



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

Weekly Newsletter

December 1st 2024 First Sunday of Advent



Hope

Be vigilant at all times and pray that you have the strength to escape the tribulations that are imminent and to stand before the Son of Man.

Luke 21:36

Parish Contact Details

V. Rev John Deignan P.P.

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Ss. Peter & Paul's Office: Mon - Fri 9.30am - 1.30pm

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Fr. Joseph Wenjeslaus C.C.

St Brigid's Presbytery, Drum 090 - 6437125

(Drum / Clonown Areas)

Drum area Office: Monday - Wednesday 9am to 1pm

Catherine Higgins St Brigid's Presbytery, Drum

090 - 6437125 Email: drumparish1@gmail.com

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Parish Organist:

PJ Stacey 087 248 6206

Folk Group:

Frank Conroy 086 860 5333

Safe guarding 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)

Christine Kenny & Sandra Daly **090 6494 150**

Baptism, Confirmation & Marriage Certificates are issued from the Sacristy (090 6494 150)

Drum Mass Intentions for November 30th to December 8th.

Sat. 30th 8 p.m. (CE)

Jodie Harney, Crannaghmore - 1st Anniversary.

Sun. 1st Dec 10 a.m. (JD)

Eugene Nolan, Doohan. Also, daughter Margaret and son Martin.

Tues. 3rd 7 p.m. (JW)

No Intention.

Thurs. 5th 7 p.m. (JW)

No Intention.

Sat. 7th 8 p.m. (JW)

Annie, Ned and Eamon Griffin, Ardkeenan.

Sun. 8th 10 a.m. (JW)

Paddy and Elizabeth Halligan, Crannaghbeg.

SS Peter & Paul Church Mass Intentions Saturday 30th November to Sunday 8th December 2024

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

Saturday 30th November	9.30am (CE) Also Live Streamed Jack & Maura Campbell & their son John.
	6.30pm Vigil(JD) Also Live Streamed Marie Rushe - Month's Mind. Luke Duffy - Month's Mind.
Sunday 1st December	9.00am (JW) Also Live Streamed People of the Parish 12.00pm (JW) Also Live Streamed Baby Clodagh Petit. Kathleen Byrne. Patricia Gibson.
Monday 2nd December	9.30am (CE) Also Live Streamed (Novena & Benediction) Bridie Mc Connell.
Tuesday 3rd December	9.30am (CE) Also Live Streamed John & Agnes Masterson. Sean & Mai Kavanagh.
Wednesday 4th December	9.30am (JD) Also Live Streamed Catherine Lyons and Mary & Pat Maughan. 6.00pm (JW) Blessed Sacrament Chapel.
Thursday 5th December	9.30am (CE) Also Live Streamed Bridie, Freddie, William & Tony Warby. 8.00pm The Samaritans Concert.
Friday 6th December	9.30am (JW) Also Live Streamed Jack & Mary Laffan. Kathy Brennan. 7.30pm (CE) Also Live Streamed Rose & Willie Milton. Joseph Irwin & Gerry Walsh. Margaret, Joseph, George & Thomas Norton and Mary Vaughan. Sean, Maureen and Michael Brennan.
Saturday 7th December	9.30am (CE) Also Live Streamed Bill & Peggy Brown-Tone & Tony and Ambrose Browne. 6.30pm Vigil(CE) Also Live Streamed Jean Smith - 1st Anniversary.
Sunday 8th December	9.00am (CE) Also Live Streamed People of the Parish 12.00pm (JW) Also Live Streamed Gerald Holohan Snr. and Jnr. Marie & Ultan Shanahan.

Our Lady of the Wayside, Clonown Mass Intentions December 1st to December 8th.

Dec. 1st 11.15 a.m. (JD)	Johnny and Mary Flynn, Clonown. & Sonny Egan.
Dec. 6th 8 p.m. (JW)	First Friday of the Month.
Dec. 8th 11.15 a.m. (CE)	Johnny Shine, Currnaboll.

To Contact the Priest on Duty Call 085 870 5840

www.sspeterandpaulsparishathlone.com

The 1st Sunday of Advent Year C marks the beginning of the new liturgical year.

This season prepares us for the coming of Jesus at Christmas and at the end of time.

- **Hope in God's Promise:** Jeremiah speaks of God's promise to bring justice and righteousness. This reminds us to trust in God's plans.
- **Faithful Waiting:** Jeremiah shows God's faithfulness in fulfilling promises. We learn to wait with faith and patience.
- **Love and Increase:** Paul prays for love to increase in the Thessalonians. This teaches us to grow in love and holiness.
- **Holiness and Conduct:** Paul urges the Thessalonians to live in holiness. We are reminded to live in ways that please God.
- **Watchfulness:** Jesus warns of signs and the need to be vigilant. We should stay alert and faithful, ready for His coming.
- **Prayer and Strength:** Jesus calls for prayer and strength to face challenges. We rely on prayer to stay strong in our faith.

