

**15<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY**  
IN ORDINARY TIME  
YEAR 1

*The seed is  
the word of God.*

LUKE 8:11



### Parish Contact Details

**V. Rev John Deignan P.P.** 090 - 6490874  
10 Ashford, Monksland. [frjohn@athloneparish.ie](mailto:frjohn@athloneparish.ie)

**Fr. Simon Peter Akpoja** 090 - 6492171  
Forthill House. [frsimonpeter@athloneparish.ie](mailto:frsimonpeter@athloneparish.ie)

**Ss. Peter & Paul's Office:** **Tues - Fri 9.30am - 1pm**  
Secretary: Martina Mc Sweeney, 090 - 6492171  
Forthill House. [parishoffice@athloneparish.ie](mailto:parishoffice@athloneparish.ie)

**Fr. Joseph Wenjeslaus C.C.** 090 - 6437125  
St Brigid's Presbytery, Drum [frjoseph@athloneparish.ie](mailto: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](mailto:drumoffice@athloneparish.ie)

**Deacon Tony Larkin:** 085 739 2473  
Chaplain Colaiste Chairáin [deacontony@athloneparish.ie](mailto: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](mailto: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 11th July – 19th July



**Sat. 11th - 8 p.m. (SP)** Martin & Mary McManus, Drumlosh.

**Sun. 12th - 10 a.m. (SP)** Alan Ledwith, Edwin & Eileen Teape,  
Kieran Kenny, Anne & Michael Kilroy.

**Tues. 14th - 7 p.m. (DS)** Rose Lawless, Cornafulla South.  
Sonny & Bridget Lawless. Pat & Ellen Shine, Drumlosh.

**Thurs. 16th - 7 p.m. (DS)** Mary & Tom Hynes, Johnstown &  
deceased family members.

**Sat. 18th - 8 p.m. (JD)** Teresa Whyte, Thomastown.

**Sun. 19th - 10 a.m. (JD)** Mary O'Neill, Clonellan.

**· 11th Annual Mass of the Angels: This special Mass will take place on Wednesday, August 19th.**

We invite members of the community to be involved in the liturgy. If you would like to volunteer to read, offer a prayer or reflection, or present the gifts, please get in touch with the parish office.

### SS Peter & Paul Church Mass Intentions

**Saturday 11th July to Sunday 19th July 2026**

ALL MASSES ARE LIVE-STREAMED on [www.churchservices.tv/athlone](http://www.churchservices.tv/athlone)

<b>Saturday</b>	<b>9.30 am</b>	<b>(SP) Also Live Streamed</b> Patrick Nestor.
<b>11th July</b>	<b>6 .30 pm</b>	<b>Vigil (JD) Also Live Streamed</b> Mandy Joyce. Michael Shine. Brendan Beirne.
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>9.00 am</b>	<b>(JD) People of the Parish</b>
<b>12th July</b>	<b>12.00 pm</b>	<b>(SP) Also Live Streamed</b> Raymond Harris - <b>1st Anniversary.</b> Tom Duignan. Joe, Delia & Linda Curley and Della Sheridan. Nora & James O'Connor and deceased family members.
<b>Monday</b>	<b>9.30 am</b>	<b>(SP) Also Live Streamed</b> <b>Followed by Novena &amp; Benediction</b> Tommy & Ann Ward.
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>9.30 am</b>	<b>(SP) Also Live Streamed</b> No Intention Booked.
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>9.30 am</b>	<b>(SP) Also Live Streamed</b> No Intention Booked.
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>9.30 am</b>	<b>(SP) Also Live Streamed</b> James O'Brien & dec. members of the O'Brien & Rushe families.
<b>Friday</b>	<b>9.30 am</b>	<b>(JD) Also Live Streamed</b> No Intention Booked.
	<b>7.30 pm</b>	<b>(SP) Also Live Streamed</b> No Intention Booked.
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>9.30 am</b>	<b>(JD) Also Live Streamed</b> The Mc Namara & Walshe families.
<b>18th July</b>	<b>6 .30 pm</b>	<b>Vigil (SP) Also Live Streamed</b> Mary Kelly - <b>Month's Mind.</b> James Bell. Mary Caulfield.
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>9.00 am</b>	<b>(SP) People of the Parish</b>
<b>19th July</b>	<b>12.00 pm</b>	<b>(JD) Also Live Streamed</b> Pat & Annie Fallon. Melly Connaire. Nell & Dan Egan. James, Ann, Desmond, Terry, Charlotte & Margaret Whelan & Jim Caffrey. David, Bridget, John & Thomas Egan.

### Clonown Mass Intentions for 12th July – 19th July



**July 12th. 11.15 a.m. (JD)** Fr. Larney Shine, Currnaboll.

**July 19th. 11.15 a.m. (SP)** Joe & Bridget Roche, The Togher  
and deceased family members.

### 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](http://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](http://www.athloneparish.ie) [vocations@elphindiocese.ie](mailto:vocations@elphindiocese.ie)

### Seeds, Soil, and the Song of Creation

This Sunday's readings offer us an invitation to look at our lives not as a series of finished products, but as a garden constantly in the making.

