



Please remember our First Holy Communion candidates in your Prayers.



Parish Contact Details

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

Fr. Simon Peter Akpoja 090 - 6492171
Forthill House. frsimonpeter@athloneparish.ie

Ss. Peter & Paul's Office: Tues - 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: Mon - Wed 9am to 1pm
Secretary: Catherine Higgins, St Brigid's Presbytery, Drum
090 - 6437125 drumoffice@athloneparish.ie

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

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)
PRIEST ON CALL 0858705840

Drum Mass Intentions for 16th May - 24th May



Saturday - 11am First Holy Communion - Summerhill N.S.
16th May - 8 pm (JW) Annie Hogg, Crannaghmore.
Sunday - 10 am (SP) Lisa Dolan, Clonark and her
17th May grandparents Annie & Patrick Dolan.
Tuesday - 7 pm (JW) Maura Meehan, Ardbrae Park.
19th May
Thursday - 7 pm (JW) John and Andy Kenny, Dugra
21st May & Rooskey.
Saturday - 11am First Holy Communion - Ardkeen N.S.
23rd May - 8 pm (SP) John Bohan, Gorrynagowna.
Sunday - 10 am (JD) Jimmy Moore, Meehambree.
24th May Rosary will be held in Drum Church on Sunday
24th May @ 3pm. All are welcome.

SS Peter & Paul Church Mass Intentions Saturday 16th May to Sunday 24th May 2026

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

Saturday 16th May 11.00 am **First Holy Communion**
Cloonakilla N.S.
6.30 pm **Vigil (JD) Also Live Streamed**
Joe (Joe Ball) O'Neill
- 1st Anniversary.
Joe Blackweir & deceased family.

Sunday 17th May 9.00 am **(DO) People of the Parish**
12.00 pm **(JW) Also Live Streamed**
Eileen Reilly - 1st Anniversary.
James (Jimmy) Hussey
- 1st Anniversary.
Michael J. Hannon, his daughter
Mary & his grandson
Michael Francis Quain.
Bridie Egan, Pearse Street.
Jimmy Lennon, 32 St. Comans Park.

Monday 18th May 9.30 am **(SP) Also Live Streamed**
No Intention.

Tuesday 19th May 9.30 am **(SP) Also Live Streamed**
Jackie, Maureen, Frank, Martina
& Sean Dowling.

Wednesday 20th May 9.30 am **(SP) Also Live Streamed**
Steven & James O'Reilly
& Grandparents -
Michael & Ellen Breheny and
deceased members of the O'Reilly
& Breheny families.

Thursday 21st May 6.00 pm **(JW) Blessed Sacrament Chapel**
9.30 am **(DO) Also Live Streamed**
No Intention.

Friday 22nd May 9.30 am **(DO) Also Live Streamed**
Laura O'Kelly.
7.30 pm **(JD) Also Live Streamed**
Phyllis Ruane.
Enda Fallon.

Saturday 23rd May 9.30 am **(JD) Also Live Streamed**
No Intention.
6.30 pm **Vigil (JW) Also Live Streamed**
Esther & Ned Egan.
Kieran Molloy.

Sunday 24th May 9.00 am **(DO) People of the Parish**
12.00 pm **(SP) Also Live Streamed**
Michael Keena - 1st Anniversary.

Clonown Mass Intentions for 17th May - 24th May



Sunday - 11.15am (JD) Willie Shine, Currnaboll.
17th May

Sunday - 11.15am (JD) First Holy Communion
24th May Clonown N.S.
Teresa & Tom Lennon, Oldtown
and deceased family members.

Congratulations to the Young People from Cloonakilla & Summerhill National
Schools who received their First Holy Communion Yesterday



The Feast of The Ascension

In the rhythm of our liturgical year, the Feast of the Ascension can sometimes feel like a bittersweet farewell. We watch, in our mind's eye, as the Risen Lord ascends into the clouds, leaving behind the dust of Galilee and the company of the Apostles. It is tempting to look up at the sky and wonder: *Why leave us? Why not stay and finish the work in person?*

- If we look closer at the scriptures, we realise that the Ascension isn't a departure - it is an expansion.
- When Jesus walked the earth, He was bound by the laws of time and geography. He could be in Jerusalem, or He could be in Capernaum, but He could not be in both. By ascending to the Father, Christ did not abandon His people; He broke the limitations of the physical world so that He could be present everywhere at once, specifically within us through the power of the Holy Spirit.
- The Ascension marks the moment the Church stopped being a group of followers observing a teacher and became a Body carrying a mission. As Jesus ascended, He didn't tell the disciples to stand still, staring at the heavens. He told them to go.
- This feast invites us to live in the "in-between" time—that holy space where we hold the tension of Jesus's absence and His promise to be with us "always, until the end of the age." *We are the hands, the feet, and the voice of Christ in our parish and our community.*

As we celebrate this feast, let us not be like the bystanders who watched the sky in bewilderment. Instead, let us look to the world around us. The Ascension reminds us that Christ has no body now but ours.

