

SS Peter & Paul Church Mass Intentions
Saturday 10th December to Sunday 17th December 2023

ALL MASSES ARE LIVE-STREAMED on www.churchservices.tv/athlone

Saturday 9th December	9.30 am 6.30 pm Vigil	(JD) Also Live Streamed Tommy, Rose, Seamus & Mary Reynolds (IS) Also Live Streamed Gerry Molloy (1st Anniversary)
Sunday 10th December	9.00 am 12.00 noon	(JD) Also Live Streamed People of the Parish. (JD) Also Live Streamed Gerard Holohan Snr & Jnr Maureen, Sean & Michael Brennan
Monday 11th December	9.30 am	(JD) Also Live Streamed Albert Marsh Followed by Novena & Benediction
Tuesday 12th December	9.30 am	(JD) Also Live Streamed Private Intention
Wednesday 13th December	9.30 am	(IS) Also Live Streamed Leo Turpin & Dec. Turpin & Byrne Families
Thursday 14th December	6.00 pm 9.30 am	(JW) Blessed Sacrament Chapel (IS) Also Live Streamed Private Intention
Friday 15th December	9.30 am	(JW) Also Live Streamed For all who are sick
	Christmas Carols by the boys from Dean Kelly NS offer Mass 7.30 pm	(JD) Also Live Streamed Eithne & Tommy Barclay, Tony Downey, Mary & Frank Egan & Dec Family Members, Kathleen & Paddy Reilly & Great-Granddaughter Robin Hill, Peter & Mary Fallon & brother Michael Hynes, Bernard, Maureen, James & Dec members of the Dully & Durney Families, Michael & Richard Bertles and dec family
Saturday 16th December	9.30 am 6.30 pm Vigil	(JW) Also Live Streamed Agnes Hanley, Sr. Lourdes Hynes, Mary & Michael Kelly, sons Michael & Bernard & daughter Phylis Macken (MH) Also Live Streamed Bridget Carty (1st Anniversary) Karen Harkins & her Mother Kathy
Sunday 17th December	9.00 am 12.00 noon	(JW) Also Live Streamed People of the Parish. (JD) Also Live Streamed Terry O'Neill (Months Mind) Breda Grenham

A prayer for the second week of Advent
Loving God,

We give you thanks for the blessings of this holy Advent season.

You are the source of life, of hope, and of all good things.

We look forward to the coming of the light of Christ at Christmas.

Help us to turn toward that light in our lives.

We rejoice at the gift of your Son who taught us to love in your name.

May we be people of peace and justice all the days of our lives.

Your kingdom come and your will be done now and forever.

Amen.



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

10th December 2023
Second Sunday of Advent



Prepare the Way of the Lord

Parish Contact Details

- V. Rev John Deignan P.P.** 10 Ashford, Monksland
 090 - 6490874 **Regular phone & WhatsApp**
frjohndeignan@gmail.com
- Fr Innocent Sunu C.C.** Forthill House, Battery Road, 090 - 6492171
- Fr. Joseph Wenjeslaus C.C.** Forthill House, Battery Road, 090 - 6492171
- Ss. Peter & Paul's Office:** Martina McSweeney, Forthill House,
Mon - Fri 9.30am - 1.30pm 090 - 6492171
Email; stpetersparishathlone@gmail.com
(Drum / Clonown Areas) 090 - 64 37125
- Fr. Michael Hickey CSSP** 090 - 64 37125
- Drum area Office:** Catherine Higgins Secretary 090 - 64 37125
drumparish1@gmail.com
- Deacon Tony Larkin:** Chaplain Colaiste Chairáin 085 739 2473
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
- 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

The readings for the 2nd Sunday of Advent tell us of John the Baptist and his call to repentance. The first reading foretells the coming of John the Baptist. The psalm reminds us that the Lord is kind and just. The second reading encourages us to grow in holiness. And in the gospel, John the Baptist is baptizing people in preparation for the coming of Jesus Christ.

- **Fulfilment of Prophecy:** The passage begins by referencing the prophets Isaiah and Malachi, indicating that John the Baptist's ministry is a fulfilment of prophecy. This theme underscores the continuity of God's plan as revealed through the prophets.
- **Preparation for the Messiah:** John's role as a forerunner for Christ highlights the theme of preparation for the coming of the Messiah. His preaching and baptizing in the wilderness were meant to prepare the hearts and minds of the people for Jesus.
- **Humility of John the Baptist:** John's declaration that he is not worthy to untie the sandals of the one coming after him illustrates his humility. It sets an example for the proper attitude of a servant of God, acknowledging one's own unworthiness in comparison to Christ.
- **Baptism as a Symbol of Repentance:** The act of baptism in the Jordan River by John symbolizes purification and repentance. This ritual act points to the inner transformation that is required for a renewed relationship with God.
- **Anticipation of the Holy Spirit:** John distinguishes his baptism with water from the coming baptism with the Holy Spirit by Jesus. This theme introduces the Holy Spirit's significant role in Christian life and points to the deeper, transformative work that Jesus will accomplish.
- **Transition from Old to New Covenant:** John's ministry marks the transition from the prophetic tradition of the Old Testament to the new era inaugurated by Jesus. This theme reflects the shift from the law and prophets to the grace and truth brought by Christ.

