

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.

Mass Intentions Sunday 7th March to Sunday 14th March

Sunday 7th March

12 Noon (GA) (Private Mass, streamed live on Webcam)
 Brian Lenehan, Paddy, Joe & Rose Dunning
 Kitty (Catherine) Cunniffe, John Dunning
 Bridie & Martin Shine.

Monday 9:30 am (BN) (Private Mass streamed live on Webcam Novena Prayers & Benediction)

No Intention

Tuesday 9:30 am (BN) (Private Mass, streamed live on Webcam)
 No Intention

Wednesday 9:30 am (GA) (Private Mass, streamed live on Webcam)
 Edward & Margaret Mulligan

Thursday 9:30 am (GA) (Private Mass, streamed live on Webcam)
 No Intention

Friday 9:30 am (MH) (Private Mass, streamed live on Webcam)
(Holy Hour & stations of the cross directly after mass)

May & Larry Collins,
 May O'Neill and deceased family members,
 James & Nora O'Connor and deceased family members

Saturday 9:30 am (MH) (Private Mass, streamed live on Webcam)

Michael Lennon (Months mind), Mary Higgins
 Margaret & Martin Doyle, Jimmy & Mark West
 Larry & Mary Hanly.

Sunday 14th March

12 Noon (BN) (Private Mass, streamed live on Webcam)
 Ann Geoghegan 1st Anniversary
 Michael Kenny & deceased family members
 Tommy & Eithne Barclay and deceased members of
 Barclay, Sloyan & Kearney families.
 Susan Reilly, Thomas Grenham, Pat Burns
 Kathleen & Dinny Owen McManus,
 Tony & Mary Duignan, Clonbulia and deceased
 family members.



Jesus Cleanses the Temple



PARISH OF
SS. PETER & PAUL
 Athlone, Drum & Clonown

Parish Newsletter

7th March 2021

Third Sunday of Lent

Contact Details

Fr. John Deignan P.P.	Ashford, Monksland 090 6492171 stpetersparishathlone@gmail.com
Fr. Ray Milton Adm	0906661127 raymilton@elphindiocese.ie
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
Fr. Glen Aliboyo C.C.	Forthill House, Battery Road. 090-6492171
Drum area Office	Catherine Higgins Secretary 090 6437125 drumparish1@gmail.com
Deacon Tony Larkin	Chaplain Colaiste Chairáin 085 7392473 / deacontony17@gmail.com
Parish Organist;	PJ Stacey 087 2486206
Safeguarding Rep:	Lisa Malone 0871440833
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 Forthill House & Drum are closed to the public
 for the foreseeable future please correspond by phone or email.**



Ss. Peter & Paul's



St. Brigid's Church,



Church of Our Lady of

PASTORAL MESSAGE FROM THE BISHOPS OF THE SIX DIOCESES OF THE TUAM PROVINCE

A short extract from the pastoral message that was issued on the 3rd of March. You can view this letter in full on <https://www.elphindiocese.ie/>

"Dear Parishioners, brother Priests and Deacons, Religious and Friends, Covid-19: A Year On

This week we mark the first anniversary of the appearance of the COVID-19 pandemic in Ireland. As we consider how this has touched our parish communities, particularly given the tragic loss of so many lives, we wish to share some thoughts with you, the people of the six Dioceses of the Tuam Province."

"Difficulties with "COVID-19 Resilience and Recovery 2021: The Path Ahead"

We recognise the need for prudence and caution at the present time, in the light of the terrible loss of life in January and February, and we accept absolutely that now is not the time for a major reopening of society. We have carefully considered the five stage plan "COVID-19 Resilience and Recovery 2021: The Path Ahead", published by the Government last week.

There are two things in this plan which we find very difficult to support.

One of those is the fact that at level 5, all funerals are still limited to 10 people. We believe that a modest increase to 25 would, without compromising safety, bring much consolation to grieving families.

Our second concern is that public worship is still excluded even at level 3. This would suggest that we may not have the opportunity to celebrate Mass together for months to come. It ignores the important contribution of communal worship to the mental and spiritual well-being of people of faith. The fundamental importance of Holy Week and Easter for all Christians, makes the prohibition of public worship particularly painful. While, as Christians, we are obliged to obey these regulations, we believe that it is our responsibility as Church leaders to make the case for change. We will continue to make fair and reasonable representation and we encourage you to do likewise.

Sacraments of First Communion and Confirmation

In so far as the Government plan currently offers no clarity about when we might expect to return to public Sacramental life, we find it difficult to have any confidence that the Sacraments of First Communion and Confirmation can be celebrated before the end of the present school year. As of now, we have decided to defer the Sacrament of Confirmation for the 2021 class until the Autumn, and we encourage our parishes to consider doing the same in relation to First Holy Communion. Should the circumstances change for the better, this decision can be revisited in each Diocese. In the meantime, we encourage young people and their parents to continue with their preparation. We have provided online resources to support what is being done through the Religious Education programme with the teachers in the schools."

Holy Hour on Friday mornings after Mass during Lent

On Friday mornings during Lent we will be having holy hour with station of the cross and exposition of the blessed sacrament directly after 9:30 mass. It will be live streamed as part of mass

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. Contact number 0906494150

Trócaire Lenten Campaign

Trócaire's Lenten campaign for 2021 tells the stories of two families in South Sudan whose lives have been impacted by conflict. Awut and Ajak are shining examples of resilience, friendship and solidarity. This Lent we hear not only about the enormous challenges they have faced, but also about how they support each other through these challenges. Please support the work of Trócaire this Lent by picking up a Trócaire box or donating online at www.trocaire.org

Boxes are available at all Churches

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.

Community Employment Vacancies (CE Scheme)

Caretaker / Grounds person Monksland Community Centre Job Ref: 2168150

Receptionist administrator based at Monksland Community Centre Ref: 2170195

To qualify you must be in receipt of a Social Welfare Payment for a minimum of 1 year.

For further information contact Annette at 0906493270 or 0861020278 between 9am to 5pm Monday to Thursday & 9am to 1pm Friday.

Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus,

I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.

I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul.

Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally,

come at least spiritually into my heart.

I embrace You as if You were already there and unite me wholly to You.

Never permit me to be separated from You.

Amen.

Please remember to check in on your neighbours especially those who live alone or are elderly,