

**SS Peter & Paul Church Mass Intentions
Saturday 24th February to Sunday 3rd March 2024**

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

Saturday 24th February	9.30am	(JW) Also Live Streamed No Intention.
	6.30pm Vigil	(JW) Also Live Streamed Thomas (Ned) Mc Cracken (Month's Mind).
Sunday 25th February	9.00am	(MH) Also Live Streamed People of the Parish
	12.00pm	(JW) Also Live Streamed Annie & Pat Fallon. Bridie Murray & deceased family members. Brian & Miriam Lenihan. Gerry Mc Caul.
Monday 26th February	7.20 am	(JW) Early Mass for Lent (Also Live Streamed)
	9.30am	(JW) Also Live Streamed Nan Walshe.
Tuesday 27th February	7.20 am	(JW) Early Mass for Lent (Also Live Streamed)
	9.30am	(JW) Also Live Streamed Thanksgiving Mass.
Wednesday 28th February	7.20 am	(JW) Early Mass for Lent (Also Live Streamed)
	9.30am	(JW) Also Live Streamed No Intention.
	6.00pm	(IS) Blessed Sacrament Chapel
Thursday 29th February	7.20 am	(IS) Early Mass for Lent (Also Live Streamed)
	9.30am	(IS) Also Live Streamed No Intention.
Friday 1st March	9.30am	(IS) Also Live Streamed Michael & Bridget Galvin. Mike & Winnie Farrell.
	7.30pm	(JD) Also Live Streamed Mary Gaffey. Jason Gaffey. Patrick Dunning. Kenneth Connor.
Saturday 2nd March	9.30am	(JD) Also Live Streamed Kitty Mc Fadden & deceased members of the Mc Fadden & Healy families.
	6.30pm Vigil	(JD) Also Live Streamed Gary Shine (Month's Mind). Catherine Barnes (Month's Mind).
Sunday 3rd March	9.00am	(MH) Also Live Streamed People of the Parish
	12.00pm	(JD) Also Live Streamed Susan Reilly. Seamus Mc Cann. John Keyes. Pa & Vera Nestor.

A Lenten Prayer

God of love, bring me back to You. Send Your Spirit to make me strong in faith and active in good works. May my acts of penance bring me Your forgiveness, open my heart to Your love, and prepare me for the coming feast of the Resurrection of Jesus.



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

**25th February 2024
Second Sunday of Lent**



**This weekend marks the
second anniversary of the war
in Ukraine. We continue to
pray for Peace in Ukraine, The
Middle East and ALL war torn
parts of our World.**



Parish Contact Details

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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

Fr. Michael Hickey CSSp (Drum / Clonown Areas) 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 in Lent Year B

- **Faith and Obedience:** The first reading from Genesis highlights Abraham's unwavering faith and obedience to God, even when asked to sacrifice his son Isaac. This narrative underscores the depth of faith and trust in God's plan, despite not understanding it fully.
- **The Suffering and Glory of Christ:** The Gospel from Mark describes the Transfiguration of Jesus, revealing His divine glory. This event foreshadows the Paschal Mystery—His suffering, death, and resurrection. It also affirms Jesus as the beloved Son and the fulfilment of the Law and the Prophets, represented by Moses and Elijah.
- **Victory Over Suffering:** The second reading from Romans emphasizes that with God on our side, we can face any opposition. It highlights the victory over condemnation through Christ's intercession, reflecting on the ultimate sacrifice of Jesus for our salvation.
- **Reflection and Anticipation:** The readings collectively invite believers to reflect on their journey of faith, anticipating the ultimate fulfillment of God's promises through the resurrection of Jesus. They encourage a deep trust in God's plan, even amidst trials and sufferings.

The reflection below is from the students in Colaiste Chiarain who are doing the Pope John Paul 2 Awards.

Our first reading from Genesis, recounts the ultimate test of Abraham's faith, where he obediently prepares to sacrifice his son Isaac as commanded by God. At the last moment, God provides a ram for the sacrifice instead, reaffirming His covenant with Abraham, promising blessings for his obedience and descendants as numerous as the stars.

Our second reading, from St. Paul's letters to the Romans, reassures believers that nothing can separate them from God's love. If God is for us, who can be against us? Christ, who died for us and intercedes for us, ensures our victory over any accusation or condemnation.

Our Gospel reading, from Mark, describes the Transfiguration of Jesus, where he is seen in radiant glory alongside Moses and Elijah on a mountain. This event affirms Jesus' divine nature and the fulfillment of the Law and the Prophets in him. Peter, James, and John witness this extraordinary moment, and Jesus instructs them to keep it to themselves until after his resurrection.

