



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

Weekly Newsletter

August 17th 2025 / 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time



I have come to set the earth on fire, and how I wish it were already blazing!
Luke 12:49

Parish Contact Details

V. Rev John Deignan P.P. 090 - 6490874
10 Ashford, Monksland. frjohn@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 August 16th - August 24th.



Sat. 16th - 7 pm (JD) Drum Cemetery Voluntary Group
Annual Mass in the cemetery
- weather permitting.

Sun. 17th - 10 am (JW) Norah Seery, Clonellán and
deceased family members.

Tues. 19th - 7 pm (JW) Patrick & Bridget Harney, Creggane,
Cornafulla and deceased family
members.

Thurs. 21st - 3 pm (JW) **Drum Community Care Committee -
Senior Citizens mass in Drum Parish
Hall** - No evening mass.

Sat. 23rd - 7 pm (JD) Mary Devine, Meehambee
- **1st Anniversary.**

Sun. 24th - 10 am (JD) Michael Kilroy, Lucas Court, Athlone.

SS Peter & Paul Church Mass Intentions

Saturday 16th August to Sunday 24th August 2025

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

Saturday 9.30am (JW) Also Live Streamed
Jim & Frank Duignan.

16th August 6.30pm Vigil (JW) Also Live Streamed
Freda Murphy (née Slevin) - **1st Anniversary.**
Maureen Beaumont - **1st Anniversary.**

Sunday 9.00am (JD) Also Live Streamed
17th August People of the Parish
12.00pm (JW) Also Live Streamed
Martin Lennon.
Mark Cox. Edmond Ennis.
Terry Egan. Frank Harney.
(JD) Also Live Streamed
Monday 9.30am Mass, Novena & Benediction
For peace in our homes & world.

Tuesday 9.30am (JD) Also Live Streamed
19th August Bridget & Patrick Mc Kinley.
Wednesday 9.30am (JW) Also Live Streamed
20th August Feast Day of St. Bernard.
7.30pm (KD) Annual Mass of the Angels
Thursday 9.30am (JD) Also Live Streamed
21st August Anniversary of the Knock Apparition -1879
Friday 9.30am (JW) Also Live Streamed
22nd August Rose & John Meehan.
7.30pm (JD) Also Live Streamed
Bridie & Michael Harkins and
deceased members of the Harkins & Cunningham families.
Mary & Paddy Gaffey and
deceased members of the Gaffey & Ward families.
Teresa & Pat Fennell. Mark Wallis.
Teresa Norton. Thomas Caulfield.

Saturday 9.30am (JD) Also Live Streamed
Paddy Walshe. Bernie Bannon.
Kathleen Ward - Baylough.

23rd August 6.30pm Vigil (JD) Also Live Streamed
Gerry Lacey. Marie Mc Ardle.
Ann Mc Cracken. Martin Coleman.

Sunday 9.00am (JW) Also Live Streamed
24th August People of the Parish
12.00pm (JD) Also Live Streamed
Peggy & Mick Fenlon.
Kieran & Pat Fallon.
Jackie Mc Loughlin. Jean Cunningham.
Patrick Egan - Pearse Street.

The church gate collection in July in aid of St.Hilda's raised €700.
Your support was greatly appreciated.

Clonown Mass Intentions for August 17th - August 24th.

August 17th 11.15am (JD) Willie Shine, Drumlosh
- **50th Anniversary.**

August 24th 11.15am (BP) Johnny Halligan, Buggane
- **1st Anniversary.**

Monthly Holy Communion Calls

Fr. John will complete his monthly Holy Communion Calls in the town, Monksland and Bealnamulla areas this coming week. He will be in contact beforehand to confirm day and time.

Welcome New Parishioners

If you are new to our Parish and would like to register as a parishioner. Please go to the following webpage to register. Thank you. www.athloneparish.ie (link is on the right)



**The readings for the 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time highlight the challenges of living out the faith.
They show how faith can bring division, suffering, and the need for perseverance.**

Faith and Conflict: Jesus speaks of bringing division, not peace. Faith can lead to disagreements and even conflict within families and communities.

- **Perseverance in Suffering:** Jeremiah suffers for speaking God's truth. The reading from Hebrews calls us to persevere like Jesus, who endured the cross.
- **The Cost of Discipleship:** Following Jesus is not easy. It may mean facing opposition, even from those closest to us.
- **The Role of Prophets:** Jeremiah was persecuted for his message. Prophets often face rejection because they speak difficult truths.
- **Endurance in the Race:** The reading from the Hebrews encourages us to run the race with endurance. We are called to keep our eyes on Jesus and not give up, even when it is hard.
- **Fire of the Gospel:** Jesus says He came to bring fire on the earth. The Gospel challenges us and calls for a passionate response.

