



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

Weekly Newsletter

January 12th 2025 / The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord



*You are my beloved
Son; with you I am
well pleased.*

Luke 3:22

Wishing you all a happy 2025

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 January 11th to January 19th.



- Sat. 11th 8 pm (JD)** John & Mary Kilroy,
St. Coman's Park.
- Sun. 12th 10 am (JW)** John Farrell, Summerhill
- 1st Anniversary.
- Tues. 14th 7 pm (JW)** No Intention.
- Thurs. 16th 7 pm (JW)** Willie and Mary Duffy, Clonbulia.
Also, their son Liam.
- Sat. 18th 8 pm (CE)** Patrick (Pakie) Duignan,
Ardkeenán - 1st Anniversary.
- Sun. 19th 10 am (JD)** John and Margaret McManus.
Also, deceased family members.

SS Peter & Paul Church Mass Intentions Saturday 11th January to Sunday 19th January 2025

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

- Saturday 9.30am (CE) Also Live Streamed**
11th January Elizabeth Verzigi.
Mary & Ward & Bridget Ward.
Lily Martin (née Nolan).
- 6.30pm Vigil (JW) Also Live Streamed**
Eileen Kelly - Month's Mind.
Sr. Patricius Quine - 1st Anniversary.
Paddy & Patricia Kenny &
Brendan Kenny.
- Sunday 9.00am (CE) Also Live Streamed**
12th January **People of the Parish**
(CE) Also Live Streamed
12.00pm Michael & Mai Murray formerly
Connaught Street.
John Mc Manus, Baylough.
- Monday 9.30am (CE) Also Live Streamed**
13th January **(Novena & Benediction)**
No Intention.
- Tuesday 9.30am (CE) All Live Streamed**
14th January Paddy & Annie Whelan.
- Wednesday 9.30am (JW) All Live Streamed**
15th January No Intention.
6.00pm **(CE)**
Blessed Sacrament Chapel.
(JD) Also Live Streamed
- Thursday 9.30am (JD) Also Live Streamed**
16th January No Intention.
- Friday 9.30am (JD) Also Live Streamed**
17th January No Intention.
7.30pm **(CE) Also Live Streamed**
Martina Dowd - Month's Mind.
- Saturday 9.30am (JD) Also Live Streamed**
18th January No Intention.
6.30pm **Vigil (JD) Also Live Streamed**
Denis & Marie Hannon and also
their daughter Ann-Marie.
- Sunday 9.00am (JW) Also Live Streamed**
19th December **People of the Parish**
12.00pm **(JW) Also Live Streamed**
William & Mary Hannon.
Bridie Geraghty.
Ann, Helen & Bruce Savage and
their parents.



Our Lady of the Wayside, Clonown Mass Intentions January 12th to January 19th.

OUR LADY
OF THE
WAYSIDE

- Jan. 12th 11.15 am (JD)** Pat Dollery, The Barracks,
Clonown.
- Jan. 19th 11.15 am (CE)** Fr. Sean O'Dowd.

To Contact the Priest on Duty Call 085 870 5840

www.sspeterandpaulsparishathlone.com

Jubilee Year 2025 / Pilgrims of Hope

The Jubilee Year 2025, themed "Pilgrims of Hope," is a special year of grace and renewal for the Catholic Church. Rooted in the Old Testament concept of a Jubilee, it's a time to seek forgiveness, reconciliation, and a deeper connection with God. Think of it as a spiritual reset button, where the church encourages everyone to reflect on their lives, seek spiritual healing, and look forward with hope.

The "Pilgrims of Hope" theme highlights this journey aspect, inviting everyone to embark on a pilgrimage, both literally and metaphorically. It's about walking through life with faith, trusting that God's mercy and grace are available to all, and actively working towards building a more just and compassionate world. It encourages us to be hopeful, not in a naive way, but with a hopeful spirit grounded in faith and action.



Parish Finances

As we begin the new year we would like to acknowledge and thank those parishioners who support the parish financially.

