

13th SUNDAY
in ORDINARY TIME
YEAR 1

2 KINGS 4:8-11,13-16
The Shunammite woman welcomed Elisha. Because of her hospitality, she was blessed.

ROMANS 6:3-4,8-11
Through Baptism we died with Christ and were raised to new life. We live now for God.

MATTHEW 10:37-42
Jesus calls us to put God first and to welcome others in His name. Whoever welcomes you, welcomes Him.

HOSPITALITY. FAITH. NEW LIFE.
Receive. Believe. Serve.

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY
11th MASS
of the
Angels
in Ss. Peter and Paul's Church, Athlone
Wednesday | August 19th 2026 | 7.30pm

**SS Peter & Paul Church Mass Intentions
Saturday 27th June to Sunday 5th July 2026**

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

Saturday 27th June	9.30 am	(SP) Also Live Streamed Ted & Molly Conroy
	6.30 pm	Vigil (JD) Also Live Streamed Josie Quigley (1st Anniv) Linda Begley
Sunday 28th June	9.00 am	(JD) People of the Parish
	12.00 pm	(JW) Also Live Streamed Ray Fallon, Christy Barry, Larry & Martina Hayes and Laurna Carty. Brendan, Stafford and Justin Golden
Monday 29th June	9.30 am	(SP) Also Live Streamed Followed by Novena & Benediction No Intention Booked
Tuesday 30th June	9.30 am	(SP) Also Live Streamed No Intention Booked
Wednesday 1st July	9.30 am	(SP) Also Live Streamed Birdie & Joe Glennon
	6.00 pm	(JD) Blessed Sacrament Chapel
Thursday 2nd July	9.30 am	(JD) Also Live Streamed No Intention Booked
Friday 3rd July	9.30 am	(JD) Also Live Streamed No Intention
	7.30 pm	(JD) Also Live Streamed Sean Fallon, & Dec. Members of the Fallon & Mulkerins Families, Kathleen Mc Cormack, The Gilligan Family, Michael Woods, Gus & Noel Egan.
Saturday 4th July	9.30 am	(JD) Also Live Streamed No Intention Booked
	6.30 pm	Vigil (SP) Also Live Streamed Tommy Wall, Paddy Moran
Sunday 5th July	9.00 am	(SP) People of the Parish
	12.00 pm	(JD) Also Live Streamed Mary Lennon & daughter Catherine. Johnny Shine,

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 089 4724744
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 June 27 – July 5



Sat. 27th. 8 p.m. (JW) Patrick and Kathleen Duffy, Drumlosh.

Sun. 28th 10 a.m. (SP) Francis and Mary Ann Henry, Clonellan. Also, their parents James and Mary.

Tues. 30th 7 p.m. (JD) Johnny & Mary Moran, Kilmacormack.

Thurs. 2nd 7 p.m. (SP) John McManus, Nure. Parents John and Annie. Also, Joe Nolan.

Sat. 4th 8 p.m. (JD) Bridie McManus, Nure. First Anniversary.

Sun. 5th 10 a.m. (JD) Gloria Walshe, Crannaghbeg.

Clonown Mass Intentions June 28 – July 5

June. 28th. 11.15 a.m. (SP) Tim, Laurence, Mary and Paddy Geoghegan, The Pidgeon Field. Also, deceased family members.

July 3rd. 8 p.m. (SP) May and Johnny Harney. Also, John and Nell Salmon, Ballinaculla.

July 5th. 11.15 a.m. (SP) Mass in the Cemetery.
Cemetery Mass on Sunday 5th July at 11.15 a.m.
Church gate collection for St. Hildas Services on 27th / 28th June

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 (the link is on the right on the home page)



The works on the Boundary Wall continue.

Parking restrictions remain in place at Ss. Peter and Paul's Church.

www.athloneparish.ie vocations@elphindiocese.ie

Reflection: The Radical Hospitality of the Cross

In this Sunday's readings, we are given a masterclass in what it means to live a life centered on Christ. At first glance, the readings seem to touch on very different themes: the kindness of a woman in Shunem, the theology of Baptism in Romans, and the challenging call of discipleship in Matthew's Gospel. Yet, they are all bound by a single thread: **the movement from self-interest to self-surrender.**

In the first reading, the woman of Shunem recognizes the holiness of Elisha. Without asking for a reward, she offers him a place to stay—a simple, radical act of hospitality that eventually leads to the miracle of new life. She didn't know the depth of what she was receiving, but by making space for the prophet, she made space for God's grace in her home.

