

**The readings for Divine Mercy Sunday (2nd Sunday of Easter)** show us that the mercy of God is given to all of us, even though we turn away again and again. In the gospel for this Sunday Jesus appears to the disciples. Then he comes back and lovingly helps Thomas overcome his doubts.

- **Unity and Sharing in Community:** The first reading highlights the unity among the early Christians, who shared their possessions and ensured no one was in need. This theme invites us to consider how our communities reflect this spirit of sharing and support.
- **Power of Testimony:** Also in Acts, the apostles' testimony about Jesus' resurrection plays a crucial role, emphasizing the importance of witnessing to our faith through words and actions.
- **Faith in Jesus:** The second reading underscores that belief in Jesus as the Messiah is a sign of our rebirth through God. This theme challenges us to reflect on the depth of our faith and its transformative power.
- **Love and Obedience:** In 1 John, love for God and His commandments is portrayed as natural for those born of God. This passage encourages us to view God's commands not as burdens but as expressions of love.
- **Peace and Forgiveness:** The Gospel presents Jesus bestowing peace and the authority to forgive sins, illustrating the central role of forgiveness and peace in Christian life.
- **Doubt and Belief:** Thomas' journey from doubt to faith highlights the theme of belief without seeing, offering hope and blessing to future generations of believers.
- **Role of the Holy Spirit:** Jesus breathing the Holy Spirit onto His disciples underscores the empowerment and guidance the Spirit provides to believers.
- **Inclusivity of Belief:** Jesus' blessing for those who have not seen but still believe expands the community of faith beyond the eyewitnesses to include all future generations.
- **Purpose of the Gospel:** The explicit statement that these events are recorded to help us believe that Jesus is the Messiah invites us to engage with the Gospel in a personal and transformative way.

#### With Gratitude

A huge thank you to all who have helped with Easter Ceremonies, we were very happy with the attendances and with how the ceremonies went this year. We take this opportunity to pray God's Easter Blessing on you and those you love.

*Fr. John and the Parish Team*

#### Monksland Community Mass

The Community Mass will take place this coming Thursday at 8pm in Monksland Community Centre. The Theme of this months Mass is **Christ the living water of Easter.** Followed by Tea, Scones and friendly chat. All are welcome

#### 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. March Total €500.*

#### Ss. Peter & Paul's Church Easter Collection for the support of the clergy

*Thank you to all who have contributed to this collection, outstanding envelopes can be returned to the office, sacristy or in the collection basket at Mass.*

**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 6th - April 14th.

Sat. 6 <sup>th</sup> . at 8 p.m.	<b>(MH)</b> Tommy Harney, Creggane, Comafulla.
Sun. 7 <sup>th</sup> . at 10 a.m.	<b>(JD)</b> Maisie O'Reilly, Monksland.
Tues. 9 <sup>th</sup> . at 7 p.m.	<b>(MH)</b> Mary Ann Naughton, Doohan. Also, son Tommy and grandson Fearghal.
Thurs. 11 <sup>th</sup> . at 7 p.m.	<b>(MH)</b> Patrick Naughton, Blackstown. Also, parents Willie and Mai.
<b>Sat. 13<sup>th</sup>. at 11 a.m.</b>	<b>(MH)</b> <b>Kathleen Hynes, Drum Road, Summerhill. Month's Mind.</b>
Sat. 14 <sup>th</sup> . at 8 p.m.	<b>(JW)</b> Michael and Bridie Naughton, Culfatha. Also, son Michael, Manchester, formerly Culfatha.
Sun. 15 <sup>th</sup> . at 10 a.m.	<b>(IS)</b> Tom Connor, Clonark. Also, deceased members of the Connor and Allen families.

#### Clonown Mass Intentions for April 7th - April 14th.

April 7 <sup>th</sup> . at 11.15 a.m.	<b>(IS)</b> Michael Fallon, Newtown 1st Anniversary.
April 14 <sup>th</sup> . at 11.15 a.m.	<b>(MH)</b> Lena, Peter and Kathleen Dunning, Newtown North.

#### Recently Deceased

Pray for the repose of the souls of Irene Lynch, St. Ruth's Park; Leigh O'Neill, Parnell Square; Paul Shiels, Monksland; Martin Maher, Kilnamanagh and James Blackweir, Chapel Lane.

