

Weekly Newsletter

August 24th 2025 / 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time





Strive to enter through the narrow gate, for many, I tell you, will attempt to enter but will not be strong enough. Luke 13:24

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V. Rev John Deignan P.P. 090 - 6490874

frjohn@athloneparish.ie 10 Ashford, Monksland. Ss. Peter & Paul's Office: Mon - Fri 9.30am - 1pm

Secretary: Martina Mc Sweeney, 090 - 6492171

Forthill House. parishoffice@athloneparish.ie

090 - 6437125 Fr. Joseph Wenjeslaus C.C.

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:

087 248 6206 PJ Stacey

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 23rd - August 31st.



Sat. 23rd - 8 pm (JD) Mary Devine, Meehambee

- 1st Anniversary.

Sun. 24th - 10 am (JD) Michael Kilroy, Lucas Court, Athlone. Tues. 26th - 7 pm (JW) Joe Gilgan, late of Thomastown.

Thurs. 29th - 7 pm (JW) James Duffy, his wife Mary Ellen and

his son Frank, Clonark.

Sat. 30th - 11am (JW) Mary O'Neill, Clonellan

- Month's Mind.

- 8 pm James & Margaret Lennon,

Summerhill and deceased family

members.

Sun. 31st - 10 am (JW) Kathleen Nolan, Doohan

- Month's Mind.

SS Peter & Paul Church Mass Intentions Saturday 23rd August to Sunday 31st August 2025

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

Saturday 9.30am (JD) Also Live Streamed

> Paddy Walshe. Bernie Bannon. Kathleen Ward - Baylough.

23rd August 6.30pm Vigil (JD) Also Live Streamed

Ann Mc Cracken. Marie Mc Ardle.

Gerry Lacey. Martin Coleman.

(JW) Also Live Streamed

Sunday 9.00am

24th August

27th August

28th August

29th August

31st August

Thursday

Friday

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.

Monday (JW) Also Live Streamed 9.30am Mass, Novena & Benediction 25th August

Mona, Terry & Seamus Bleakly.

Tuesday 9.30am (JD) Also Live Streamed 26th August Tommy & Johnny Curley. Wednesday 9.30am (JW) Also Live Streamed

6.00pm

9.30am

9.30am

Feast Day of St. Monica.

(JW) Blessed Sacrament Chapel.

(JD) Also Live Streamed For all those who are sick. (JD) Also Live Streamed

Fr. John Beirne. Christina Woods.

Eily & Pat Beirne.

7.30pm (JW) Also Live Streamed

> Caroline Reilly—1st Anniversary. John, Bridget & Patrick Halligan.

Mike Keegan. Walter Henry.

Saturday 9.30am (JW) Also Live Streamed

For all those mourning a loss.

30th August 6.30pm Vigil (JW) Also Live Streamed

Esther Egan.

Tessie & Pat Ganly.

Sunday 9.00am **Also Live Streamed**

12.00pm

People of the Parish (JW) Also Live Streamed

Louis Nally—1st Anniversary.

Patrick Farrell Snr. & Jnr. Lily Farrell.

Patrick Power.

Jimmy Broderick his parents Frances

& Michael. Sisters Edna, Nuala, Rosie & Francie.

Michael Greaney.

The Gavin Family, Dernasee.

Clonown Mass Intentions for August 24th - August 31st.

August 24th 11.15am (BP) Johnny Halligan, Buggane

- 1st Anniversary.

August 31st 11.15am Bill & Peg Fallon, Newtown and

deceased family members. Ann Curley, Carlow formerly

Cappamore - Month's Mind.

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 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time offers rich readings that focus on themes of inclusion, humility, and God's call to all people.

These themes encourage us to reflect on God's invitation to enter His kingdom and the attitudes we should cultivate to be part of His family.

- Universal Call: The readings remind us that God calls people from all nations to know Him. Isaiah speaks of gathering people from distant lands, showing God's desire for a diverse and inclusive family.
- Discipline and Growth: In Hebrews, we learn that God disciplines those He loves, like a parent guides a child. This discipline helps us grow in righteousness and peace.
- Humility and Effort: Jesus emphasizes the need to strive to enter through the narrow gate. This requires humility and effort, recognising that salvation is not automatic but involves our cooperation.
- Reversal of Expectations: The Gospel warns that some who are last will be first and some first will be last. This teaches us not to be complacent or assume our place is secure without genuine faith and love.
- The Importance of Listening: Listening to God's word is crucial for entering His kingdom. Hebrews stresses the importance of hearing and responding to God's call with a willing heart.
- Judgment and Accountability: The readings highlight the reality of judgment. Jesus' teaching on the narrow gate reminds us that we will be accountable for our choices and actions.

These themes encourage us to live faithfully and humbly, recognising God's call to all and the importance of our response. Reflecting on these messages helps us understand our role in God's plan and the importance of our commitment to Him.

Mass of the Angels

Sincere thanks to all who participated in the Mass of the Angels on Wednesday evening. It was a lovely remembrance of the little ones who have been called to be Angels. Special thanks to Bishop Kevin for his comforting words and his presence. My words can not express my gratitude to the doner of the monument in remembrance of these little ones, May God continue to bless you for your kindness. Fr. John

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.

Carers Support Group

H.S.E is running a 5-week Carers Support Group for family members and carers of people living with Dementia commencing on Monday, 1 September 2025 at Clonbrusk Primary Care Centre in Athlone N37 P8P8 from 2.00 pm to 3.00 pm. For additional information, please contact 087-4740529 or 087 4740534.

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...

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) 6470044 or independentpwd@gmail.com. Annual Report 2024 is available at: independentpwd.ie/ annualreport2024.pdf.

Recently Deceased

Pray for the repose of the souls of Madge Kelly (née Killoughy), Talbot Avenue. Audrey O'Brien (née Flynn), Old Tuam Road. Mary Catherine (Katie) Walsh (née Curley) formerly Athlone. May they rest in the peace of Christ.

Mary's Meals would like to thank all those who supported our walk to Knock shrine, passing through Athlone on Monday 11th August. We raised just over €2,500. www.marysmeals.ie

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.

Congratulations to our Leaving Cert Students on your results. May you be guided by the Holy Spirit in your future endeavours.

Coffee Morning

In aid of Breast Cancer will be held in Clann na nGael club house on Sunday morning 24th August from 10am—2pm. Your support would be greatly appreciated.

Car Parking at Ss. Peter & Paul's Church.

A friendly reminder to all who use the car park at Ss. Peter & Paul's A friendly reminder to all who use the car park at 5s. Peter & Pau'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 17th € 1,765.

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 IBAN 1E92 AIBK 9322 6411 809048 BIC AIBKIE2D St. Brigid's Church **IBAN** IE46 AIBK 9322 6406 860063 **BIC** AIBKIE2D Clonown Church IBAN 1E69 AIBK 9322 6436 857287 BIC AIBKIE2D Support of the Priests