



After Jesus was baptised, he came up from the water and behold, the heavens were opened for him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming upon him.

Matthew 3:16

Parish Contact Details

V. Rev John Deignan P.P.	090 - 6490874 frjohn@athloneparish.ie
10 Ashford, Monksland.	
Fr. Simon Peter Akpoja	090 - 6492171 frsimonpeter@athloneparish.ie
Forthill House.	
Ss. Peter & Paul's Office:	Tues - Fri 9.30am - 1pm Secretary: Martina Mc Sweeney, 090 - 6492171 Forthill House.
Fr. Joseph Wenjeslaus C.C.	090 - 6437125 frjoseph@athloneparish.ie
St Brigid's Presbytery, Drum (Drum / Clonown Areas)	
Drum Office:	Mon - Wed 9am to 1pm Secretary: Catherine Higgins, St Brigid's Presbytery, Drum 090 - 6437125 drumoffice@athloneparish.ie
Deacon Tony Larkin:	085 739 2473 deacontony@athloneparish.ie
Parish Organist:	087 248 6206
Folk Group:	Frank Conroy
Safe guarding Rep:	086 860 5333
Lisa Malone	087 144 0833
Parish Pastoral Council:	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)	
PRIEST ON CALL 0858705840	



Drum Mass Intentions for January 10th - January 18th.

Sat. 10th - 8 pm (JD)	John Farrell, Westwood, Summerhill
Sun. 11th - 10 am (JW)	Mary & Tom Grenham, Garrynagowna and deceased family members.
Tues. 13th - 7 pm (JW)	Mary & John Kilroy, St. Coman's Park.
Thurs. 15th - 10 am (JW)	Eileen Lennon, Garrynagowna.
Sat. 17th - 8 pm (SP)	Patrick Duignan, Ardkeenan. Also, his sister Mary Farrell.
Sun. 18th - 10 am (JD)	Pat Daly, Thomastown - 1st Anniversary.

Taizé Holy Hour - Prayer & Meditation

In the chapel of Coláiste Chiaráin, Tuesday evenings from 7pm, led by Deacon Tony Larkin. All are welcome.

SS Peter & Paul Church Mass Intentions

Saturday 10th January to Sunday 18th January 2026

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

Saturday 10th January	9.30am (DO) Also Live Streamed No Intention.
	6.30pm Vigil (SP) Also Live Streamed Joseph Parkes - 1st Anniversary.
Sunday 11th January	9.00am (DO) Also Live Streamed People of the Parish
	12.00pm (JD) Also Live Streamed Patrick, Patricia & Brendan Kenny, Kathleen Connolly.
Monday 12th January	9.30am (JD) Also Live Streamed No Intention.
Tuesday 13th January	9.30am (JD) Also Live Streamed No Intention.
Wednesday 14th January	9.30am (SP) Also Live Streamed John & Nancy Mc Manus. Paddy & Annie Whelan.
Thursday 15th January	9.30am (JD) Blessed Sacrament Chapel (DO) Also Live Streamed No Intention.
Friday 16th January	9.30am (DO) Also Live Streamed Patrick & Mary Ann Henry. Michael Hynes.
	7.30pm (SP) Also Live Streamed Christy Finlass, Francis Derwin & Johnny Derwin, Jodie & Margaret Derwin. Pauline Mc Cormack.
Saturday 17th January	9.30am (SP) Also Live Streamed No Intention.
	6.30pm Vigil (JW) Also Live Streamed Denis & Marie Hannon and their Daughter Ann-Marie.
Sunday 18th January	9.00am (JW) Also Live Streamed People of the Parish
	12.00pm (DO) Also Live Streamed Gerald (Gerry) Fitzgerald - Month's Mind. Patrick Henry - 1st Anniversary. Sr. Carmel Molloy - 1st Anniversary.

Roscommon SPCA would like to thank you most sincerely for your generous donations at their church gate collection on 13th & 14th December, they raised € 376.

Christmas Collection for the Support of the Priests in the Parish

The Priests of the Parish express their gratitude to those who have supported the recent Christmas Collection.

In the Diocese of Elphin each Parish must provide the financial support to provide the priests with a minimum stipend (salary). To provide for this four collections are taken up each year Christmas, Easter, Pentecost and Harvest. The Priests never receive this stipend from the normal Sunday collection.

If you have not yet returned your offering you can place in the collection basket at Mass or drop it into the sacristy or parish office.

Thanking you for your ongoing support and prayers.

Fr. John, Fr. Joseph & Fr. Simon Peter

Clonown Mass Intentions for January 11th - January 18th.



Sunday 11th - 11.15am (SP) Jimmy Shine, Drumlosh
- Month's Mind.

Sunday 18th - 11.15am (SP) Fr. Denis Gavin, Ballinaculla.

The Baptism of the Lord reminds us of Jesus' mission and God's saving plan.