This sets the stage for today's Gospel, where Jesus offers a challenging standard for his followers. He tells us that to love anything—even our own comforts or past ways of living—more than Him is to miss the point of the journey. To "take up our cross" sounds daunting, but St. Paul explains exactly what this looks like in his letter to the Romans. He reminds us that through Baptism, we have already died to our old selves. We have been "buried with Christ" so that we might walk in "newness of life."

The call to discipleship is not about adding more burdens to our day; it is about a total shift in focus. When we welcome the "prophets" in our lives—the stranger, the poor, the neighbour in need—we are welcoming Christ Himself. When we choose to die to our own ego, we find that we are actually becoming more alive.

As we head into this week, let us ask ourselves: **What is one thing I am clinging to that keeps me from fully embracing the "newness of life" that Christ offers?**

Whether it is a grudge we refuse to release, a fear of being inconvenienced, or a hesitation to share our resources, let us remember the woman of Shunem. She made room for a prophet and received a miracle. May we, too, make room for the Lord in the ordinary moments of our week, trusting that when we lose our lives for His sake, we find them in abundance.

Feile na Sionainne Festival Launch

With Edwina Guckian's Devil's in the Dance Hall Saturday 25th July @ 8pm in Moore Hall (N37HT68) Early bird tickets available for a limited period, €25. Phone inquiries 086 0146516 or email feilenasionainne@gmail.com

Connaught Street & Environs Community Group

are holding a Summer Market & Family Fun Day this Sunday, 28th June, from 12-4pm in The Hollow, Battery Bridge, Athlone. There will be local craft and food stalls, coffee, live music, children's entertainment such as free face painting, a visit from the Fire Engine, children's book swap shop and plenty of family fun. **Free parking is available nearby.**

Holy Hill Hermitage

Everyone is invited to an Open Sunday at Holy Hill Hermitage in Skreen on July 5. Bishop John Fleming will celebrate mass at noon, and The Rejoice Gospel Choir from Ballina will sing. There will be hot dogs and music afterwards in the courtyard.

Peter's Pence Collection

On June 28 – the Sunday before the liturgical feast of Saints Peter and Paul – the traditional Peter's Pence collection takes place. As Peter's Pence is a concrete way to support Pope Leo in his mission of service to the universal Church, your contribution is gratefully received and appreciated.

Further information available from the official website www.obolodiSanPietro.va

All-Ireland Rally for Life

All-Ireland Rally for Life takes place in Belfast on Saturday 4th July. Bishop Kevin will be main celebrant for Mass prior to the Rally at 12noon in St Malachy's Church, Belfast. Further details: info@thelifeinstitute.net / 01 8730465.

Achonry & Elphin Diocesan Pilgrimage to Knock

The Achonry & Elphin Diocesan Pilgrimage to Knock Shrine takes place on Sunday, 16th August 2026. There will also be a Family Day on the same date offering various activities for families with children of all ages. The dioceses extend a special invitation to altar servers and their families to join the pilgrimage

Annual National Grandparents Pilgrimage

Celebrating the World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly, this pilgrimage takes place on Sunday 26th July 2026 at Knock Shrine. Anointing of the Sick at 2.30pm and Mass at 3pm. Celebrant, Archbishop Eamon Martin. A day of grace and blessing for the whole family.

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

2452057	Caretaker/Grounds person Clonown Church & Parish Hall.
2452056	Caretaker/Grounds-person Clonown Community Project.
2452055	Caretaker/Grounds-person Gentex Football Club.
2452631	Caretaker/Grounds person Drum Church & Parish Hall.
2452633	Caretaker/Grounds person Monksland Community Centre.
2452058	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.

Athlone Tidy Towns Garden/Estate

Wildflower and Biodiversity Competition 2026. Application forms are available from Dooleys flower shop Magazine Road. Last day for completed entries June 30th.

Retreats at Knock Shrine

Knock Shrine is now offering the opportunity for personal, self-directed retreat stays in the simple and peaceful surroundings of the Retreat Village. email retreatvillage@knockshrine.ie

Ss. Peter & Paul's Church Weekly Offertory Collection

Sunday June 21st € 1,630

**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