- We are grateful that in the latter part of 2024 the weekly collection in Ss. Peter & Paul's Church has risen, however when we take into account the largest expenditures (Heating, Electricity, Insurance and Staff salaries (Secretaries, Sacristans) we are very often left with very little over.
- Thankfully both Drum & Clonown, (which both have lower running costs) are covering their expenses with a little over.
- The Clergy, Fr. John, Fr. Joseph and Fr. Christopher are never paid from the Sunday collection. The collections at Christmas, Easter, Pentecost and Harvest are to make up the monthly stipend they receive. This collection has in the last few years reduced and in 2024 just about covered the stipends for the three priests.
- From Summer 2023 to Summer 2024 when Fr. Joseph was a fourth priest, Bishop Kevin looked after his stipend, and we are grateful to him for that.

Over the next couple of years, we will have a number of large projects to address, we will most likely set up a fund-raising committee to oversee the finances that will be required.

- **In Ss. Peter & Paul's Church**, we have been looking into new ways to heat it and are currently looking at a system that will be both environmentally friendly and cost effective to run. The flat roof areas on the side of the church have broken down and are in need of replacement water has begun to penetrate it, The storm glazing on the windows has also begun to break down, and needs attention, you may recall the terrible banging from the windows on the west side of the Church when the wind was strong, this was caused by the outer glass breaking free and banging off the window.
- **In St. Brigid's Church, Drum** we are still working to stop water penetration / dampness on the rear / Sanctuary wall. We need to put a new covering on the front porch as the existing has broken down, when doing this we plan to insulate the porch ceiling and new cladding on the fascia to complete the look of the porch. We are also on the lookout for a small Marble or Stone Baptism Font so we can have a permanent Baptism Font in the Church. We will then look at redecorating the church inside and outside.
- **In Our Lady of the Wayside Chapel**, in March, the Bell from the old Chapel will be installed in the tower and automated to ring for the Angelus at 12 noon and 6pm, before Sunday Mass and for Funerals.

As we begin the new year, we ask that those who can afford to do so, might review their weekly contribution.

**We remain grateful for the support you give the parish,
we will publish audited accounts for 2023 shortly and accounts for 2024 in due course.**

Medjugorje 2025 June 25th - July 2nd

Early booking discount of €50 per person for all deposits of €200 received before 31st January '25.

Spiritual director Rev. Fr. Joseph Wenjeslaus.

Cost: €805 per person sharing. Travel Insurance is €35 extra.

If you are interested,

please contact Mary **087 2936933** for more information.

MOBILE LIBRARY

The mobile library will be in Monksland (SuperValu carpark) on 16th January from 1pm -3.30pm. We have a great selection of books, e-books & audiobooks for all ages & library membership is free.

That we may be people of Hope

Athlone Choral Society would like to welcome new members. We are starting back in preparation for our Summer Concert in May. We practice every Monday at 7.15pm, starting Mon January 13th, in St. Peter's NS Hall, Excise Street, Athlone.

If you love to sing, come along and join. **athlonechoralsocietypro@gmail.com**

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

2373160 Caretaker/Grounds person
Clonown Church & Parish Hall.

2373184 Caretaker/Grounds Person
Athlone Boat Club.

2373164 Caretaker/Grounds-person
Drum Church & Parish Hall.

2373152 Caretaker/Grounds-person
Gentex Football Club.

2367687 Caretaker/Grounds-person
Monksland Community Centre.

2373154 Caretaker/Grounds-person
St. Francis FC.

2373157 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.

Ardkeen Junior Infant Enrolment Open Evening

Is on Monday 13th January 6.30-7.30pm. All are welcome. Anyone interested in enrolling their child in our school but unable to attend the open evening please contact the school via email at ardkeenanns@gmail.com or phone **09064 37244**.

Recently Deceased

Pray for the repose of the souls of;
Paddy Mc Laughlin, Roscommon Road.
Paddy Lohan, Bealnamulla.
Sarah Minagh, Shannonweir.
Annette Duffy (née Marshall), Ganly Place.
Lena Connaughton (née O'Connell), Coman's Park.
Yvonne Thompson (née Moran), Clonbrusk.
May they rest in the peace of Christ.

**Ss. Peter & Paul's Church Weekly Offertory Collection
January 5th €1,310.**

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.