

## SS Peter & Paul Church Mass Intentions

Saturday 26th August to Sunday 3rd September 2023

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

Saturday 26th August	9.30 am	(IS) Also Live Streamed Kathleen Ward, Bernie Bannon
	6.30 pm Vigil	(IS) Also Live Streamed David Hassett (1st Anniversary) Michael Daniel Darby (1st Anniversary)
Sunday 27th August	9.00 am	(JD) Also Live Streamed People of the Parish
	12.00 noon	(JD) Also Live Streamed Mick & Peggy Fenton Teresa Norton Jackie McLoughlin & Michael O'Loughlin
Monday 28th August	9.30 am	(IS) Also Live Streamed Followed by Novena & Benediction No Intention
Tuesday 29th August	9.30 am	(IS) Also Live Streamed No Intention
Wednesday 30th August	9.30 am	(IS) Also Live Streamed Sheila Quain & the Berrigan & Quain Families
	6.00 pm	(JD) Blessed Sacrament Chapel
Thursday 31st August	9.30 am	(JD) Also Live Streamed Thanksgiving Mass Patrick Power
Friday 1st September	9.30 am	(JD) Also Live Streamed No Intention
	7.30 pm	(IS) Also Live Streamed The Naughton Family (Clongowna)
Saturday 2nd September	9.30 am	(JD) Also Live Streamed John & Esther Costello & Esther & Patricia Costello
	6.30 pm Vigil	(MH) Also Live Streamed Tessie Ganly (Comans Pk) (1st Anniversary) Kathleen Keighrey (Months Mind)
Sunday 3rd September	9.00 am	(IS) Also Live Streamed People of the Parish
	12.00 noon	(IS) Also Live Streamed Elizabeth Connelly Pat & Eily Beirne, Fr Tom Beirne Christina Woods

### Young person's prayer

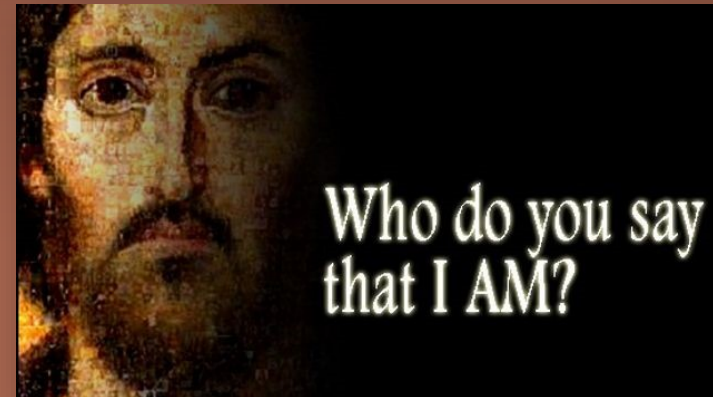
Here I am Lord, standing at the crossroads of my life,  
The time has come for me to choose the road which leads to you.

I hesitate for fear of what lies ahead of me,  
for I am much afraid of the unknown.

Take my hand in yours and walk with me for the road is long and there are no shortcuts.  
I place myself into your hands.



27th August 2023  
21st Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)



### 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:** Secretary, Forthill Hse, Athlone  
090 - 6492171 **Monday - Thursday 9.30am - 1.30pm office hours**  
Email; [stpetersparishathlone@gmail.com](mailto:stpetersparishathlone@gmail.com)

**Fr. Michael Hickey CSSp** (Drum / Clonown Areas) 090 - 64 37125

**Drum area Office:** Catherine Higgins Secretary 090 - 64 37125  
[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

### Themes for the 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

The readings for the 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A remind us that God's wisdom is not the same as our own wisdom. In the first reading we hear that God has the power to remove the mighty from their positions of leadership. In the second reading Paul tells us that we cannot know the mind of God, as his wisdom and knowledge are beyond us. And in the gospel it is Jesus who is the Christ, and Jesus declares that this is a revelation from the Father.

**Authority:** In this passage, Jesus engages His disciples in a conversation about His identity. He asks them who people say He is and then asks them directly who they believe Him to be. Through this dialogue, Jesus affirms His authority as the Messiah, the Son of the living God.

**Faith:** Peter's confession that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God, demonstrates a significant act of faith. This confession reveals Peter's recognition of Jesus' divine nature and purpose.

**Prayer:** Jesus' response to Peter's confession highlights the role of divine revelation in understanding spiritual truths. He acknowledges that Peter's confession was revealed to him by the Father in heaven, emphasizing the importance of prayerful communion with God.

**Primacy of Peter:** Jesus' declaration that Peter is the "rock" upon which He will build His church and that He will give Peter the keys to the kingdom of heaven signifies the primacy and leadership role assigned to Peter within the community of believers.

**The Church's Formation:** The passage alludes to the formation of the Church, with Jesus affirming its future establishment based on Peter's confession and leadership. This signifies the beginning of the community of believers that will grow from Christ's teachings.

**Binding and Loosing:** The authority to "bind and loose" granted to Peter symbolizes his role in guiding the Church by making decisions related to doctrine and discipline, highlighting the organizational structure and accountability within the early Church.

