

The readings for the 5th Sunday of Easter Year B touch on several interconnected themes that are central to understanding and living out the Christian faith. Here's a list of the key themes:

Transformation and Mission: In the first reading from Acts, we see the transformation of Saul, a former persecutor of Christians, into a bold preacher of the Gospel. This change highlights the power of God's grace to convert and equip believers for mission.

Community and Belonging: Saul's acceptance into the Christian community through Barnabas's advocacy demonstrates the importance of community, belonging, and the role of mediation in the life of believers. It reminds us that the Church is a place of welcome for all, including those who were once far off.

Love in Action: The second reading from 1 John emphasizes that love must be more than words; it must be expressed in deeds and truth. This practical expression of love is evidence of living in the truth of the Gospel.

Obedience and Relationship with God: Obedience to God's commandments, especially the command to believe in Jesus and love one another, is central to our relationship with God. This obedience is not burdensome but is a natural outcome of our love for God and assures us of His indwelling Spirit.

Vital Connection with Christ: The Gospel from John uses the metaphor of the vine and the branches to illustrate the vital connection believers must maintain with Jesus. Just as branches can bear fruit only when attached to the vine, Christians can thrive spiritually only when they remain in Jesus.

Fruitfulness and Discipleship: The theme of fruitfulness permeates the Gospel reading. Believers are called to bear fruit as evidence of their discipleship and their connection to Jesus. This fruitfulness also involves pruning, or spiritual discipline, to foster even greater growth.

God's Glory: The ultimate purpose of believers' fruitfulness is to bring glory to God. Our lives, when lived in connection with Christ, reflect God's love and power to the world. *Together, these themes present a rich tapestry of Christian life and faith, emphasizing transformation, community, love in action, obedience, connection with Christ, fruitfulness, and the glorification of God.*

Feast of Corpus Christi 2024 (A date for your diaries)

The Feast of Corpus Christi will be celebrated this year on the weekend of June 1st and 2nd.

The Routes are as follows.

Town (After 6.30pm Vigil Mass) From the Church of Ss. Peter & Paul through Pearse Street and Connaught Gardens to Connaught Street onto Battery Road down the Clonown Road and into Westlodge where Benediction will be held on the green.

Drum (After 10am Sunday Mass) From the Church to the Cemetery for Benediction.

Clonown (After 11.15am Sunday Mass) from the Church to the Cemetery for Benediction.

We encourage those living along the routes to tidy them up in preparation for these very special processions as we carry the Body of Christ through the streets and roads of our parish.

The Relic of St. Peregrine

The relic of St. Peregrine will be available for veneration after 9.30am mass on Saturday 4th May. **St. Peregrine is known for his healing powers of the sick especially those with cancer.**

All are welcome to come and venerate this Relic.

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 Offerory Collection April 21st €1,720.

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 April 27th - May 5th.

Sat. 27th. at 8 p.m. **(MH)** James and Martin Kelly.
Also, parents John and Ellen, Thomastown.

Sun. 28th. at 10 a.m. **(JD)** Donal Shine. Drum.

Tues. 30th. at 7 p.m. (MH) Jane Moore, Meehambee. Month's Mind.

Thurs. 2nd. at 7 p.m. **(MH)** Tom and Mae Henry, Drumlish. Also, deceased family members.

Sat. 4th. at 8 p.m. **(JW)** Margaret McManus, Manchester. Formerly Cloone, Co. Leitrim

Sun. 5th. at 10 a.m. **(IS)** Willie and Eileen Connaughton, Clonark
Also deceased family members.



Clonown Mass Intentions for April 28th - May 5th.

April 28th. at 11.15 a.m. **(IS)** Tommy and Frank Ward, Curnaboll.

May 3rd. at 8 p.m. **(IS)** First Friday.

May 5th. at 11.15 a.m. **(MH)** Margaret and Michael Fallon, Carricknaughton.



Recently Deceased

Pray for the repose of the souls of Tony Whyte, Thomastown, Ballydangan.
Also, Jimmy (James) Dwyer, Bealnamulla and formerly of Drum.
May they rest in the peace of Christ.

ROSARY IN THE CHURCH OF THE RISEN CHRIST, KILTOOM

On the feast of St. Joseph and St. Peregrine, rosary will be offered up for all our sick on Wednesday 1st May from 6pm – 7.30pm. All are welcome.

Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes

The Elphin Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes will take place from 30th Aug - 4th Sept 2024 inclusive, under the leadership of Bishop Kevin Doran. Pilgrimage Highlights includes Mass at the Grotto, Torchlight & Blessed Sacrament Processions, Anointing of the Sick, Water Ceremony. Flights ex Knock Airport. The Pilgrimage includes the Assisted Pilgrim Section. Those who travel as part of the Assisted Pilgrim Section will stay in Accueil Notre Dame, which is situated beside the Grotto and Sanctuary area. They will be cared for by the Elphin Diocesan Pilgrimage Care Team whilst in Lourdes. Application forms for the **Assisted Pilgrim Section** & full details are available from Very Rev. Ray Milton, PP, Pilgrimage Director, St. John's, Lecarrow, Co. Roscommon (090 6661115). Closing date for receipt of completed Application Forms is 10th Jun. All other enquiries in relation to the Pilgrimage can be directed to Joe Walsh Tours at 01-2410800 or info@joewalshstours.ie

Variety Show

In St. John's Community Centre, Lecarrow on 4th May. Doors opening at 7.30pm. It promises to be a great night of entertainment. All funds raised are in aid of Elphin Diocesan Lourdes Assist Pilgrims Fund. Tickets are €10 and are available at the Parish Office or you can pay on the night.

Summerhill Primary School Parents Association

Table Quiz will take place in The Bounty at 8pm, Thursday 2nd May. €10 per person. Tables of four. Prizes for 1st, 2nd and 3 place and plenty of raffle prizes too. All funds raised will benefit the children in our school.

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.
2333761	Caretaker/Grounds-person	Drum Church & Parish Hall.
2333762	Cleaner/Caretaker	Monksland Community Centre.
2333766	Caretaker/Grounds-person	Gentex Football Club.
2333757	Caretaker/Grounds-person	Monksland Community Centre.
2333768	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 27th April to Sunday 5th May 2024**

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

Saturday	9.30am	(IS) Also Live Streamed Tommy & Kathleen Kenny.
27th April	6.30pm Vigil	(IS) Also Live Streamed Katie Connaire 1st Anniversary. Martin Maher (month's mind). Harold Slamon who died in England & whose ashes will be interred in Coosan cemetery on Monday 29th April @ 12pm. Remember the deceased members of the Slamon & Lavelle families.
Sunday	9.00am	(JW) Also Live Streamed
28th April	12.00pm	People of the Parish (MH) Also Live Streamed Marie Farrell. Lorraine Degg (née Mc Loughlin). Pat & Babs Treacy. Tommy & Mary Moran.
Monday	9.30am	(IS) Also Live Streamed
29th April		No Intention.
Tuesday	9.30am	(IS) Also Live Streamed
30th April		No Intention.
Wednesday	9.30am	(JW) Also Live Streamed
1st May		No Intention.
	6.00pm	(IS) Blessed Sacrament Chapel
Thursday	9.30am	(JW) Also Live Streamed
2nd May		Private Intention.
Friday	9.30am	(JD) Also Live Streamed
3rd May		No Intention.
	7.30pm	(JW) Also Live Streamed Chrissie, Jim & Tom Byrne. Michael Hynes. Carmel Monaghan. Madeline O'Brien. Mary Fallon. Peter Fallon. Paddy & Julia Conway, son Joe & grandson Joseph Sheerin. Bill, Agnes and Michael Stacey. Noel & Ann Lackey. Paddy, Elizabeth, Brendan & PJ Cannon.
Saturday	9.30am	(JD) Also Live Streamed
		No Intention.
4th May	6.30pm Vigil	(MH) Also Live Streamed
		No Intention.
Sunday	9.00am	(JD) Also Live Streamed
5th May		People of the Parish
	12.00pm	(JW) Also Live Streamed Tim Connolly. Terry Byrne. Larry Fagan.

Lord Jesus Christ, you said,

"I am the vine, you are the branches."

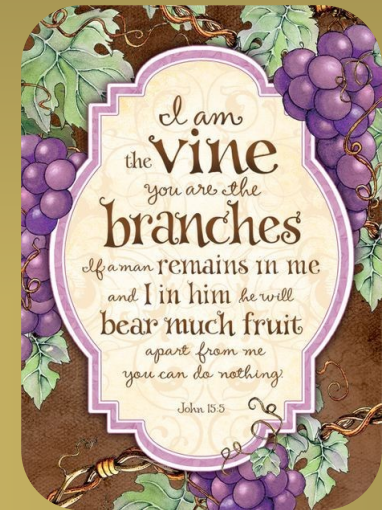
Help us each day to see you more clearly, follow you more nearly, and love you more dearly, that we may be grafted more and more into your divine life and bear you good fruit, for the transformation of this hurting world. AMEN.



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

**28th April 2024
Fifth Sunday of Easter**

The key is to ensure that
our love is not
just something
we talk about
but something
we actively live out.



Parish Contact Details

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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