-19 Support Line for Older People

ALONE has launched a national support line and additional supports for older people who have concerns or are facing difficulties relating to the outbreak of COVID-19 (Coronavirus). Professional staff are available to answer queries and give advice and reassurance where necessary. The support line is open seven days a week, 8am - 8pm, by calling
0818 222 024.

Trócaire Boxes

Thank you to all who have returned Trocaire Boxes, we are currently counting their contents before sending the total amount on to Trocaire. If you still have a box or would like to contribute to the Parish total please pass it on to one of the Priests or to the Sacristy at Ss. Peter & Paul's Church as soon as you can.

Ongoing Covid-19 Restrictions Baptisms

We hope to begin to reschedule all postponed baptisms this coming week. We ask you to be patient as we have a large number to reschedule.

Sacraments of First Holy Communion & Confirmation

We hope to have provisional dates For the Sacrament of Confirmation next week. Rather than our normal 3 ceremonies we will have 6 this year due to Social Distancing and will have to limit the number of candidates to 30 at any one ceremony. To accommodate the numbers all confirmation ceremonies will be held in Ss. Peter & Paul's Church this year.

First Holy Communion Dates will be announced nearer to when the schools reopen as we need to have First Confessions before the children can receive their First Holy Communion.

We already have all the contact details for candidates so there is no need to make contact with us regarding them.

Please note that these dates will be provisional as we will still be subject to Government restrictions, which can change at very short notice.

Weddings

Small weddings can now take place again. Strict social distancing applies

Funerals

Funerals are a very special and important time in the life of a family. Sadly due to the Coronavirus restrictions we must comply with a number of new regulations. The priest and funeral director working with the family will let you what the regulations are at that time.

For now ALL funerals are to be very simple, with the priest doing all readings and prayers in the Church, the number allowed to attend the funeral is 50 people. To assist those who wish to be a part of the funeral, we stream all funerals through our website and at the request of the family, in advance of the funeral, we can record the ceremony.