### Schools Reopening

Wishing the Students, teachers and staff in the eight Parish Primary Schools and Colaiste Chairáin a successful and fun year as they return for the new school year.

### Leaving Cert Students

Best wishes to our Leaving Cert Students who received their results last Friday. We wish you happiness and success in your chosen paths in life. May God always bless you in your lives.

### Volunteer Ministries in Ss. Peter & Paul's Parish

We are seeking volunteers for a number of ministries in the parish to enhance the work of the volunteers who currently give of their time for the life of the parish.

The Ministries include

#### Altar Servers—Eucharistic Ministers — Readers — Church Collectors

We are also hoping to establish an Altar Society in Ss. Peter & Paul's Church.

An altar society is a group of volunteers who take a special interest in the Sanctuary area of a church. They use their skills to ensure the sanctuary is always looking at its best by assuring the altar cloths are tidy and presentable, that fresh flowers or plants are looking well in the sanctuary and that the sacred vessels used for Mass are maintained in a way that shows due respect for the sacraments.

We look forward to welcoming our new volunteers as we continue to grow as a family of faith, service and charity. Register your interest on [www.sspeterandpaulsparishathlone.com](http://www.sspeterandpaulsparishathlone.com)

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

Ss. Peter & Paul's Church Weekly Offertory Collection 20th August € 1460.

It is possible to contribute using a standing order from your bank account,

Contact the office to get more details.

We thank you for your ongoing contributions and generosity.

### Drum Mass Intentions for Aug 26 - Sept 3

Sat. 26<sup>th</sup>. at 8 p.m. (MH) - Margaret and James Lennon, Summerhill.  
Sun. 27<sup>th</sup>. at 10 a.m. (IS) - Joe Gilgan, formerly Thomastown.  
Tues. 29<sup>th</sup>. at 7 p.m. - No Intention.  
Thurs. 31<sup>st</sup>. at 7 p.m. - No Intention.  
Sat. 2<sup>nd</sup>. at 8 p.m. (JD) - Patrick and Annie Kilroy, Clonbulia.  
Sun. 3<sup>rd</sup>. at 10 a.m. (MH) - Betty Cunniffe. Also, Pat, Catherine, Ned and Bridget Murray.

### Clonown Mass Intentions for Aug 27 - Sept 3

August 27<sup>th</sup>. at 11.15 a.m. (MH) - Margaret Dunning. Creggane, Clonown.  
Also, John, Michael, Sr. Philomena, Fr. Brendan and Rose Rodgers.  
Sept. 1<sup>st</sup>. at 8 p.m. (JD) - First Friday.  
Sept 3<sup>rd</sup>. at 11.15 a.m. (JD) - No Intention.

Drum Parish Office taking Mass booking for 2024, Drum and Clonown Churches.

Contact parish office @ 0906437125 or email [drumparish1@gmail.com](mailto:drumparish1@gmail.com).

### Recently Deceased

Pray for the repose of the souls of Marie McArdle, Parnell Square; Maureen McCormack, Halls Bridge; Gerry Lacey, Clongowna & Aidan Sweeney, Millcross Road.

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

**CANA TALKS – FRIDAY, 1ST SEPTEMBER, 2023, T.F. ROYAL THEATRE, CASTLEBAR, CO. MAYO / 8 PM.** 8 energetic speakers – each has just 15 minutes to inspire you – this is the Christian version of TED Talks – presenting on different topics relating to human happiness - from a faith perspective. Tickets €20 - available @ [www.ticketmaster.ie](http://www.ticketmaster.ie) or call the T.F. Box Office at (094) 902 3111. Visit [www.canatalks.com](http://www.canatalks.com) or our Cana Talks Facebook page. Come along for an entertaining & inspirational evening for the mind, heart, & soul!

### Baptisms

A minimum of two weeks notice is required in advance of a baptism. Baptisms are held on the 1st and 3rd Saturday of each month at 2pm. Application forms are available from the parish office/ sacristy and on the parish website. This should be completed and returned to the parish office with a copy of the birth cert by post or email. The office will be in contact to confirm details once the booking form is received.

### Accord

Accord are currently taking bookings 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.

### Community Employment Vacancies

St. Peter's Parish C.E. Project CLG., St. Peter's Parish Centre, Chapel Street, Athlone. N37YX27

Tel: 090 6493270

The Following Community Employment Positions are available on our Project.

Job Ref:	Position	Project Area
2253037	Cleaner/Caretaker	Monksland Community Centre.
2253032	Caretaker/Grounds-person	Gentex Football Club.
2253044	Caretaker/Grounds-person	Monksland Community Centre.
2253048	Caretaker/Grounds-person	St. Francis Football Club.
2258047	Environmental Worker	Monksland Tidy Towns.

Please note that you must be eligible for Community Employment in order to apply for the above positions. For more information please contact the above telephone number Monday to Friday between 9am To 1pm. A video on CE can be seen in the 'What's Going On' section of the Jobsireland website, at end of the homepage."

I thank the LORD wholeheartedly,

[www.sspeterandpaulsparishathlone.com](http://www.sspeterandpaulsparishathlone.com)