How will we make Him visible this week?

How will our lives reflect the love of the One who holds all heaven and earth in His care?

May your heart be lifted this week, knowing that while Christ has ascended, He has never been closer.

Date for Your Diary—The Feast of Corpus Christi

The Feast of Corpus Christi—The Body & Blood of Christ will take place on **Sunday June 7th.**

The **Traditional Corpus Christi Processions** will take place after one Mass in each church in the parish.

- Saturday June 6th After the 6.30pm Vigil Mass in Ss. Peter & Paul's church going across Connolly Street, Down Chapel Street, Lyster Street, Deerpark Road and into Parnell Square where it will conclude with Benediction.
- Saturday June 6th after 8pm Mass in Drum, From the Church to the Graveyard ending with Benediction
- Sunday June 7th after 11.15am Mass in Clonown, from the Church to the Graveyard ending with Benediction.

The Corpus Christi Procession is a very old and sacred tradition, In carrying the Blessed Sacrament through the streets / roads of our community we are praying God's Blessing on our community, our homes and our streets. We encourage you to come and join us for the procession and extend a special invite to families who have had a member receive the Blessed Sacrament this Year.

Pentecost Collection for the support of the Priests.

Next weekend the Pentecost Collection for the support of the clergy will be taken up. This is one of the four collections that make up the monthly stipend to support the Priests in the Parish. The Priests Never receive their stipend from the normal Sunday Collection. Envelopes are being distributed to your homes for this collection and can be returned in the collection basket at Mass.

We thank you for your support and encouragement. Fr. John, Fr. Joseph & Fr. Simon Peter.

Fr. John will be on Retreat in Knock from Sunday until Thursday. Should you need a Priest Urgently Please call Fr. Simon Peter or Fr. Joseph.

ACHONRY AND ELPHIN DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES 2026 Assisted Pilgrim Section

The Pilgrimage to Lourdes will take place from **28th August, 2026 to the 2nd September, 2026**, under the leadership of Bishop Kevin Doran. Application forms for the Assisted Pilgrim Section and full details are available from Fr. Ray Milton, P.P., Pilgrimage Director 090 6661115. Closing date for receipt of completed Assisted Application Forms is 11th June 2026.

All other enquiries can be directed to Joe Walsh Tours (JWT) at 016852244 or email info@joewalshstours.ie

Feile na Sionainne Fundraising Concert

A night of traditional Irish music & song. Thursday 28th May @ 8pm in Athlone Little Theatre. Tickets €15. Ph. **087 9028058** All proceeds go towards the running costs of the Feile na Sionainne Festival (August Bank Holiday weekend).

National Epilepsy Week 2026

Takes place on 18th May - 25th May. For further information, please visit www.epilepsy.ie/content/national-epilepsy-week-2026-epilepsyweek.

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

2444567	Caretaker/Grounds person Clonown Church & Parish Hall.
2444568	Caretaker/Grounds-person Clonown Community Project.
2444569	Caretaker/Grounds-person Gentex Football Club.
2444088	Caretaker/Grounds person Drum Church & Parish Hall.
2444279	Caretaker/Grounds person Monksland Community Centre.
2444570	Environmental Worker Monksland Tidy Towns.
2442176	Cleaner/Caretaker Monksland Community Centre.
2444280	Caretaker/Grounds-person Athlone Boat Club.

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.

The Knock Youth Leadership Programme (Knock Shrine)

Is for adults interested in setting up or developing youth ministry initiatives in their parish. Participants will gain the skills, knowledge, and confidence to journey with young people, supporting them as they explore their faith in a safe and welcoming environment. Starting in September 2026 (application deadline **22nd May**). For more information, please contact: youthministry@knockshrine.ie

Disability and Older people's services

The FREE annual Disability and Older people's services & information event is taking place on **Monday 18th May from 10.00 to 1.30pm in the Bloomfield House Hotel Mullingar Co. Westmeath.** Irish heart foundation will have their mobile unit there for free health checks. All welcome. For further information please contact Linda-Jo Quinn at Westmeath Community Development 087 250 0161. To book your place ring WCD reception on 044 93 48571.

Recently Deceased

Pray for the repose of the soul of **Fiona Watson**, Oranmore & formerly of Creagh, Bealnamulla. **May she rest in the peace of Christ.**

Ss. Peter & Paul's Church Weekly Offertory Collection

Sunday May 10th € 2,340 .

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