

**SS Peter & Paul Church Mass Intentions
Saturday 6th January to Sunday 14th January 2024**

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

		Holy Day Feast of the Epiphany	
Saturday 6th January	9.30am	(JW) Also Live Streamed	No Intention.
	12.00 noon	(JD) Also Live Streamed	Rosemary O'Sullivan.
	6.30 pm Vigil	(IS) Also Live Streamed	Jean Smith (Months Mind). Michael Goode.
Sunday 7th January	9.00 am	(JD) Also Live Streamed	People of the Parish.
	12.00 noon	(MH) Also Live Streamed	Bernie Mc Loughlin. Joe Ducke & his niece Clodagh. Christie & Bill Dunne.
Monday 8th January	9.30am	(JW) Also Live Streamed	Mary & Josephine Shine.
Tuesday 9th January	9.30am	(JW) Also Live Streamed	Patrick & Patricia Kenny.
Wednesday 10th January	9.30am	(JD) Also Live Streamed	No Intention.
	6.00 pm	(IS) Blessed Sacrament Chapel	
Thursday 11th January	9.30am	(JD) Also Live Streamed	Private Intention.
Friday 12th January	9.30am	(IS) Also Live Streamed	No Intention.
	7.30pm	(JD) Also Live Streamed	Thomas & Bridie Mulligan. John King. Jim & Bessie Mulryan. Winnie Keogh.
Saturday 13th January	9.30am	(IS) Also Live Streamed	John, Mary & Sean Dillon. Paddy & Annie Whelan.
	6.30pm Vigil	(MH) Also Live Streamed	No Intention.
Sunday 14th January	9.00am	(JW) Also Live Streamed	People of the Parish
	12.00pm	(JD) Also Live Streamed	Mary Hannon. John & Nancy Mc Manus, Baylough.

It happened in those days that Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized in the Jordan by John. On coming up out of the water he saw the heavens being torn open and the Spirit, like a dove, descending upon him.

Mark 1:9-11



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

**7th January 2024
The Baptism of our Lord**



This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased

Parish Contact Details

V. Rev John Deignan P.P. 10 Ashford, Monksland
090 - 6490874 **Regular phone & WhatsApp**
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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 Catherine Higgins Secretary 090 - 64 37125
Drum area Office: 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 liturgy for the Baptism of the Lord Year B, with its specific readings, presents several interwoven themes that are central to understanding this feast and its significance:

- 1. Divine Servanthood and Justice:** The first reading from Isaiah 42 highlights the role of the servant of the Lord, anointed with the Spirit to bring forth justice. This theme connects directly to the baptism of Jesus, where He is revealed as this servant, endowed with the Spirit to fulfill God's mission of salvation and justice.
- 2. Salvation and Praise:** The Responsorial Psalm from Isaiah 12 emphasizes God as the source of salvation and strength. This resonates with the baptismal theme of salvation, where baptism is seen as the beginning of our salvation journey in Christ.
- 3. Faith, Love, and Obedience:** The second reading from 1 John 5 connects faith in Jesus as the Messiah with the love for God and His commandments. This reading highlights the Christian life following baptism, marked by faith, love, and obedience to God's will.
- 4. Revelation of Jesus as the Son of God:** The Gospel from Mark 1 vividly depicts the baptism of Jesus by John the Baptist. This event is pivotal, revealing Jesus as the beloved Son of God and marking the beginning of His public ministry. The descent of the Holy Spirit like a dove and the voice from heaven affirm Jesus' divine sonship and mission.
- 5. The Baptism of Jesus as a Model for Christian Baptism:** This feast also reflects on the significance of Christian baptism. Just as Jesus was baptized by John, Christians are baptized into Jesus' life, death, and resurrection. This sacrament is seen as an entry into the Christian community and a sharing in the life of Christ.
- 6. Transformation and the Holy Spirit:** The baptism of Jesus marks the anointing of the Holy Spirit upon Him. This theme extends to Christian baptism, where the baptized are also anointed with the Spirit, signifying a transformation and new life in Christ.

Christmas Collection for the Support of the Clergy

The Clergy thank those who have contributed to the Christmas Collection and ask those who have not yet returned their envelopes to drop them in the collection basket at Mass or the Sacristy.

The collection this year saw a drop of almost 20% on last year. This collection is to support the four priests in the parish from December until Easter. The Priests income is never paid from the Sunday collection.

Parish Pastoral Council

The January meeting will take place on Tuesday night January 9th at 8pm. ALL members are requested to attend.

Monksland Community Mass

The January Mass will take place on Thursday evening at 8pm in Monksland Community Centre at 8pm. The theme of our Mass this month will be "New Beginnings" All are welcome, Tea, Scones and friendly Chat Afterwards.

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.

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. **The December Total was €968.**

Ss. Peter & Paul's Church Weekly Offertory Collection December 31st €1,680

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

Thank you for your ongoing contributions and generosity.

www.sspeterandpaulsparishathlone.com

Drum Mass Intentions for Jan 6th - Jan 14th

Sat. 6th at 8 p.m. Vigil - (MH) John, Bridie, Thomas and Denis Harney, Curraghaleen.
 Sun. 7th at 10 a.m. - (JW) John and Margaret Murray, Creggane. Gretta Reynolds.
 Also, dec. members of the Murray and Reynolds families.
 Tues. 9th at 7 p.m. - (MH) No Intention.
 Thurs. 11th at 7 p.m. - (MH) Willie and Mary Kelly. Also, son Liam. Clonbulia.
 Sat. 13th at 8 p.m. Vigil - (JD) Una Naughton, Clonark.
 Sun. 14th at 10 a.m. - (IS) Mary and Tom Grenham, Gorrynagowna.
 Also, deceased family members.



Clonown Mass Intentions for Jan 7th - Jan 14th

Sun. 7th at 11.15 a.m. - (IS) No Intention.
 Sun. 14th at 11.15 a.m. - (MH) Patrick Dollery, Clonown. First Anniversary.



Mobile Library

The mobile library will stop in the Supervalu carpark, Monksland on Thursday 18th January from 1pm – 3:30pm. We have a great selection of books, CDs, DVDs, e-books and audiobooks for all ages and library membership is free.

St. Joseph's Primary School, Summerhill, Athlone

Are currently enrolling for September 2024. Information evening for parents on Tuesday 16th January 6.00pm – 7.30pm. For more information please phone: **090 6492037.**

A date for your diary!

Ss. Peter & Paul's Parish Pilgrimage to Medugorje is taking place on June 26th to July 3rd 2024. A Spiritual Director will also be in attendance. Cost €795 (Single room supplement €150 extra). €50 discount if €100 is paid before 1st February'24. Contact Mary Mulligan: **087 293 6933.**

Athlone Little Theatre

Hubcap Theatre presents 'The Parish' on 12th, 13th and 14th January. A heart-warming play. 'The Parish' runs for one hour 15 minutes with no interval. Recommended age 12+. Book tickets now on www.athlonelittletheatre.ie or via Eventbrite.

Coffee & Chat

Join us at "Caife Connect" Monday 8th January @11.00am. We are a mixed bunch of Irish-lovers, keen to use the "cúpla focail". Location: AFRC, Unit 14, ACT, Parnell Square N37 C8W6. Parking: 20 O'Connell St., N37 K308

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)

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."

www.elphindiocese.ie/vocations