Daily Masses during Lent 2024

During the weeks of Lent Mass will be celebrated at 7.20am and 9.30am on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday mornings, at 9.30am & 7.30 pm on Fridays at 9.30am and 7.30pm and on Saturday at 9.30am in Ss. Peter & Paul's Church.

Trócaire Lenten Campaign 2024

This year, Trócaire's lenten campaign focuses on the country of Malawi, Africa. Malawi is one of the least developed countries in the world and has been badly affected by climate change. In the Machinga district, Malita and her family must make a one-hour trip up to five times a day to collect water. **Please support Trócaire in helping communities develop sustainable access to clean, safe and reliable water supplies by taking home a Trócaire box today.**

Trócaire is the Irish Catholic Churches overseas aid group. Please support if you can.

Fr. John

Fr. John will be away until Friday March 1st. All calls in his absence can be directed to Fr. Innocent or Fr. Joseph at Forthill House **0906492171**

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 February 18th € 1,525.

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 Feb 24th - March 3rd.

- Sat. 24th. at 11 a.m. - **(MH)** Patrick (Pakie) Duignan, Ardkeenan (Month's Mind).
 Sat. 24th. at 8 p.m. - **(MH)** Kitty and Patrick Seery, Clonellan.
 Also, deceased family members.
- Sun. 25th. at 10 a.m. - **(JW)** Morgan Keena, formerly of Cornafulla.
 Tues. 27th. at 7 p.m. - **(MH)** No Intention.
- Thurs. 29th. at 7 p.m. - **(MH)** Pakie Naughton, Thomastown.
- Sat. 2nd. at 11 a.m. - **(MH)** Bridget (Bridie) McManus, Nure. Month's Mind.
 Sat. 2nd. at 8 p.m. - **(JW)** Patrick and Kathleen O'Neill, Mt. Hussey.
 Also, Stella Brockman.
- Sun. 3rd. at 10 a.m. - **(JW)** Pakie, Teresa, Michael and Christopher Harney, Clonrulla.



Clonown Mass Intentions for Feb 25th - March 3rd.

- Feb. 25th. at 11.15 a.m. - **(MH)** Willie and Kathleen Ward, Currnaboill.
 Mar. 1st. at 8 p.m. - **(JW)** Ellen (Nell) Dunning, Newtown North. Also, her husband Jack, daughter Bernadette Molloy & her granddaughter Eireann Molloy.
- Mar. 3rd. at 11.15 a.m. - **(MH)** Pat Burns, 38 Cedarwood Drive.



Recently Deceased

Pray for the repose of the souls of Lynda (née Higgins) Dowling, Ballykeeran, formerly of Connaught Street. Gary Shine, Ava Maria Terrace.
May they rest in the peace of Christ.

COMMUNITY CONNECT DRIVE & DROP-DONATE TO HELP FAMILIES IN NEED

SUNDAY 10th MARCH 1pm-3pm - Coosan Church Car Park

Help us to gather much-needed essential items for pregnant mothers and families with new babies. Just pick up a few extra items in your weekly shop, and drop them to Coosan Church Car Park on Sun 10 Mar, 1pm-3pm. New items only please, such as nappies, wipes, nappy sacks, baby toiletries, babygros, vests, bibs, baby towels and blankets, hospital bag items, unopened gift items for mothers such as hand cream. No candles or glass items please. **For more information e:** www.communityconnect.ie/driveanddrop/

Medjugorje Youth Festival

The Diocese of Elphin invites young adults in the diocese aged 18-35 on pilgrimage to Medjugorje this summer for the Youth Festival from 31st July – 7th August, led by Bishop Kevin. The cost per person sharing is €650. *For more information, detail of costs, registration form etc. please see the diocesan website on www.elphindiocese.ie/medjugorje or contact the Diocesan Office at 071-9150106 and youth@elphindiocese.ie*

Womens World Day of Prayer

The 2024 swevice of prayer will be held in St. Mary's Catholic Church, Athlone on Friday March 1st at 8pm. Theme "I beg you ... Bear with one another in love" **ALL ARE WELCOME**

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
2317109	Caretaker/Grounds-person	Drum Church & Parish Hall.
2317101	Cleaner/Caretaker	Monksland Community Centre.
2317094	Caretaker/Grounds-person	Gentex Football Club.
2317104	Caretaker/Grounds-person	Monksland Community Centre.
2317143	Caretaker/Grounds-person	St. Francis Football Club.
2317108	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."