



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

Weekly Newsletter

December 22nd 2024 / Fourth Sunday of Advent



*Blessed are you
among women, and
blessed is the fruit of
your womb.*

Luke 1:42

Next Newsletter is on Christmas Day

Parish Contact Details

V. Rev John Deignan P.P.

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Fr. Christopher Edebianga, C.C.

Forthill House, Battery Road, 090 - 6492171

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

Martina Mc Sweeney, Forthill House.

090 - 6492171 Email: stpetersparishathlone@gmail.com

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

Deacon Tony Larkin:

Chaplain Colaiste Chairáin

deacontony17@gmail.com 085 739 2473

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

December 21st to December 29th.

Sat. 21st 8 p.m. (JD)

Séan (Geezer) Duignan, Clonellan - 1st Anniversary. His parents John and Bridget. Also, Tom Duignan.

Sun. 22nd 10 a.m. (CE)

Tom and Mary Hynes. Johnstown.
Also, Jim and Lil Hynes.

Tues. 24th 8 p.m. (JW)

Christmas Eve - People of the Parish.

Wed. 25th 10 a.m. (JW)

Christmas Day - People of the Parish.

Thurs. 27th No Mass.

Sat. 28th 8 p.m. (CE)

Eamon & Olive Dolan, Lisdillure. Also, deceased family members.

Sun. 29th 10 a.m. (JD)

P.J. Eileen and John McEvelly, Johnstown.

SS Peter & Paul Church Mass Intentions

Saturday 21st December to

Sunday 29th December 2024

ALL MASSES ARE LIVE-STREAMED on

www.churchservices.tv/athlone

Saturday 9.30am

21st December

(JD) Also Live Streamed

Mary (Masie) Mc Guire.

Gertie & Johnny Farrell.

6.30pm Vigil

(JW) Also Live Streamed

Tom, Mary & Catriona Egan and deceased family.

Anne & William Hamilton.

Sunday 9.00am

22nd December

(JW) Also Live Streamed

People of the Parish

(JD) Also Live Streamed

Breda Grenham & deceased family.

Luke Duignan & son Tom.

Ann & Dennis Cleary.

Monday 9.30am

23rd December

(JD) Also Live Streamed

(Novena & Benediction)

Martin & Mary Connolly.

Tuesday 9.30am

24th December

(JD) All Live Streamed

Josephine Cunningham

- 1st Anniversary.

6.00pm

9.00pm

(JD) Children's Christmas Mass.

(JD) Christmas Eve Vigil.

Wednesday 9.00am

25th 10.30am

December 12.00pm

(CE) Christmas Day.

(CE) Also Live Streamed

(JD) Also Live Streamed

Tom & Teresa Flynn.

Thursday 12.00pm

26th December

(JD) Also Live Streamed

Nuala Gordon. Brendan Egan.

Madge & Tom Flanagan.

Friday 12.00pm

27th December

7.30pm

(JD) Also Live Streamed

Paddy & Nellie Heavey.

(CE) Also Live Streamed

Billy Evans. Declan Dolan.

Catriona & Mary Egan.

Margaret & Christine Egan &

Ambrose Browne.

Jim Dillion & deceased family.

Saturday 12.00pm

28th December

(JD) Also Live Streamed

Ned & Mai Halligan.

6.30pm Vigil (JD) Also Live Streamed

No Intention.

Sunday 9.00am

29th December

(JW) Also Live Streamed

People of the Parish

(JW) Also Live Streamed

Sonny Kildea - 1st Anniversary.

Joe Brown - 1st Anniversary.

Noreen Larkin.

Bridie Corcoran.

Elizabeth, Paddy, PJ & Brendan

Cannon and Pat Healy.

Our Lady of the Wayside, Clonown Mass Intentions

December 21st to December 29th.

Dec. 22nd 11.15 a.m. (JW) Séan Shine, Buggane.

Dec. 24th 6.30 p.m. (JW) Christmas Eve - People of the Parish.

Dec. 25th 11.15 a.m. (JW) Christmas Day - People of the Parish.

Dec. 29th 11.15 a.m. (CE) John Dunning, The Park. Also, Delia and Michael.

To Contact the Priest on Duty Call 085 870 5840

www.sspeterandpaulsparishathlone.com

The 4th Sunday of Advent Year C prepares us for the coming of Jesus. The readings highlight important themes for our reflection.

- **God's Promise:** God promises to send a ruler from Bethlehem. This promise shows God's faithfulness.
- **Humble Beginnings:** Jesus is born in Bethlehem, a small town. This shows that God often works through humble beginnings.
- **Obedience to God:** Jesus came to do God's will. He shows us the importance of obeying God.
- **Joyful Expectation:** Mary visits Elizabeth, and they rejoice. This reminds us to be joyful as we wait for Jesus.
- **Blessed Among Women:** Elizabeth calls Mary blessed. Mary is blessed because she believed God's word.
- **Jesus' Sacrifice:** Jesus offers His body for our sins. This shows His great love for us.

**Parish of Ss. Peter & Paul, Athlone
Christmas Arrangements 2024**

Christmas Confessions

Christmas Eve 10am to 2pm In Ss. Peter & Paul's Church

Christmas Masses

Ss. Peter & Paul's Church Christmas eve Children's Mass 6pm Christmas Vigil Mass 9pm

Christmas Day 9am, 10.30am & 12 noon

St. Brigid's Church, Drum Vigil Mass 8pm Christmas Day 10am

Our Lady of the Wayside, Clonown Vigil Mass 6.30pm & Christmas Day 11.15am



Custume Barracks Christmas Eve Mass:

Will take place at the earlier time of 6:00pm on Tuesday, December 24th in the Cookhouse in the Barracks followed by refreshments in the NCO's Mess afterwards. All are welcome.

Christmas Collection

Envelopes, Calendars and Christmas Cards are being delivered to your homes. Sincere thanks to those who help distribute them, we are truly grateful. The Collection on Christmas Day goes towards the monthly stipends for the clergy in the parish. **This is one of four collections each year that make up the income for the priests. (Christmas / Easter / Pentecost & Harvest).** Your envelope can be returned through the collection at Mass or by dropping them to the sacristy or parish office. The priests are never paid from the normal Sunday collection. It is important to note that the priests do not receive assistance towards the purchase or running of their cars or their mobile phones.

We thank you for your on-going support and generosity to us.

Morning Masses after Christmas

Morning Mass between Thursday December 26th & Saturday 28th will be at 12 noon.

Friday evening Mass as normal at 7.30pm



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.

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.

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.

A prayer for the Fourth Sunday in Advent

Heavenly Father, as we gather on the Fourth Sunday of Advent, we open our hearts to the light of Christ that is soon to be born among us.

In this season of anticipation, we reflect on the gift of love that you offer to the world through the humble birth of your Son. Help us to prepare our minds and spirits, filling us with hope and a deeper understanding of the joy that awaits us. May we be inspired by Mary's faith, courage, and readiness to serve, so that we too might proclaim your goodness in our lives.

Amen

Recently Deceased

Pray for the repose of the soul of Eileen Kelly, Crannagh, Summerhill. Mother of Colin Kelly, Kilmacormack and her brothers Aidan and Paddy Gallagher.

May She rest in the peace of Christ.

**Ss. Peter & Paul's Church Weekly Offertory Collection
December 15th €1,420.**

Thank you for your ongoing contributions and generosity.

If you are a user of the weekly contribution envelopes and have not received your new box please contact the office.