

**The readings for the 3rd Sunday in Easter** encourage us to truly believe in the resurrection of Jesus Christ and to accept his love. In the gospel the risen Jesus appears to his disciples and helps them understand his death and resurrection.

- **Repentance and Forgiveness:** A central theme, especially highlighted in the readings from Acts and the Gospel of Luke, is the call to repentance—turning back to God—and the promise of forgiveness. This theme underscores God's mercy and willingness to forgive sins for those who turn to Him and acknowledge their wrongdoings.
- **The Fulfilment of Prophecy:** The readings from Acts and Luke emphasize that Jesus' life, death, and resurrection were all part of God's plan, foretold in the scriptures. This theme connects the events of the New Testament with the prophecies of the Old Testament, showing the continuity and fulfilment of God's salvation history.
- **Witnessing to the Resurrection:** The Gospel and the first reading both highlight the importance of witnessing to the resurrection of Jesus. The disciples are called to share the news of Jesus' resurrection and the forgiveness of sins with all nations, emphasizing the role of Christians to bear witness to the truth of Jesus' life, death, and resurrection.
- **Jesus as Advocate and Atonement:** The second reading from 1 John presents Jesus as the advocate for sinners and the atonement for our sins. This theme highlights the mediating role of Jesus between humanity and God, and the universal scope of Jesus' sacrifice, which is not limited to a single group but is extended to the whole world.
- **Obedience to God's Commands:** True knowledge of Jesus is demonstrated through obedience to His commands, as mentioned in the letter of John. This theme ties in with the idea of living according to God's will as a response to understanding and accepting Jesus' role as our savior and advocate.
- **The Physical Resurrection of Jesus:** In the Gospel reading, Jesus shows His physical form to His disciples, eating with them and allowing them to touch Him. This emphasizes the physical reality of the resurrection, countering any notion that it was merely a spiritual or symbolic event.

### Sacrament of Confirmation

**Please keep in your prayers the young people who will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation this coming week as they take this big step in beginning to take responsibility for their faith.**

Wednesday April 17th

**11am** Dean Kelly NS, St. Peter's NS & Summerhill NS  
**Ss. Peter & Paul's Church, Athlone**

**3pm** Ardkeen NS & Cornafulla NS **St. Brigid's Church, Drum.**

Thursday April 18th

**11am** Cloonakilla NS & Clonown NS **Ss. Peter & Paul's Church, Athlone.**



### 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 April 7th €1,415.00**

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

**Thank you for your ongoing contributions and generosity.**

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

### Drum Mass Intentions for April 13th - April 21st.

- Sat. 14<sup>th</sup>. at 8 p.m. **(JW)** Michael and Bridie Naughton, Culfatha.  
Also, son Michael, Manchester, formerly Culfatha.
- Sun. 15<sup>th</sup>. at 10 a.m. **(IS)** Tom Connor, Clonark. Also, deceased members of the Connor and Allen families.
- Tues. 16<sup>th</sup>. at 7 p.m. **(MH)** Ned, Lily and Eamon McManus, Rooskey.
- Wed. 17<sup>th</sup>. at 3 p.m.** **Confirmation – Ardkeean and Cornafulla N.S.**
- Thurs. 18<sup>th</sup>. at 7 p.m. **(MH)** Patrick, Molly and Thomas Kenny, Johnstown.
- Sat. 20<sup>th</sup>. at 12 noon (MH) Anne Kelly, Thomastown. Month's Mind.**
- Sat. 20<sup>th</sup>. at 8 p.m. **(JD)** John and Andy Kenny, Dugra/Rooskey.  
Also, deceased family members.
- Sun. 21<sup>st</sup>. at 10 a.m. **(MH)** Maura McCormack(nee Glynn), formerly Crannaghmore.



### Clonown Mass Intentions for April 14th - April 21st.

- April 14<sup>th</sup>. at 11.15 a.m. **(MH)** Lena, Peter and Kathleen Dunning, Newtown North.
- April 21<sup>st</sup>. at 11.15 a.m. **(JW)** Tommy and May Curley, Clonown.  
Also, daughters Mary and Francie.



### Recently Deceased

Pray for the repose of the souls of Jane Moore, Meehambee. Also, Noel O'Kennedy, Galway. Brother to Gerard O'Kennedy, Cornafulla South. James (Jimmy) Blackweir, Abbey Lane. Mary O'Connor née Guthrie, Summerhill.

**May they rest in the peace of Christ.**

### Comhaltas Áth Luain presents

Traditional Irish Music Open session for all ages and abilities  
Sunday 21st April, 4 - 6pm. The Knights of Columbanus Hall, St. Mary's Square.  
Free admission, refreshments served, all welcome.

