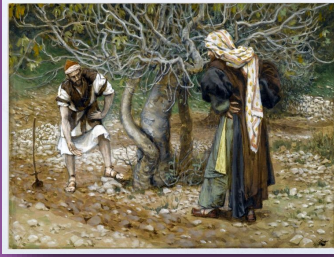




PARISH OF
SS. PETER & PAUL
Athlone, Drum & Clonown

Weekly Newsletter

March 23rd 2025/ Third Sunday of Lent



It may bear fruit in the future. If not you can cut it down.

Luke 13:9

Parish Contact Details

V. Rev John Deignan P.P. 090 - 6490874
10 Ashford, Monksland. frjohn@athloneparish.ie

Fr. Christopher Edebianga, C.C. 090 - 6492171
Forthill House, Battery Road. frchristopher@athloneparish.ie

Ss. Peter & Paul's Office: **Mon - Fri 9.30am - 1pm**
Secretary: Martina Mc Sweeney, 090 - 6492171
Forthill House. parishoffice@athloneparish.ie

Fr. Joseph Wenjeslaus C.C. 090 - 6437125
St Brigid's Presbytery, Drum frjoseph@athloneparish.ie
(Drum / Clonown Areas)

Drum Office: Monday - Wednesday 9am to 1pm
Secretary: Catherine Higgins, St Brigid's Presbytery, Drum
090 - 6437125
drumoffice@athloneparish.ie

Deacon Tony Larkin:
Chaplain Colaiste Chairáin 085 739 2473
deacontony@athloneparish.ie

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 March 22nd to March 30th.

Sat. 22nd - 8 pm (JW) Patrick & Kathleen O'Neill, Mt Hussey & deceased family. Stella Brockman. Patrick (Pake) Naughton, Thomastown.

Sun. 23rd - 10 am (CE) Kathleen Hynes, Drum Road - First Anniversary.

Tues. 25th - 3 pm **Sacrament of Confirmation**
Ardkeenana & Cornafulla N.S.

Thurs. 27th - 7 pm (JW) Philomena Duignan, Ardkeenana.

Sat. 29th - 8 pm (CE) John Joe Meares, Curryroe, Drum.

Sun. 30th - 10 am (JD) Geraldine Hogg, Crannaghmore. Patrick & Ellen Kenny, Clonbulia. Also, deceased family members.

SS Peter & Paul Church Mass Intentions

Saturday 22nd March to

Sunday 30th March 2025

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

Saturday 22nd March	9.30am	(JD) Also Live Streamed No Intention booked.
	6.30pm Vigil	(CE) Also Live Streamed Kathleen (Kay) Lennon - Month's Mind. James Dolan - 1st Anniversary.
Sunday 23rd March	9.00am	(JD) Also Live Streamed People of the Parish
	12.00pm	(JD) Also Live Streamed No Intention booked.
Monday 24th March	7.20am	(JD) Also Live Streamed
	9.30am	(JD) Also Live Streamed Mass, Novena & Benediction No Intention booked.
Tuesday 25th March	7.20am	(JD) Also Live Streamed
	9.30am	(JD) Also Live Streamed Denis Kearney, John & Dan Kearney. Maureen & Paddy Joyce. John, Paddy & Tony Joyce. Christy & Molly Willis. Roy Smith & deceased family.
Wednesday 26th March	7.20am	(JW) Also Live Streamed
	9.30am	(JW) Also Live Streamed Michael & Nancy Galvin (O'Connell Street). (CE) Blessed Sacrament Chapel.
	6.00pm	(CE) Also Live Streamed
Thursday 27th March	7.20am	(CE) Also Live Streamed
	9.30am	(CE) Also Live Streamed Jackie & Molly Keane. Rosie Sweeney & dec. family.
Friday 28th March	9.30am	(CE) Also Live Streamed
	7.30pm	(JD) Also Live Streamed Irene Lynch - 1st Anniversary. Leigh O'Neill - 1st Anniversary. Thomas, Maura & Niall Fitzgerald. John O'Toole. Kenneth Connor. PJ Gordon. James, Kathleen, Marian, Jimmy & Michael Drumm.
Saturday 29th March	9.30am	(CE) Also Live Streamed No Intention booked.
	6.30pm Vigil	(JD) Also Live Streamed Joseph (Joe) Parkes - Month's Mind. Joseph & Eileen Parkes and Peggy Mc Cracken. Tommy Kelly (Talbot Avenue). Bridie, Teddy & Mary Simpson.
Sunday 30th March	9.00am	(JW) Also Live Streamed People of the Parish
	12.00pm	(JW) Also Live Streamed William (Bill) Dawson. Betty Tumulty. Gary O'Brien. Martin Maher. Kathleen & Bernard Brennan. Michael & Pauline Flynn. John & Marie Reardon. Sean Egan.

Clonown Mass Intentions for March 23rd to March 30th.



March 23rd 11.15am	(JW) Pat Burns, Cedarwood Drive, Monksland.
March 28th 8pm	(JW) Lenten Mass.
March 30th 11.15am	(CE) Rose and Willie Shine, Drumlosh and deceased members of the Shine & Grenham families.

To Contact the Priest on Duty
Call 085 870 5840

www.sspeterandpaulsparishathlone.com

The 3rd Sunday of Lent helps us reflect on God's call, repentance, and growth.

