

**SS Peter & Paul Church Mass Intentions**

**Saturday 25th March to Sunday 2nd April 2023**

**ALL MASSES ARE LIVE-STREAMED on [www.churchservices.tv/athlone](http://www.churchservices.tv/athlone)**

<b>Saturday</b> <b>25th March</b>	<b>9.30 am</b>	<b>(JD) Also Live Streamed</b> PJ Gordon
	<b>6.30 pm Vigil</b>	<b>(MH) Also Live Streamed</b> Mark Wallis (Months Mind) Tommy Kelly (Talbot Avenue) James, Kathleen, Marian, Jimmy & Michael Drumm
<b>Sunday</b> <b>26th March</b>	<b>9.00 am</b>	<b>(IS) Also Live Streamed</b> People of the Parish
	<b>12.00 noon</b>	<b>(IS) Also Live Streamed</b>
<b>Monday</b> <b>27th March</b>	<b>7.20 am</b>	<b>(JD) Early Mass for Lent (Also Live Streamed)</b>
	<b>9.30 am</b>	<b>(JD) Also Live Streamed</b> <i>Followed by Novena &amp; Benediction</i> Jacki & Molly Keane
<b>Tuesday</b> <b>28th March</b>	<b>7.20 am</b>	<b>(JD) Early Mass for Lent (Also Live Streamed)</b>
	<b>9.30 am</b>	<b>(JD) Also Live Streamed</b>
<b>Wednesday</b> <b>29th March</b>	<b>7.20 am</b>	<b>(JD) Early Mass for Lent (Also Live Streamed)</b>
	<b>9.30 am</b>	<b>(JD) Also Live Streamed</b>
	<b>6.00 pm</b>	<b>(IS) Blessed Sacrament Chapel</b>
<b>Thursday</b> <b>30th March</b>	<b>7.20 am</b>	<b>(IS) Early Mass for Lent (Also Live Streamed)</b>
	<b>9.30 am</b>	<b>(IS) Also Live Streamed</b> Thanksgiving mass
<b>Friday</b> <b>31st March</b>	<b>9.30 am</b>	<b>(IS) Also Live Streamed</b>
	<b>7.30 pm</b>	<b>(JD) Also Live Streamed</b> Gary O'Brien (1st Anniversary) Michael, Bridie, Mary, Noel & Kieran Dunning James & Jane Connaughton, Ann Moran Kevin Gilligan, William (Bill) Dawson Nancy & John McManus
<b>Saturday</b> <b>1st April</b>	<b>9.30 am</b>	<b>(IS) Also Live Streamed</b> Leo Marsh Sarah & Billy Collins
	<b>6.30 pm Vigil</b>	<b>(JD) Also Live Streamed</b>
<b>Sunday</b> <b>2nd April</b>	<b>9.00 am</b>	<b>Palm Sunday</b> <b>(MH) Also Live Streamed</b> People of the Parish
	<b>12.00 noon</b>	<b>(MH) Also Live Streamed</b> Tommy & Mary Moran Michael Hanley (Snr) Pat & Mary Crehan Pat Coyle



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

**26th March 2023 Fifth Sunday of Lent**



**Clocks go forward an hour  
on Saturday night**

**Jesus cried with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!"**

**Parish Contact Details**

**V. Rev John Deignan P.P.** 10 Ashford, Monksland  
090 - 6490874 **Regular phone & WhatsApp**  
[frjohndeignan@gmail.com](mailto:frjohndeignan@gmail.com)

**Fr Innocent Sunu C.C.** Forthill House, Battery Road, 090 - 6492171

**Ss. Peter & Paul's Office:** Ashley Rowe, Secretary, Forthill House  
**090 - 6492171 Monday - Thursday 9.30am - 1.30pm office hours**  
**Email: [stpetersparishathlone@gmail.com](mailto:stpetersparishathlone@gmail.com)**  
(Drum / Clonown Areas) 090 - 64 37125

**Fr. Michael Hickey CSSp** Catherine Higgins Secretary 090 - 64 37125  
**Drum area Office:** [drumparish1@gmail.com](mailto:drumparish1@gmail.com)