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

#### 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)**

#### Clonown Community

Are delighted to announce that Clonown Variety show takes place on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> of April @ 8PM in Clonown Community Centre. This year we feature lots of local talent including the wonderful Moore Drama Group. Raffle on the night with great prizes. Tea & coffee will be served. **Entry € 10 per person or € 25 per family. Your support would be greatly appreciated.**

#### The Legion of Mary

Invite you to join them for the Rosary at 6pm on Monday April 8th. The Feast of the Annunciation - in John Paul Park. All are welcome.

#### CLUB SPRAOI

Monthly Youth Clubs "as Gaeilge", and encouraging the use of Irish. Next get together is on 8 April 2024 at Athlone Family Resource Centre, 14 O'Connell St., Athlone. Two age-groups each evening: 7 to 9 year olds, and 10+. To register your child, contact [coordinator@afrc.ie](mailto:coordinator@afrc.ie)

#### 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 6th April to Sunday 14th 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>(IS) Also Live Streamed</b> No Intention.
<b>6th April</b>	<b>6.30pm Vigil</b>	<b>(IS) Also Live Streamed</b> Pamela Joan Beaumont 1st Anniversary. Ellen Parkes.
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>9.00am</b>	<b>(JW) Also Live Streamed</b>
<b>7th April</b>	<b>12.00pm</b>	<b>(MH) Also Live Streamed</b> Michael Hanley Snr. Bridie, Teddy & Mary Simpson. Tom Shaw and deceased family members. Pat & Mary Crehan.
<b>Monday</b>	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>(IS) Also Live Streamed Mass, Novena &amp; Benediction</b>
<b>8th April</b>		<b>Feast of the Annunciation</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>(IS) Also Live Streamed</b> Special Intention.
<b>9th April</b>		
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>(JW) Also Live Streamed</b> No Intention.
<b>10th April</b>	<b>6.00pm</b>	<b>(IS) Blessed Sacrament Chapel</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>(JW) Also Live Streamed</b> Private Intention.
<b>11th April</b>		
<b>Friday</b>	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>(JD) Also Live Streamed</b> No Intention.
<b>12th April</b>	<b>7.30pm</b>	<b>(JW) Also Live Streamed</b> Jim Crowe. Johnny Flynn.
<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). 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>(JW) Also Live Streamed</b> Michael & Bridie Mc Carrick. Joe Noone. Mary Frawley Mc Guire. Dympna Coyle Kearney.

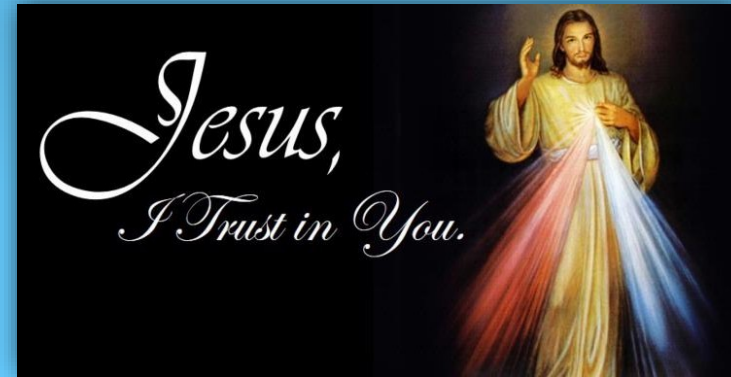
**Divine Mercy Prayer**

**Eternal Father, turn Your merciful gaze upon all mankind and especially upon poor sinners, all enfolded in the Most Compassionate Heart of Jesus. For the sake of His sorrowful Passion show us Your mercy, that we may praise the omnipotence of Your mercy for ever and ever. Amen.**



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

**7th April 2024**  
**Second Sunday of Easter**  
**Divine Mercy Sunday**



**Parish Contact Details**

**V. Rev John Deignan P.P.** 10 Ashford, Monksland.  
 090 - 6490874 **Regular phone & WhatsApp**  
[frjohndeignan@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:stpetersparishathlone@gmail.com)**  
*(Drum / Clonown Areas) 090 - 64 37125*

**Fr. Michael Hickey CSSp** *(Drum / Clonown Areas) 090 - 64 37125*

**Drum area Office:** Catherine Higgins Secretary 090 - 64 37125  
**[drumparish1@gmail.com](mailto:drumparish1@gmail.com)**

**Deacon Tony Larkin:** Chaplain Colaiste Chairáin 085 739 2473  
**[deacontony17@gmail.com](mailto: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)

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

**Weekly Newsletter**