Christmas times 2023

- **Christmas Confessions** After all Masses this weekend
After Masses on Christmas Eve (until 2pm)
- **Masses**

Ss. Peter & Paul's Church

Christmas Eve **Childrens Mass** 6pm **Christmas Vigil Mass** 9pm
Christmas Day 9am & 12 noon



St Brigid's Church Drum

Christmas Eve 8pm
Christmas Day 10am & 11.30am

Our Lady of the Wayside, Clonown

Christmas Eve 8pm
Christmas Day 11.15am

Advent Scripture

Fr. Innocent & Fr. Joseph will host three nights of exploring scripture in Advent. The sessions will be held in **Forthill House on Thursday evenings at 7.30pm**, they will last about an hour. We will meet to pray some psalms, listen to and reflect together on the Gospel passage of the coming Sunday, and to pray some short prayers of praise, gratitude and petition all in a relaxed and friendly environment. **All are very welcome**

Tap machine for donations.

We have introduced a "Tap Machine" for donations to Ss. Peter & Paul's Church. In doing so it is **not** to replace the weekly collection but rather to give visitors to the church an opportunity to contribute to the upkeep of our beautiful church.

Ss. Peter & Paul's Church Weekly Offertory Collection December 3rd €1404.

We thank those who donate through the online link on the Parish Website.

Thank you for your ongoing contributions and generosity.

Drum Mass Intentions for Dec 2nd - Dec 10th

Sat. 9 th . 8 p.m. - (MH) Mary Macken, Lisdillure.
Sun. 10 th . 10 a.m. (JW) Anna May Bruce formerly Castlecoote (40 th Anniversary).
Tues. 12 th . 7 p.m. - (MH) Eileen Murray, Crannaghmore.
Thurs. 14 th . 7 p.m. - (MH) Mary Glynn, Crannaghmore.
Sat. 16 th . 12 noon - (MH) Sr. Marian (Sr. Vincent) Berrigan, formerly Clonark. Month's Mind.
Sat. 16 th . 8 p.m. - (JD) Eamon, Edward and Annie Griffin, Ardkeenan.
Sun. 17 th . 10 a.m. - (MH) Paddy and Elizabeth Halligan, Crannaghbeg.



Clonown Mass Intentions for Dec 3rd - Dec 10th

Dec. 10th 11.15am (MH) Seán Shine, Buggane.
Dec. 17th . 11.15 am (IS) Roddy and Bridget Hardiman,
Also, deceased members of the Hardiman and Dunning families Drumlosh.



Recently Deceased

Pray for the repose of the soul of: Tommy Curley, Clonark, Kevin Higgins (brother of Aidan, Mitchell's Tce) , Mary Travis (nee White) who died in New Hampshire USA, (formerly Cloonakilla Bealnamulla).
May they rest in the peace of Christ.

Roscommon Solstice Choir Christmas Concert

featuring the wonderful children from Ballymurray National School in St. Patrick's Church Knockcroghery on December 10th at 6pm!

Tickets on sale now in Gleeson's, Eight till Late and Eason's. €15

Raffle on the night with all proceeds going to Ballymurray National School Development Fund.

Coláiste Chiaráin

Craft fare will be held in the college on Sunday (Today) December 10th from 1a am to 3 pm. All proceeds are towards the College. A good days fun is guaranteed, **PLEASE SUPPORT**

Accord

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

Family / House Masses

If you would like to have a Mass in your home for your family or neighbours please contact the priest for your area who would be delighted to oblige.

House Masses can not be facilitated on Saturdays or Sundays.
(please give notice to allow for other events in the priests diary)

Young People preparing for the Sacraments in 2024

We have more than 300 Young People preparing for the Sacraments in 2024. The day they receive First Holy Communion or the Holy Spirit in Confirmation is a very special day in their lives. Please pray for them and if you know a young person who will be receiving the Sacraments please encourage them in their preparation.

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.
2305547	Caretaker/Grounds-person	Drum Church & Parish Hall.

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."