The 1st Sunday of Advent Year C encourages us to prepare our hearts and lives for Jesus' coming. Through hope, love, and vigilance, we grow closer to Him.

Samaritans Christmas Concert

The Samaritans are hosting a concert with the Army Band of 2nd Brigade, Tenor Paul Linehan, Athlone Pipe Band and Athlone A Cappella Choir. It will be held on **5th December at 8pm in St. Peter & Paul's Church**. Tickets are €20 & can be purchased in Mulligans shop, Roscommon Road, Cunninghams Pharmacy & Whyte's Pharmacy.



Please try and support this worthy cause.

Heating in Ss. Peter & Paul's Church

We estimate at current oil prices that it will be costing in the region of €800 per week. Envelopes will be available at the back of the church should you be in a position to help us with this cost your donation no matter how small would be greatly appreciated.

Thank you for your ongoing support of the parish.

The Way of Gentleness

A faith enrichment journey for Advent at St. Patrick's Church, Strandhill, Sligo on Mondays 2nd, 9th and 16th December at 8pm. Online attendance also at: churchservices - stpatrickstrandhill

Society of St. Vincent de Paul

The annual fund raising collections for the charitable works of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul in Athlone and surrounding areas, will take place during the first two weeks of December. **All donations will be much appreciated.**

'The Legion of Mary invite you to join them in reciting the Rosary

on Sunday, December 8th - The Feast of the Immaculate Conception - at 3pm, John Paul Park. **All are welcome .**

Coffee and Chat

Join us at "**Caife Connect**" at 11.00 on 2/12/24. We are a mixed bunch of Irish-lovers, keen to use the cúpla focail. **Location:** Athlone Family Resource Centre, 14 O'Connell St., Athlone.

Samaritans

If you are feeling lonely, depressed, isolated or need to talk to someone about something that is bothering you.

Call the Samaritans on 116 123,
24hrs a day, 365 days a year.

Ss. Peter & Paul's Church Weekly Offertory Collection November 24th . € 1,455.00

Thank you for your ongoing contributions and generosity.

The 2025 boxes of envelopes are being delivered to your homes in the coming days. Thank you to the distributors.

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

2367667 Caretaker/Grounds person
Clonown Church & Parish Hall.

2363285 Caretaker/Grounds Person
St. Peters Parish Centre.

2367686 Caretaker/Grounds-person
Drum Church & Parish Hall.

2363758 Cleaner/Caretaker
Monksland Community Centre.

2360063 Caretaker/Grounds-person
Gentex Football Club.

2367687 Caretaker/Grounds-person
Monksland Community Centre.

2360064 Caretaker/Grounds-person
St. Francis FC.

2360065 Environmental Worker
Monksland Tidy Towns.

Please note that you must be eligible for Community Employment in order to apply for the above positions. A person that is between the ages of 50 - 61 and signing for credits for more than one year may also be eligible to participate on a CE programme. For more information please contact the above 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.

The First Sunday of Advent marks the beginning of a new liturgical year, a time of anticipation and hope within the Christian calendar.

As we enter Year C, the readings invite us to awaken from our slumber and prepare our hearts for the coming of Christ. This season is not merely about the countdown to Christmas; it is a profound reminder to cultivate a spirit of vigilance and readiness. Each year, the liturgy encourages us to pause & reflect on the profound mystery of the Incarnation, as we await the birth of Jesus with longing and expectation.

In the Gospel of Luke, we are urged to be alert and attentive, as the world can often distract us from what truly matters. The imagery of darkness giving way to light resonates deeply in our lives, where we often find ourselves grappling with challenges and uncertainties.

Advent calls us to look beyond the hustle and bustle of the holiday season to the deeper realities of our faith: the promise of hope, joy, and salvation that Christ brings. It beckons us to prepare not just our homes with decorations, but also our hearts, by embracing silence, prayer, and introspection.

As we light the first candle of the Advent wreath, may it serve as a symbol of the light that dispels darkness, guiding us on this sacred journey toward the joy of Christmas.

Recently Deceased

Pray for the repose of the souls of Anthony (Roy) Mullen.

Gerard (Gerry) Irvine, Monksland.

May they rest in the peace of Christ.

DRUM SENIOR CITIZENS CHRISTMAS PARTY - On Sunday 8th. December in the Athlone Springs Hotel commencing with Mass at 3 p.m.

Ardkeen N.S. Christmas Concert is on Tuesday, December 3rd @ 6:30 PM sharp in Coláiste Chiaráin. Doors Open: 6:00 PM.

Admission: €10 per adult. Children/teenagers: Free.

Please bring cash! as electronic payment methods may not be available on the night. Raffle: We have fantastic prizes thanks to our generous sponsors, fundraising committee, and parent donations.