- In the Gospel of Matthew, Jesus shares the Parable of the Sower. It is a humble, earthy image - a farmer casting seeds indiscriminately. Some fall on rocky ground, some among thorns, and some on good soil. It is easy to label ourselves as one type of soil or another, but perhaps the deeper message is that the Sower is incredibly generous. God does not hoard the seed; He scatters His Word lavishly, hoping that even in our "rocky" moments, a bit of grace might find a foothold.
- This resonates deeply with the assurance from the prophet Isaiah: that God's Word shall not return empty, but will achieve the end for which He sent it. Like the rain that waters the earth, God's grace is constantly seeping into the soil of our daily lives, even when we don't feel particularly "fertile."
- St. Paul adds a cosmic dimension to this in his letter to the Romans. He reminds us that all of creation is "groaning in labour pains," waiting for redemption. Life is not always comfortable, and our personal and communal struggles are real. Yet, Paul encourages us to see these struggles not as dead ends, but as the "birth pangs" of something new.

**As we move through this 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time, let us ask ourselves: How can I be better soil this week?**

- ◆ Maybe it is clearing away the "thorns" of a busy, cluttered schedule to make five minutes for prayer.
  - ◆ Maybe it is breaking up the "rocky ground" of a grudge we've been holding.
- When we tend to our own hearts, we participate in that beautiful transformation St. Paul speaks of—we help bring the Kingdom of God a little closer to fruition.*

*May we be open to the Sower's extravagance this week, trusting that the smallest seed of faith, when nourished by His grace, is capable of producing a harvest beyond our imagining.*

### Bringing the Altar to the Community

We are currently exploring the possibility of hosting some outdoor "Street or Area Masses" throughout the summer. The vision is simple: a community gathering in an open space, a housing estate, or a rural setting, to pray together and offer a blessing for our local areas. Whether or not you choose to organise a social event around the Mass is entirely up to your community; the primary goal is simply to gather as neighbours in prayer.

**If your area would like to host a Mass, please contact your area priest or the office to discuss the details.**

### Achonry & Elphin Diocesan Pilgrimage to Knock

The Achonry & Elphin Diocesan Pilgrimage to Knock Shrine takes place on Sunday, 16<sup>th</sup> 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.

### Cloonakilla Graveyard

We are considering forming a community committee to explore the possibility of tidying up the small graveyard in Cloonakilla, with the aim of making it accessible to visitors and enabling an annual Mass to be celebrated there. If you are interested in being part of the committee please let Martina know at [parishoffice@athloneparish.ie](mailto:parishoffice@athloneparish.ie)

### Annual National Grandparents Pilgrimage

Celebrating the World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly, this pilgrimage takes place on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> 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.

### Drum Heritage Group, Heritage Tour to County Sligo

On Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> July, Visiting Lisadell House and Gardens & Carrowmore Megalithic Site. The Cost of the bus is €20 per person. Cost of entry to the Heritage sites is separate. Enquiry for booking, Contact **085 2094555**.

### Recently Deceased

Pray for the repose of the souls of  
**Mary Menton**, Baylough.

**Patrick Kerrigan**, USA and formerly of O'Connell Street.  
**May they rest in the peace of Christ.**

### 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**

<b>2452057</b>	Caretaker/Grounds person Clonown Church & Parish Hall.
<b>2452056</b>	Caretaker/Grounds-person Clonown Community Project.
<b>2452055</b>	Caretaker/Grounds-person Gentex Football Club.
<b>2452631</b>	Caretaker/Grounds person Drum Church & Parish Hall.
<b>2452633</b>	Caretaker/Grounds person Monksland Community Centre.
<b>2452058</b>	Environmental Worker Monksland Tidy Towns.
<b>2442176</b>	Cleaner/Caretaker Monksland Community Centre.
<b>2444280</b>	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.

### Insights into Dementia – Informing and Empowering Family Carers

Designed specifically for family carers and supporters. This **7-week face-to-face course** offers valuable information, practical guidance, and emotional support for those caring for a family member or friend living with dementia.

#### Course Details:

**Venue:** Athlone Springs Hotel, Athlone, Co Roscommon, Ireland, N37 F9T3

**Dates:** Mondays, 24<sup>th</sup> August - 5<sup>th</sup> October (every Monday for duration of 7 weeks)

**Time:** 7:00pm – 9:30pm

**Tutor:** Julie Greene

**Contact:** Catherine Flavin: 0877585661

### Insurance Renewal Time.

The total renewal cost this year for the three church areas is just over €25,000. We ask your assistance in meeting this huge cost.

If you are in a position to help, please place your donation in an Envelope Marked **Ss. Peter and Paul's Parish Insurance Contribution** or Scan the QR Code on this notice.

**We thank you in anticipation of your assistance and for your ongoing help and support in the Parish**



### Ss. Peter & Paul's Church Weekly Offerory Collection

**Sunday July 5<sup>th</sup> € 1,665.**

**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