



The 11th Annual Mass of the Angels
This special Mass will take place on
Wednesday next, August 19th at 7.30pm
ALL ARE MOST WELCOME



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: 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 15th August - 23rd August

Sat. 15th - 7 p.m. (JW) Vigil Mass for Sunday
(Vigil will be held in the Cemetery,
Weather permitting)

**Sun. 16th - 10 a.m. (JD) Tony McManus, Thornhill & deceased
family.**

**Tues. 18th - 7 p.m. (JW) Tom, Kathleen & John Shine,
Crannaghmore.**

**Thurs. 20th - 7 p.m. (JW) Patrick & Bridget Harney, Creggane,
Cornafulla & deceased family.**

Sat. 22nd - 8 p.m. (SP) Norah Seery, Clonellan.

**Sun. 23rd - 10 a.m. (JW) Dan, Kathleen & Peter Harney, Rooskey
and deceased family members.**



SS Peter & Paul Church Mass Intentions

Saturday 15th August to Sunday 23rd August 2026

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

Saturday	6.30 pm Vigil (JD) Also Live Streamed	15th Aug.	Audrey O'Brien - 1st Anniversary. Delia & Tom O'Brien. Terry Egan. (SP) People of the Parish (SP) Also Live Streamed Mary Craughwell - 1st Anniversary. Martin Lennon. Frank Harney. Freda Murphy (née Slevin). William, Elizabeth & Peggy Ryan & Ryan & Enright dec. family mem.. Jimmy & Kevin Byrne. Frank & Jim Duignan & dec. family.
Sunday	9.00 am	16th Aug.	(JD) Also Live Streamed Followed by Novena & Benediction Mebin Georg & family. Special Intention.
	12.00 pm		(JD) Also Live Streamed No Intention Booked.
Monday	9.30 am	17th Aug.	(JD) Also Live Streamed Bridget & Patrick Mc Kinley, Thomas Slattery.
			Mass of the Angels
Tuesday	9.30 am	18th Aug.	(SP) Also Live Streamed No Intention Booked.
Wednesday	9.30 am	19th Aug.	(SP) Also Live Streamed No Intention Booked.
	7.30 pm		(JD) Also Live Streamed Mary Menton - Month's Mind & Birthday Remembrance. Michael Coleman. Michael Rafferty. Teresa & Pat Fennell. Tom Caulfield. Eugene & Teresa Pettit. Walter Henry. John & Maureen Cox & their son Mark.
Thursday	9.30 am	20th Aug.	(SP) Also Live Streamed
Friday	9.30 am	21st Aug.	(JD) Also Live Streamed Paddy Walshe. Kathleen Ward.
	7.30 pm		6.30 pm Vigil (JW) Also Live Streamed Ann Westman - Month's Mind. Gerry Lacey. Marie Mc Ardle. Moirá O'Brien (née Mulligan). Billy & Maureen Mc Cormack & dec. fam. Tommy & Mary Connaughton & dec. fam.
Saturday	9.30 am	22nd Aug.	(JD) People of the Parish (JD) Also Live Streamed Anne Hewitt - 1st Anniversary. Madge Kelly - 1st Anniversary. Kieran & Pat Fallon. Patrick Egan. Jackie Mc Loughlin.

Clonown Mass Intentions for 16th August - 23rd August

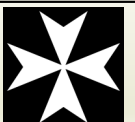


Aug. 16th 11.15 a.m. (JW) Feast of the Assumption of Our Lady
Kieran Dunning, Drumlosh & baby
Hannah Rose Martin.

Aug. 23rd 11.15 a.m. (SP) Johnny Halligan, Buggane.

Knights of the Order of Malta

On Sunday next August 23rd we are delighted to welcome the Knights, Dames, Chaplains and Members
of the Irish branches of the Order of Malta to join us for the 12 noon Mass.
They will be in Athlone for the commissioning of 13 new officers at a ceremony later on Sunday afternoon.



Have you ever felt like an outsider?

Have you ever stood on the edge of a group, wondering if you were welcome, or if there was a place for you at the table?