**Deacon Tony Larkin:** Chaplain Colaiste Chairáin 085 739 2473  
[deacontony17@gmail.com](mailto:deacontony17@gmail.com)

**Parish Organist:** PJ Stacey 087 248 6206

**Folk Group:** Frank Conroy 086 860 5333

**Safeguarding Rep:** Lisa Malone 087 144 0833

**Parish Pastoral Council:** John Daly *Chairperson* c/o Parish Office  
**Sacristy Ss. Peter & Paul's Church (attended at Mass times only) 090 6494150**  
**Sacristans'** Christine Kenny & Tom O'Neill

**[www.churchservices.tv/athlone](http://www.churchservices.tv/athlone)**

**Baptism, Confirmation & Marriage Certificates  
are issued from the Sacristy (090 64 94 150)**

**To Contact the Priest on Duty Call 085 870 5840**

**Weekly Newsletter**

### Living life to the full

It seems a bit strange to have this gospel on the Fifth Sunday of Lent. It seems to be clearly about the resurrection and yet we are still plodding through Lent and have to get through Good Friday before we get to Easter. What's going on; have the Church's liturgical engineers got it all wrong? Can I suggest that this text is more about death than resurrection? After all, Lazarus isn't walking around today; he had to undergo another death. This text is more about our life and death here and now rather than about the resurrection. We will have time enough to consider the resurrection when we get to Easter Sunday and the weeks of celebration afterwards.

### A summary of the readings from the fifth Sunday of Lent from TY students in Colaiste Chiarain, Athlone.

In our first reading today from Ezekiel, we are foretold of the redeeming power of God. That a time will come when people will be resurrected and death will be no more.

Our psalm reminds us God is full of mercy, and forgiveness is guaranteed once asked for with an open heart. From Romans, we are told the Spirit is with us because we believe in Christ. Through the Spirit, we are given new life.

Our Gospel from John tells us the story of Lazarus rising from the dead, a foretelling of the Good News of Jesus' own resurrection. In raising Lazarus, Jesus shows his power over death so that when he dies, those who believe in him might remember that and take hope. Just as Jesus calls for the stone to be rolled away from Lazarus's tomb, so too will the disciples find the stone rolled away from Jesus' tomb.

### Recent Donations

I take this opportunity to acknowledge the kindness and generosity of those who have made extra contributions to help with the running of the parish. Sincere thanks. I also wish to thank "The Avengers" who will shortly be releasing a date for a concert in aid of Ss. Peter & Paul's Church.

**Fr. John**

### Early Morning Mass in Lent

Monday - Thursday **7.20am.**

The change from 7.30 to 7.20 is to facilitate people going to work for 8 am.

**Friday next is St. Patrick's Day, A Holy Day of Obligation Mass times are**

**Ss. Peter & Pauls Vigil Mass 6.30pm, 9.30am & 12 noon, Drum Vigil 8pm & 10am, Clonown 11.15am**

### Sacrament of Confirmation

On March 29th & 30th many of the 6th class pupils from the parish will receive the sacrament of Confirmation from Bishop Kevin Doran & Bishop Michael Duignan. Please remember them in your prayers as they prepare to take this big step in their faith journeys.

### Lenten Scripture Initiative

We are proposing to host a five-session Lenten Scripture Initiative in co-operation with Killtoom Parish. The sessions will look at some of the writings of St. Paul. **Continues Thursday March 30th and for one more week from 7.30pm to 9pm in Killtoom Hall** (Beside the church).

*The sessions will be facilitated by Deacon Willie Gacquin and Una Feeley.*

**If you are interested please contact Ashley at the office 090 64 92717.** I am sure that those who take part will find it both enjoyable and useful in understanding scripture in prayer.