It shows us how Jesus was chosen and sent to bring light and salvation to all people.

- **Jesus as God's Servant:** Jesus is revealed as the chosen servant, sent to bring justice and peace. The first reading shows God's delight in His servant who brings hope to the nations.
- **The Anointing of Jesus:** Jesus is anointed by the Holy Spirit to carry out His mission. The second reading highlights how God anointed Jesus with the Holy Spirit and power to heal and bring peace.
- **The Call to Humility:** Jesus' baptism shows His humility as He steps into the water with sinners. The Gospel shows Jesus identifying with those He came to save.
- **The Role of the Holy Spirit:** The Spirit comes upon Jesus to strengthen Him for His mission. The Gospel reminds us that the Holy Spirit plays an important role in Jesus' work.
- **The Father's Love and Approval:** God the Father declares His love for His Son. This moment shows Jesus as the beloved Son, fulfilling His mission with the Father's approval.
- **Light for All People:** Jesus is sent to open the eyes of the blind and free the oppressed. The first reading points to His mission to bring light to those in darkness.

The Baptism of the Lord teaches us about Jesus' mission and our call to follow Him.

It reminds us of the Father's love, the power of the Holy Spirit, and the hope Jesus brings to all.

Baptism of Adults

Are you an adult considering taking the next step in your faith journey through the Sacrament of Baptism? Our parish is now prayerfully preparing for the 2026 Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) programme, a supportive and enriching process designed to welcome new members into the Catholic Church.

This journey of formation, prayer, and community will begin in the new year, and we warmly invite any adults seeking Baptism - or those simply curious to learn more - to formally apply.

To express your interest and ensure your place in this transformative programme, please contact the parish office to register your details. Or scan the QR CODE on this message. We look forward to walking with you as you answer this call to faith.



A Call to Sacred Service: Ministers of Holy Communion

We invite members of our Parish community who feel called to deepen their dedication to the Church by becoming an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion (Eucharistic Minister).

This is a vital and deeply special ministry. As a Eucharistic Minister, you will join our dedicated existing team to assist in distributing the Body of Christ to the faithful during Mass. Furthermore, this calling extends beyond the sanctuary. Ministers have the profound opportunity to bring Holy Communion to our homebound, elderly, or sick parishioners, ensuring the comfort and grace of the Sacrament reaches all members of our community.

If you discern a call to commit to this rewarding ministry, please register your interest.

There are two easy methods for signing up:

- **Digital Sign-Up:** Scan the dedicated QR Code located to the right of this notice.
- **Parish Office:** Contact the Parish Office directly during regular business hours.



All new applicants will participate in a **mandatory, short training and formation course**. This preparation ensures that all ministers are properly instructed in the reverence and procedure required for distributing the Eucharist.

We look forward to welcoming you to this truly fulfilling and special ministry.

Table Quiz in aid of Ardkeenan NS will take place on Thursday 15th Jan. in the Shamrock Lodge Hotel, 8pm –10pm. Tables of four cost €40. Email westlisa14@hotmail.com

Athlone Community Services Council **Healthy Ageing Lifestyle Programme**. For Older Adults aged 65+. Starting Wednesday 14th Jan - 1st April 2026. Every Wed. @ 3.15pm. **Location:** St. Mary's Hall, Northgate Street. To book your place contact ACSC on 0906472174.

Clonown N.S., Now Enrolling
Open Evening, Thursday 22nd January from 6.30-7.30pm
Private visits can also be arranged.
Please contact clonownns@gmail.com or **0906400126**.

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
2425382	Caretaker/Grounds person Clonown Church & Parish Hall.
2425383	Caretaker/Grounds-person Clonown Community Project.
2425379	Caretaker/Grounds-person Gentex Football Club.
2420362	Caretaker/Grounds person Drum Church & Parish Hall.
2420363	Caretaker/Grounds person Monksland Community Centre.
2414203	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.

Recently Deceased

Pray for the repose of the souls of
Gerald (Gerry) Fitzgerald, Battery Heights.
Alfie O'Connor, Florida USA, formerly Custume Barracks.
James (Jimmy) Kelly, formerly St. Paul's Terrace.
Sr. Teresa Sheerin, Sisters of Mercy, Lyster Street.
P.J. Murray, Clonellan.
Julie Shine (née Mansell), Battery Heights.
May they rest in the peace of Christ.

The Samaritans confidential support
Call on 116 123, 24 / 7 It's good to talk!

A date for your diary!
Medjugorje 2026 June 17th - June 24th

Cost is €855 per person sharing.
But there is an early booking discount of €50 per person for all deposits of €200 received before 30th January '26.
Travel Insurance is €35 extra.
Spiritual director Rev. Fr. Joseph Wenjeslaus.
If you are interested,
please contact Mary **087 2936933** for more information.

Ss. Peter & Paul's Church Weekly Offertory Collection

Sunday January 4th € 1,930.

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 & Paul's 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