**These themes from the 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time remind us that following Jesus requires courage and endurance.
The readings encourage us to stay faithful, even when it is difficult.**

Annual Mass of the Angels

The Annual Mass of the Angels will be held on **Wednesday August 20th in Ss. Peter & Paul's Church at 7.30 at pm.** The Celebrant this year will be Bishop Kevin Doran.

After the Mass we will unveil and bless a memorial in the church grounds to remember these little ones called home too soon.



Elphin & Achonry Diocesan Pilgrimage to Knock

The Elphin & Achonry Diocesan Pilgrimage to Knock Shrine will take place on **TODAY Sunday, 17th August 2025**. . See www.knockshrine.ie

Elphin Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes.

Fr. John will be representing the parish on the pilgrimage this year. If you wish him to bring petitions to the shrine please drop them in to the sacristy / office or his house 10 Ashford, Monksland before **August 28th**.

Athlone Deanery One Day Pilgrimage To Lough Derg (St. Patrick's Purgatory) Saturday 23rd August 2025

Bus Pick up @ **6am** at Ss. Peter & Paul's continuing on to Kiltoom & Knockcroghery Churches - **PRE-BOOKING YOUR PLACE IS ESSENTIAL- (before 20th August)** Cost €50 cash pp - pay on the day, please. Price includes Bus and admission to Island.

Spiritual Director Fr. Joseph Curate, Drum, Athlone 090-6437125 To book or enquire Email; loughderg@athloneparish.ie

Drum Community Care Committee Senior Citizens Mass

Will take place in Drum Parish Hall on **Thursday 21st August at 3pm** with Blessing of the sick followed by light refreshments and music.

Jubilee of Marriages 2025

Jubilee Mass Couples celebrating their Silver, Ruby, Golden, Diamond, Platinum or other wedding anniversaries are invited to attend a Jubilee Mass, along with their families and friends, on: **Sunday 5th October at 2.30pm in Sligo Cathedral (F91 CF59)** or **Sunday 19th October at 2.30pm in Strokestown Church (F42 Y422).**

Light refreshments will be served...

Guided Tours of Athlone Castle & Historical Garden

Will take place daily at 3pm from Tuesday 19th to Saturday 23rd August. The tour is included with regular admission to Athlone Castle, please pre-book as places are limited. For info on events and bookings visit www.athlonecastle.ie

Independent People with Disabilities

Will hold its Annual General Meeting on Tuesday, 9th September 2025 at 7:30 pm in The Shamrock Lodge Hotel, Athlone. All members and friends are warmly invited to attend our first in-person AGM since COVID. Please confirm attendance by Friday 5th September at (090) 64 70044 or independentpwd@gmail.com. Annual Report 2024 is available at: independentpwd.ie/annualreport2024.pdf.

Recently Deceased

Pray for the repose of the souls of
Maura Walsh (née Kennedy), Monksland.
Denis Duff, formerly Bramble Close.
May they rest in the peace of Christ.

Part-Time Sacristan Drum Church.

We are seeking a Part-Time Sacristan in Drum Church. If you are interested please contact the Drum parish office
090 6437125.

A friendly reminder to all who use the car park at Ss. Peter & Paul's Church: this space is primarily intended for those visiting the church. We have noticed an increase in all-day parking, particularly from individuals heading to work in the surrounding areas. We kindly request that you be mindful of those who need to access the church, especially our elderly and less mobile parishioners.

Alternative parking options, including three public car parks near the courthouse, are readily available.

Your consideration in finding a more suitable long-term parking solution will help us avoid implementing restrictive measures like pay parking or clamping, which we would prefer to avoid. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation in ensuring the car park remains accessible for its intended purpose.

Ss. Peter & Paul's Church Weekly

Offertory Collection

Sunday August 10th € 1,680.

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

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

2404529 Caretaker/Grounds person

Clonown Church & Parish Hall.

2400939 Caretaker/Grounds-person

Drum Church & Parish Hall.

2404413 Caretaker/Grounds-person

Gentex Football Club.

2403712 Caretaker/Grounds-person

Monksland Community Centre.

2404563 Environmental Worker

Monksland Tidy Towns.

2400874 Cleaner/Caretaker

St. Peter's Church.

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.