

**SS Peter & Paul Church Mass Intentions
Saturday 2nd March to Sunday 10th March 2024**

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

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 Pat Healy 1st Anniversary. Susan Reilly. Seamus Mc Cann. John Keyes. Pa & Vera Nestor.
Monday 4th March	7.20 am	(JD) Early Mass for Lent (Also Live Streamed)
	9.30am	(JD) Also Live Streamed No Intention.
Tuesday 5th March	7.20 am	(JD) Early Mass for Lent (Also Live Streamed)
	9.30am	(JD) Also Live Streamed Louie, Mary, John, Michael, Kathleen, Clem, Angela & Marty Kelly.
Wednesday 6th March	7.20 am	(IS) Early Mass for Lent (Also Live Streamed)
	9.30am	(IS) Also Live Streamed No Intention.
	6.00pm	(JD) Blessed Sacrament Chapel
Thursday 7th March	7.20 am	(IS) Early Mass for Lent (Also Live Streamed)
	9.30am	(IS) Also Live Streamed Private Intention.
Friday 8th March	9.30am	(JW) Also Live Streamed No Intention.
	7.30pm	(IS) Also Live Streamed Declan Browne. Francis Vaughan. Tom & Masie Byrne. Mai & Larry Collins. Eithne & Tommy Barclay and deceased family members.
Saturday 9th March	9.30am	(JD) Also Live Streamed No Intention.
	11.00am	(IS) Also Live Streamed Lynda (née Higgins) Dowling (Month's Mind).
	6.30pm Vigil	(IS) Also Live Streamed Seamus Fuery 1st Anniversary. Betty Doyle 1st Anniversary.
Sunday 10th March	9.00am	(JD) Also Live Streamed People of the Parish
	12.00pm	(MH) Also Live Streamed Thomas Grenham. Jimmy & Nora O'Connor. Ada & Martin Grenham. Tony & Mary Duignan.

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

**3rd March 2024
Third Sunday of Lent**



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 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

The readings for the 3rd Sunday of Lent Year B help us understand that we must follow God's commandments and truly live them in our hearts to find life. The first reading gives us the ten commandments. The second reading reminds us that God's wisdom is not like human wisdom. And the gospel tells of Jesus cleansing the temple of the money changers who put their own desires above serving the Father.

- The reverence for the temple: The temple was a sacred space for the Jewish people, and it was meant to be a place of worship and prayer. Jesus' actions demonstrate the importance of maintaining the sanctity of the temple and not allowing it to become a marketplace. The importance of worshipping and serving God alone is also emphasized in the first reading for the 3rd Sunday of Lent Year B. In both cases, there is a focus on the centrality of God in our worship and church practices.
- The significance of the Eucharist: The temple in Jerusalem was a foreshadowing of the true temple, which is the body of Christ. As Catholics, we believe that Jesus is present in the Eucharist, and that every time we participate in Mass, we are entering into the presence of God. The Gospel reading reminds us of the significance of the Eucharist and the importance of approaching it with reverence and awe. This also ties in with the first reading for the 3rd Sunday of Lent Year B, which reminds us to keep the Sabbath holy.

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

In our first reading, Exodus 20:1-17, we are told about the Ten Commandment's, given by God to Moses on Mount Sinai. They include commands to worship only one God, not to make idols, to honour parents, not to murder, commit adultery, steal, bear false witness, or covet. These principles form the foundation of moral conduct in Judeo-Christian tradition.

In our second reading, 1 Corinthians 1:22-25 emphasizes the contrast between human wisdom and divine wisdom. It highlights how Jews seek signs and Greeks seek wisdom, but for believers, the message of Christ crucified is the ultimate wisdom and power of God, surpassing human understanding and expectations.

Our Gospel, John 2:13-25, describes Jesus cleansing the temple in Jerusalem, overturning tables of money-changers and driving out those selling animals. He rebukes them, saying, "Stop turning my Father's house into a market!" When asked for a sign, Jesus predicts his own resurrection, emphasizing the significance of his authority.

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.

Monthly Holy Communion Calls

Fr. John will complete his monthly Holy Communion calls this coming week. He will telephone in advance to let you know when he is coming.

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 Total for February is €610.***

Ss. Peter & Paul's Church Weekly Offertory Collection February 25th € 1,730.

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

Thank you for your ongoing contributions and generosity.

www.elphindiocese.ie/vocations

Drum Mass Intentions for March 2nd - March 10th.

- 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.
- Tues. 5th. at 7 p.m. - **(MH)** James and Kathleen Greene, Doohan.
- Thurs. 7th. at 7 p.m. - **(MH)** Maureen Dolan, Ballinasloe & Curraghaleen 1st Anniversary.
- Sat. 9th. at 8 p.m. - **(MH)** Mary Higgins, Ardkeenan. Also, Tommy & Winnifred Higgins.
- Sun. 10th. at 10 a.m. - **(JD)** Rose and Bernie Kelly, Rooskey.



Clonown Mass Intentions for March 3rd - March 10th.

- Mar. 3rd. at 11.15 a.m. - **(MH)** Pat Burns, 38 Cedarwood Drive.
- Mar. 10th. at 11.15 a.m. - **(IS)** Martin and Bridie Shine, Drumlosh.



Recently Deceased

Pray for the repose of the souls of Eileen Egan, Shannonside House, Battery Road. Hannah Bracken, Clonark. Margaret Maher, Ferbane. Sister to Noreen Golden, Kietly.

May she rest in the peace of Christ.

Drum Cemetery Voluntary Group

Annual General Meeting will be held on Tuesday 5th March at 8pm in Drum Parish Hall. New members are most welcome.

The Re-launched Athlone Branch of Comhaltas is having their first event of the year. A Welcome Session on Sunday 10th March 4 - 6pm. A celebration of Irish music, song for musicians/singers of all ages. Join them at the Knight's of Columbanus Hall, St. Mary's Square, Athlone.

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. No candles or glass items please. : www.communityconnect.ie/driveanddrop/

CLUB SPRAOI

CLUB SPRAOI Monthly Youth Clubs "as Gaeilge", and encouraging the use of Irish. Next meeting will be the evening of 4/3/24. Athlone Family Resource Centre, 14 O'Connell St, Athlone. To register your child (7+ years), contact coordinator@afrc.ie

COFFEE AND CHAT

Join us at "Caife Connect" at 11.00 on 4/3/24. We are a mixed bunch of Irish-lovers, keen to use the cúpla focail. Location : Athlone Family Resource Centre, Unit 14, ACT, Ball Alley Lane, Parnell Square N37C8W6. Parking: 20 O'Connell St., N37K308.

Athlone Musical Society

Presents the hilarious musical comedy "Urinetown the musical" from 1st - 9th March in the Dean Crowe Theatre. With an award winning cast it is sure to have audiences bursting in their seats. Tickets are on sale now at www.deancrowetheatre.com or call **090 6492129**.

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."