



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

# Weekly Newsletter

December 8th 2024 / Second Sunday of Advent



*John went throughout the whole region of the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.*

Luke 3:3

### Parish Contact Details

**V. Rev John Deignan P.P.**  
10 Ashford, Monksland. 090 - 6490874  
frjohndeignan@gmail.com

**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 7th to December 15th.

**Sat. 7th 8 p.m. (CE)**  
Annie, Ned and Eamon Griffin, Ardkeenan.

**Sun. 8th 10 a.m. (CE)**  
Paddy and Elizabeth Halligan, Crannaghbeg.

**Mon. 9th 10 a.m. (CE) Feast of The Immaculate Conception**

**Tues. 10th 7 p.m. (JW)**  
Brian Murray, Crannaghmore.

**Thurs. 12th 7 p.m. (JW)**  
Colm, Bill and Mamie Kennedy, Johnstown.

**Sat. 14th 8 p.m. (JW)**  
Margaret & John Murray, Creggane. Also, Gretta Reynolds & deceased members of the Murray & Kenny families.

**Sun. 15th 10 a.m. (JW)**  
Mary Glynn, Crannaghmore.

### SS Peter & Paul Church Mass Intentions Saturday 7th December to Sunday 15th December 2024

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

**Saturday 9.30am (CE) Also Live Streamed**  
7th December Bill & Peggy Brown-Tone & Tony and Ambrose Browne.

**6.30pm Vigil(JW) Also Live Streamed**  
Jean Smith - 1st Anniversary.

**Sunday 9.00am (JW) Also Live Streamed**  
8th December **People of the Parish**  
12.00pm **(CE) Also Live Streamed**  
Gerald Holohan Snr. and Jnr. Marie & Ultan Shanahan.

**Monday 9.30am (JW) Also Live Streamed**  
9th December **(Novena & Benediction)**  
**The Immaculate Conception**  
Tommy, Rose, Seamus & Mary Reynolds.  
12.00pm **(CE) Also Live Streamed**  
Feast of The Immaculate Conception

**Tuesday 9.30am (CE) Also Live Streamed**  
10th December Albert Marsh.

**Wednesday 9.30am (JW) Also Live Streamed**  
11th December No Intention.  
6.00pm **(CE) Blessed Sacrament Chapel.**

**Thursday 9.30am (CE) Also Live Streamed**  
12th December No Intention.

**Friday 9.30am (JW) Also Live Streamed**  
13th December Leo Turpin & dec. members of the Turpin & Byrne families.  
7.30pm **(CE) Also Live Streamed**  
Maureen, Bernard, James & dec. members of the Dully & Durney families. Agnes Hanley. Sr. Lourdes Hynes. Tony Downey. Kay & Larry Watson. Michael & Richard Bertles & deceased family members.

**Saturday 9.30am (CE) Also Live Streamed**  
14th December Patrick & Rose Kirby and Patrick & Veronica O'Hanlon. Michael & Mary Kelly and sons Bernard, Michael & daughter Phyllis Macken (née Kelly)

**6.30pm Vigil(CE) Also Live Streamed**  
Karen Harkins & parents Frank & Kathy.

**Sunday 9.00am (CE) Also Live Streamed**  
15th December **People of the Parish**  
12.00pm **(JW) Also Live Streamed**  
Bridget Carthy & dec. family  
Eithne & Tommy Barclay & dec. family.  
Frank & Mary Egan & dec. family

### Our Lady of the Wayside, Clonown Mass Intentions December 8th to December 15th.

**Dec. 8th 11.15 a.m. (JW)**  
Johnny Shine, Currnaboll.

**Dec. 9th 8 p.m. (JW) Feast of The Immaculate Conception**

**Dec. 15th 11.15 a.m. (CE)**  
Tom and Ann O'Brien, Oldtown.  
Also, deceased family members.

To Contact the Priest on Duty Call 085 870 5840

www.sspeterandpaulsparishathlone.com

The 2nd Sunday of Advent Year C calls us to prepare for the coming of the Lord. The readings guide us to reflect on God's promises and our own spiritual readiness.

- **Preparation for the Lord:** John the Baptist prepares the way for Jesus. We are called to make our hearts ready for Christ's coming.
- **God's Promise of Salvation:** Baruch speaks of God bringing His people back to Him. This reminds us that God always keeps His promises of salvation.
- **Call to Repentance:** John the Baptist calls people to repent and be baptised. Repentance helps us clear the way for Jesus in our lives.
- **Joyful Expectation:** Paul expresses joy in the Philippians' faith and growth. Advent is a time of joyful waiting for Jesus.
- **Unity in Christ:** Paul prays for the Philippians to grow in love and knowledge. We are encouraged to grow together in faith and love.



**Feast of the Immaculate Conception**  
Celebrated this year on Monday December 9th  
Mass times

**Ss. Peter & Pauls**, 9.30am with Novena & Benediction and 12 Noon  
**St. Brigid's Drum** 10am and **Our Lady of the wayside** 8pm.

*The Immaculate Conception refers to the dogma that the Blessed Virgin Mary was conceived without any stain of Original Sin in preparation for becoming the Mother of God, the Son Jesus Christ.*

**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 .**

**Drum Cemetery Voluntary Group** would like to thank everyone for their recent donations towards the upkeep of the cemetery.

**Meet Santa & Mrs Claus at Athlone Castle** from Friday 13<sup>th</sup> – Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2024. Online bookings only, for more information and to book tickets please visit [www.athlonecastle.ie](http://www.athlonecastle.ie)

**Athlone Choral Society** Annual Christmas concert in St. Mary's Church, Athlone on 14th December. Doors open @ 7.30, concert starts @ 8pm. Tickets €15 (includes refreshment of mulled wine). Special guests Darren Lane, Alma Duo & Labhaoise Foley. Raffle on the night in aid of St. Hilda's.

**MOBILE LIBRARY**

The mobile library will be in Monksland (SuperValu carpark on 19th Dec. 1pm - 3.30pm. We have a great selection of books, e-books & audiobooks for all ages & library membership is free.

**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**

- |                |   |
|----------------|---|
| <b>2367667</b> | Caretaker/Grounds person<br>Clonown Church & Parish Hall. |
| <b>2363285</b> | Caretaker/Grounds Person<br>St. Peters Parish Centre.     |
| <b>2367686</b> | Caretaker/Grounds-person<br>Drum Church & Parish Hall.    |
| <b>2363758</b> | Cleaner/Caretaker<br>Monksland Community Centre.          |
| <b>2360063</b> | Caretaker/Grounds-person<br>Gentex Football Club.         |
| <b>2367687</b> | Caretaker/Grounds-person<br>Monksland Community Centre.   |
| <b>2360064</b> | Caretaker/Grounds-person<br>St. Francis FC.               |
| <b>2360065</b> | Environmental Worker<br>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.

**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

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

**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.

**Recently Deceased**

Pray for the repose of the souls of Joe Higgins, Barrybeg.  
Brenda Moxham, UK, Mother-in-law of Deirdre Moxham, Beechpark.  
Sean Dunning, Connaught Street. Jack O'Loughlin, Summerhill.  
**May they rest in the peace of Christ.**

**Ss. Peter & Paul's Church Weekly Offertory Collection**  
**December 1st. € 1,355**

**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.**