- **God's Call to Moses:** In Exodus, God calls Moses from the burning bush. This shows that God reaches out to guide and lead His people.
- **God's Promise of Freedom:** God promises to free the Israelites from slavery in Egypt. This reminds us that God is always working to free us from our own sins and struggles.
- **Warnings Against Idolatry:** In Corinthians, Paul warns against idol worship and turning away from God. This teaches us to stay faithful and avoid things that take us away from God.
- **Importance of Repentance:** Jesus in Luke speaks about the need to repent. He warns that without repentance, we will perish, showing the importance of turning back to God.
- **God's Patience:** The parable of the fig tree in Luke highlights God's patience. He gives us time to change and grow in faith, but we must respond.
- **Fruitfulness in Faith:** The fig tree parable also teaches about bearing fruit. We are called to live fruitful lives, showing our faith through actions.
- **God's Presence in Hard Times:** The readings remind us that God is with us in difficult times. Like He was with the Israelites, He supports and guides us through our challenges.
- **Community and Accountability:** Paul speaks to the Corinthians about learning from their ancestors' mistakes. This shows the importance of community and holding each other accountable in our faith.

Reflecting on these themes helps deepen our understanding of God's presence and our need for repentance. The readings guide us to live more faithfully and trust in God's promises.

Sacrament of Confirmation

On Tuesday 25th & Wednesday 26th Bishop Kevin will visit the parish to Celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation with 165 of our young people, in three separate ceremonies two in Ss. Peter & Paul's Church and one in St. Brigid's Church, Drum.

Please keep these young people in your prayers as they take this big step in the faith development.

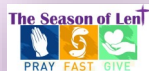
The Light is On For You

You are invited to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

In this Jubilee Year, as we are called to be "Pilgrims of Hope", special emphasis is placed on the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

We will have a special opportunity for celebrating the Sacrament of Reconciliation, on Sunday March 23rd between 3.00pm and 5.00pm with visiting priests available for Confessions in Ss. Peter & Paul's Church, Athlone, The Light is on for You.

Please come along and encourage others to do the same.



The Season of Lent

Weekday Masses during Lent

Ss. Peter & Paul's Church

Monday thru Thursday 7.20am & 9.30am Friday 9.30am & 7.30pm—Saturday 9.30am followed by confessions.

St. Brigid's Church, Drum Tuesday & Thursday 7pm

Our Lady of the Wayside Chapel, Clonown Friday 8pm



Irish Cancer Society Daffodil Day Coffee Morning

Coffee morning in aid of the Irish Cancer Society, hosted by Liz Gilhooly & friends. It will be held in the Sheraton Hotel on Friday 28th March from 10am. **Your support would be greatly appreciated.**

Restore, Renew, Rekindle – Marriage Enrichment Weekend

Catholic Marriage Encounter in Ireland Marriage Enrichment Weekend from Friday 28th - 30th March at Knock, Co. Mayo. The Catholic Marriage Enrichment Programme offers a weekend experience that helps couples enhance their communication and deepen their love and understanding of the sacrament of marriage. For further details, see www.marriageencounter.ie

Young Adult Pilgrimage to Italy

Young Adult Pilgrimage to Italy 29 July - 8 August 2025 with Bishop Kevin Doran. The pilgrimage is open to 18 - 35 year olds. All the details and how to book are available at www.achonydiocese.org and www.elphindiocese.ie

This is an inter-diocesan pilgrimage for young adults living in the dioceses of Achony and Elphin; Galway and Clonfert.

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
2380854	Caretaker/Grounds person Clonown Church & Parish Hall.
2382168	Caretaker/Grounds Person Athlone Boat Club.
2383872	Caretaker/Grounds-person Drum Church & Parish Hall.
2382180	Caretaker/Grounds-person Gentex Football Club.
2383867	Caretaker/Grounds-person Monksland Community Centre.
2382182	Environmental Worker Monksland Tidy Towns.
2382249	Caretaker/Grounds-person St. Peter's Church.
2373601	Administrator/Co. Ordinator Athlone Drug Awareness Group.

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.

St. Peter's National School are Celebrating 90 years

Join us as we celebrate our 90th anniversary with mass in Ss. Peter & Paul's Church on 9th April at 11am. Refreshments afterwards in St Peter's National School Hall.

All are welcome.

Recently Deceased

Pray for the repose of the souls of

Marie Kelly (née Browne), College Park, Athlone.

Mary Hanley (née Kelly), The Docks, Athlone.

John (Jack) Casey Late of Old Tuam Road & Fourmile house.

May they rest in the peace of Christ.

Ss. Peter & Paul's Church Weekly

Offertory Collection

March 16th € 1,955 & March 17th € 900

Thank you for your ongoing contributions and generosity.

If you wish to set up a weekly / monthly standing order for your contribution

(Please ensure you include your envelope number in the narrative section)

Ss Peter & Pauls Church IBAN IE68 AIBK 9322 6436 857014 BIC AIBKIE2D

St. Brigid's Church IBAN IE92 AIBK 9322 6411 809048 BIC AIBKIE2D

Clonown Church IBAN IE46 AIBK 9322 6406 860063 BIC AIBKIE2D

Support of the Priests IBAN IE69 AIBK 9322 6436 857287 BIC AIBKIE2D