### The Youth 2000 Connaught Retreat

Will take place in Calasanctius College, Oranmore, Co. Galway on the weekend of May 10th to 12th, consisting of workshops, talks, testimonies, music, prayer and time to relax & meet with others. Come along for the weekend or pop in & say hello! Donation only, 16-35yrs. To book a place or for more information, visit [www.youth2000.ie](http://www.youth2000.ie) or email [connaught@youth2000.ie](mailto:connaught@youth2000.ie).

### Pope Francis Appoints Bishop Kevin as Apostolic Administrator of the Diocese of Achonry

This week, Pope Francis appointed Bishop Kevin as Apostolic Administrator of the Diocese of Achonry, in addition to being Bishop of Elphin. This means that, along with his role in Elphin, Bishop Kevin will be carrying out the responsibilities of a bishop in Achonry and exploring, both in Elphin and in Achonry, how we might work towards a closer union between the two Dioceses. We wish Bishop Paul Dempsey every blessing as he moves from the Diocese of Achonry to the Archdiocese of Dublin as Auxiliary Bishop.

### 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
2329939	Caretaker/Grounds Person	St. Peters Parish Centre.
2324666	Caretaker/Grounds-person	Drum Church & Parish Hall.
2325920	Cleaner/Caretaker	Monksland Community Centre.
2325924	Caretaker/Grounds-person	Gentex Football Club.
2325146	Caretaker/Grounds-person	Monksland Community Centre.
2325925	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."**

**SS Peter & Paul Church Mass Intentions  
Saturday 13th April to Sunday 21st April 2024**

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

<b>Saturday</b>	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>(JD) Also Live Streamed</b> No Intention.
<b>13th April</b>	<b>6.30pm Vigil</b>	<b>(MH) Also Live Streamed</b> Bridie Bigley (Month's Mind). Margaret Bell. Ray Mc Carrick 1st Anniversary. Frances Flynn 1st Anniversary.
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>9.00am</b>	<b>(JD) Also Live Streamed</b>
<b>14th April</b>	<b>12.00pm</b>	<b>People of the Parish</b> <b>(JW) Also Live Streamed</b> Michael & Bride Garrick. Joe Noone. Mary Frawley Mc Guire. Dympna Coyne (née Kearney).
<b>Monday</b>	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>(JD) Also Live Streamed</b>
<b>15th April</b>	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>(JD) Also Live Streamed</b> PJ Kearney. Special Intention.
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>(JD) Also Live Streamed</b>
<b>16th April</b>	<b>9.30am</b>	No Intention.
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>(IS) Also Live Streamed</b> Seán Egan.
<b>17th April</b>	<b>11.00am</b>	<b>Sacrament of Confirmation</b> Dean Kelly, St. Peter's & Summerhill.
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>(IS) Also Live Streamed</b> Private Intention.
<b>18th April</b>	<b>11.00am</b>	<b>Sacrament of Confirmation</b> Clonown & Cloonakilla.
<b>Friday</b>	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>(JW) Also Live Streamed</b>
<b>19th April</b>	<b>7.30pm</b>	<b>(IS) Also Live Streamed</b> Paddy & Kathleen Curley.
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>(JW) Also Live Streamed</b> Patricia Irwin.
<b>20th April</b>	<b>6.30pm Vigil</b>	<b>(JW) Also Live Streamed</b> James Dolan (Month's Mind). David Hudson 1st Anniversary. Sandra De Rosa 1st Anniversary & her father Paul Gibson.
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>9.00am</b>	<b>(IS) Also Live Streamed</b>
<b>21st April</b>	<b>12.00pm</b>	<b>People of the Parish</b> <b>(JD) Also Live Streamed</b> Kathleen Lynch ( Baylough). John & Kitty Sloyan & their great granddaughter, Nicole Collison. Angela Coyle. Tom Shaw & deceased family members.

**Just a thought**

As witnesses to the Resurrection, we are called to share the message of forgiveness and hope with the world. Jesus' instruction to His disciples to preach repentance and forgiveness of sins to all nations is also a mandate for us. In a world marked by division and despair, the message of the Resurrection is a beacon of hope. It is a reminder that love is stronger than death, and that God's mercy can transform even the darkest situations.



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

**14th April 2024  
Third Sunday of Easter**

**Why are you troubled? And why  
do questions arise in your hearts?**

**Look at my hands and my feet,  
that it is I myself.**

**Luke 24:38-39**



**Parish Contact Details**

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**Mon - Fri 9.30am - 1.30pm 090 - 6492171**  
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**Deacon Tony Larkin:** Chaplain Colaiste Chairáin 085 739 2473  
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**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)**

**Contact the Priest on Duty Call 085 870 5840**

**Weekly Newsletter**