- In this Sunday's Gospel, we encounter a woman who knew that feeling all too well. She was a Canaanite a foreigner, a pagan, and a traditional enemy of the Jewish people. By all social and religious standards of the day, she was the ultimate outsider. Yet, driven by fierce, maternal love for her tormented daughter, she crosses physical and cultural borders to cry out to Jesus: "Have pity on me, Lord, Son of David!"
- "At first, Jesus' response is startling. He is silent, and then He speaks of boundaries: "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." When she persists, He uses a harsh-sounding metaphor about not throwing the children's food to the dogs.
- But this remarkable woman refuses to be dismissed. She doesn't take offense; instead, she enters into the metaphor with a quick-witted, holy boldness: "Please, Lord, for even the dogs eat the scraps that fall from the table of their masters."
- In that moment, her fierce faith unlocks a beautiful truth. She recognizes that God's grace is not a scarce resource to be hoarded. It is so abundant that even a single "crumb" of Jesus' power is more than enough to heal her daughter. Jesus marvels at her: "O woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish."
- This encounter is a turning point. It prepares the disciples—and us—for the breathtaking scale of God's kingdom.
- Centuries before, the prophet Isaiah foresaw this day, proclaiming that God's house would be called "a house of prayer for all peoples." Saint Paul echoes this in his letter to the Romans, reminding us that God's mercy is so vast, and His call so "irrevocable," that it extends to everyone, crossing every human barrier of race, background, and past mistakes.

This Sunday, we are challenged in two ways:

1. **First, how is our faith?** Do we approach Jesus with the same relentless, trusting persistence as the Canaanite woman? When God seems silent, do we walk away, or do we kneel, as she did, and say, "Lord, help me"?
2. **Second, how do we treat the "outsiders" today?** As a parish community, are we a "house of prayer for all peoples"? Or do we sometimes act as gatekeepers, deciding who is worthy of God's grace and our welcome?

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. **A bus will be going from Athlone, please contact Caroline on 086 1960256.**

Athlone and Midland Samaritans

Athlone Samaritans need additional volunteers to maintain their 24Hr free befriending service.

Could you be a Samaritan volunteer? No experience or qualification needed as we will train, mentor and support you. If you think you might be interested, please call or text **John 087 7176168** or email athlone.branchrecruitment@samaritans.org.

Samaritans provide 24hr emotional support on Free call 116123.

National Novena to Our Lady of Knock: 13th – 21st August

Since 1977, the National Novena to Our Lady of Knock has taken place at Knock Shrine, welcoming pilgrims from across Ireland and abroad to gather in prayer and reflection. This year's theme, "*Sheltered in God's Love*," marks the 50th anniversary of the opening of Knock Basilica. For further information on each day's programme: www.knockshrine.ie

Mental Health Awareness Night

The Parish Pastoral Council are hosting a Mental Health Awareness night on Thursday September 24th in

The Shamrock Lodge Hotel from 7.30 to 9pm.

The evening will include four speakers, A Psychologist, An Occupational Therapist and two personal testimonies.

Full Details Next Week

Drum Community Care

Senior Citizen's Mass on Sunday 23d August at 3pm in Drum Parish Hall.

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

- | | |
|----------------|---|
| 2460395 | Caretaker / Grounds person
Clonown Church & Parish Hall. |
| 2460393 | Caretaker / Grounds-person
Clonown Community Project. |
| 2460391 | Caretaker / Grounds-person
Gentex Football Club. |
| 2460398 | Caretaker / Grounds person
Monksland Community Centre. |
| 2460396 | Environmental Worker
Monksland Tidy Towns. |
| 2460397 | Caretaker / Grounds person
Drum Church & Parish Hall. |
| 2458002 | Caretaker / Grounds person
Drum Community Centre. |
| 2458001 | 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.

Jubilee of Marriages

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 11th October at 2.30pm in Kiltoom Church. Bishop Kevin will celebrate both Masses. Light refreshments will be served afterwards for all in attendance. As each couple celebrating an Anniversary will receive a certificate from Bishop Kevin, they are asked to register their details at www.achonryelphin.ie

NATIONAL HERITAGE WEEK 2026 – ATHLONE

Connaught Street & Environs Community Group is delighted to present a week-long programme of free Heritage Week events from 15th–23rd August. www.athloneconnaughtstreet.com

Recently Deceased

Pray for the repose of the souls of

Bernadette (Bernie) Gavin (née Broderick)

formerly of St. Anne's Tce.

Pascal O'Gorman, Beechpark.

Rose Kelly (née Kelly), Baylough.

Caillin Duignan (née Boland), Ballydangan.

May they rest in the peace of Christ.

Ss. Peter & Paul's Church Weekly

Offertory Collection

Sunday August 9th € 1,740.

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