### Easter arrangements in Ss. Peter & Paul's Parish April 7th to 9th

- o Chrism Mass Wednesday April 5th 7.30pm Sligo Cathedral
- o Confessions Weekend of March 25th & 26th after all Masses
- o Holy Thursday Masses in all churches at 8pm. **Quiet Holy Hour in Ss. Peter & Paul's 9 to 10pm**
- o Good Friday 12 noon Stations from St. Mary's to Ss. Peter & Pauls, 3pm in all Churches
- o Holy Saturday Vigil Mass Drum / Clonown 8pm Ss. Peter & Paul's 9 pm
- o Easter Sunday as normal Sunday

### Sunday Collection for the support of the parish.

**Ss. Peter & Paul's Church Weekly Offertory Collection March 19th €1190**

**We thank you for your contributions and generosity.**

### Drum Mass Intentions for March 25th – April 2nd

- Sat. 25<sup>th</sup>. at 8 p.m. - John Joe Meares, Curryroe.
- Sun. 26<sup>th</sup>. at 10 a.m. - Patrick and Ellen Kenny, Clonbulia. Also, deceased family members.
- Tues. 28<sup>th</sup>. at 7 p.m. - Mary Ellen Whyte, Thomastown.
- Wed. 29<sup>th</sup>. at 4 p.m. - Confirmation for Ardkeenon/Cornafulla N.S.
- Thurs. 30<sup>th</sup>. at 7 p.m. - Lena and James Murray, Clonellan. Also, deceased family members.
- Sat. 1<sup>st</sup>. at 8 p.m. - Philomena Duignan, Ardkeenon.
- Sun. 2<sup>nd</sup>. at 10 a.m. - Tom and Harry Connor, Clonark. Also, deceased family members. Michael and Mary Allen.

### Clonown Mass Intentions March 26th – April 2nd

- Mar. 26<sup>th</sup>. at 11.15 a.m. - Kathleen Shine, Currnaboll.
- April 2<sup>nd</sup>. 11.15 a.m. - Pat Burns, 38 Cedarwood Drive, Monksland.

### Recently Deceased

Pray for the repose of the souls of Edward (Ned) McManus, Ardbrae Park, Athlone. Thomas (Tom) Dillon, One Mile, Coosan, uncle to Thomas and John Joe McDonnell, Clonark and Marguerite Cairns, Monksland.

**May they rest in peace and condolences to the bereaved families.**

### Volunteer Appeal

We are appealing for volunteers to assist in the following ministries in Ss. Peter & Paul's Church. While we have many very good and committed volunteers we always need more. We would welcome your participation in the life of the Church and give practical support to the celebration of liturgy. Please consider volunteering for one of the following ministries. Full training and support will be provided to those who do put their names forward.

**Eucharistic Ministers / Readers / Church Collectors / Altar Society / Altar Servers**  
**Contact the parish office on 090 64 92171 Monday – Thursday 9.30 to 12.30.**

### Accord

Accord are currently taking booking's for Pre-Marriage courses. Please contact the Sligo Accord Centre at 071-9145641 or [www.accord.ie](http://www.accord.ie) The Pre-Marriage course should be booked at least 6-8 months before the wedding.

### World Youth Day Pilgrimage to Lisbon, Portugal 31 July - 8 August 2023.

The pilgrimage is open to 18 -35 year olds. The cost is €850 per person sharing and this includes flights, coach transfers, WYD registration, city centre hotel accommodation for six nights plus two nights in Fatima. For details and how to register please visit [www.elphindiocese.ie/wyd2023](http://www.elphindiocese.ie/wyd2023). or contact [youth@elphindiocese.ie](mailto:youth@elphindiocese.ie). If you have any queries. Please contact the parish if you would like to go.

### Car Parking at SS. Peter & Paul's Church

Parking in the Church grounds is reserved for those visiting the church. We ask your co-operation especially at Mass times and on days when we have Funerals or Weddings.

### St Peters Active Retirement Group

meet every Wednesday 3.00-4.30pm at St Peters Parish Centre.

**New members welcome.** Contact Mary 087 948 0441, Anne 086 200 9787

### Cake Sale

There will be a cake sale with Easter flower arrangements in **Clonown Community Centre on Sunday 2nd April** immediately after 11:15 Mass. There will also be a raffle with valuable prizes. Proceeds will go towards the upkeep of the community centre. All Welcome.