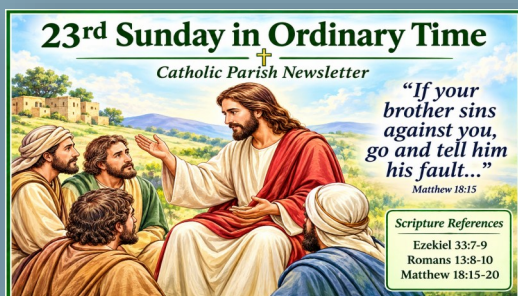




PARISH OF
SS. PETER & PAUL
Athlone, Drum & Clonown

Weekly Newsletter

September 6th 2026 / 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time



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
Frank Conroy
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 6th September - 13th September

Sat. 5th 8 p.m. (JW) Tom Griffin, Rooskey & deceased family members.
Sun. 6th - 10 a.m. (JW) John & Mary Naughton, Clonellan & deceased family members.
Tues. 8th - 7 p.m. (JW) No Intention.
Thurs. 10th - 7 p.m. (JW) No Intention.
Sat. 12th - 11a.m. (JW) Frances Ryan, Thomastown - **Month's Mind.**
- **8 p.m. (SP)** Tom, Kate, John Joe & Tony Rock, Cornafulla South. Coley Barry.
Sun. 13th - 10 a.m. (JD) Tom & Mary Ellen Nicholson, Cornafulla North. Paddy and Sr. Mary Austin.

Proposed Columbarium in Ss. Peter and Paul's Church Mortuary Chapel
On Tuesday evening September 8th a meeting with Joseph O'Neill our chosen provider for the proposed Columbarium will take place in Ss. Peter and Paul's Church at 7.30pm. Joseph will outline the proposed project and answer any questions you may have.
All are welcome.

SS Peter & Paul Church Mass Intentions

Saturday 5th September to Sunday 13th September 2026

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

Saturday 5th Sept.	9.30 am	(JD) Also Live Streamed Esther, John, Esther Jnr. & Patricia Costello.
	6.30 pm Vigil	(SP) Also Live Streamed Tessie & Pat Ganly. May Flynn & deceased members of the Minogue family. Patrick & Tereas Murray & Ancestry Culfatha.
Sunday 6th Sept.	9.00 am	(JD) People of the Parish
	12.00 pm	(JD) Also Live Streamed No Intention Booked.
Monday 7th Sept.	9.30 am	(JD) Also Live Streamed Followed by Novena & Benediction Ambrose Corcoran.
Tuesday 8th Sept.	9.30 am	(JD) Also Live Streamed No Intention.
Wednesday 9th Sept.	9.30 am	(JW) Also Live Streamed Jack & Bridget Brassil. Eileen & Pat Breen.
	6.00 pm	(JD) Blessed Sacrament Chapel
Thursday 10th Sept.	9.30 am	(JD) Also Live Streamed No Intention Booked.
Friday 11th Sept.	9.30 am	(JW) Also Live Streamed No Intention Booked.
	7.30 pm	(JD) Also Live Streamed Philomena & William O'Brien. The Caulfield & Mc Niff families.
Saturday 12th Sept.	9.30 am	(JD) Also Live Streamed No Intention Booked.
	6.30 pm Vigil	(JD) Also Live Streamed Chrissie Finlass - Month's Mind. Rose Kelly, Baylough - Month's Mind. Bridie Egan.
Sunday 13th Sept.	9.00 am	(JW) People of the Parish
	12.00 pm	(JW) Also Live Streamed Josie & Hugh O'Neill. Jack Rigney. Anne Egan (née Seery)

Clonown Mass Intentions for 6th September - 13th September



Sept. 6th 11.15 a.m. (SP) Michael, Rose, John & Margaret Dunning.
Michael Dunning. Rose Rodgers.
Sr. Philomena (SMDM).
Fr. Brendan (SMA). John Francis.

Sept. 13th 11.15 a.m. (SP) Deceased members of the Dunning family, Ballinaculla.

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)

www.athloneparish.ie
vocations@elphindiocese.ie

Speaking the Truth in Love

Have you ever noticed how much easier it is to scroll past someone's mistake, or bite your tongue to avoid an awkward conversation, than it is to lovingly correct a brother or sister?

- In this Sunday's readings, God challenges us to step out of our comfort zones. He reminds us that true Christian community isn't built on passive silence or avoiding conflict; it is built on active, courageous, and tender love.
- In the first reading, the prophet Ezekiel is given a stark warning: if he fails to speak up and warn the wicked, he shares in their fate. While this sounds heavy, it speaks to our fundamental interconnectedness. We are our keeper's keeper. Fast forward to the Gospel, and Jesus gives us a masterclass in conflict resolution. He doesn't suggest gossip, public shaming, or cutting people off. Instead, He outlines a path of dignity: go to the person *privately*. Speak the truth face-to-face.
- Why? Because the goal of Christian correction is never to win an argument; it is to win back a soul.
- St. Paul ties this all together in our second reading with his famous reminder: "*Owe nothing to anyone, except to love one another.*" Love, Paul tells us, is the fulfilment of the law. But true love isn't just a warm feeling—it is a commitment to the ultimate well-being of the other person. Sometimes, loving someone means having the hard conversation. It means risking temporary discomfort for the sake of eternal reconciliation.

This week, let us ask the Holy Spirit for two things: the courage to speak up when we need to correct with love, and the humility to listen when others offer us correction. After all, wherever two or three are gathered—whether in harmony or in the messy process of healing—Christ is right there in the midst of us.

St. Brigid's Church Drum; Over the past few months a number of upgrades have been happening in Drum Church. In the coming weeks the redecoration of the Church will begin. The quotes received were much higher than what we had expected, but on checking them out they were competitive based on current pricing. The cost of redecorating the Church inside and outside as well as the outside of Fr. Joseph's House is in the region of €30,000. We ask your help in meeting this cost by using the special envelope which is now available at the back of the church.

Our Lady of the Wayside, Clonown; Next spring, we hope to be in a position to tarmac the carpark at the church, the estimated cost is €10,000. We hope to gather the money to complete this project over the winter months. We ask your assistance by using the special Clonown Carpark envelope which is now available at the back of the church.

Thanking you for your support on both projects.

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 7.30pm to 9pm. The evening will include four speakers, A Psychologist, An Occupational Therapist and two personal testimonies. **Full Details Next Week**

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

Athlone and Midland Samaritans (Samaritans provide 24hr emotional support on Free call 116123.)

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.

A Note of Sincere Thanks

I wish to extend my sincere thanks to the parish community for your exceptional support during my mother's sickness and following her death. Your prayers, Mass cards, kind messages, and your attendance at the Mass celebrated in Drum Church in her memory were a true source of strength and consolation. Your presence made me feel surrounded by a family, even while far from home. I am also deeply grateful to our parish priest for his thoughtful care and pastoral support throughout those difficult days. Please continue to remember my mother in your prayers. Thank you, and God bless you all. *Fr. Joseph*

Booking of Masses for 2027 in Drum & Clonown

Phone **090 6437 125** or email drumoffice@athloneparish.ie
A Ladies watch was found at Drum Church, contact Drum parish office for more details.

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.

Employment Rights & Workplace Support Office Athlone

Workers' Rights Alliance is now open on Pearse Street, Athlone, opposite the Courthouse. We provide confidential advice and practical support to employees experiencing workplace difficulties, as well as professional HR and compliance services for local employers. Appointments are available by calling or WhatsApp **087 384 2157**.

Local support. Practical advice. Confidential service.

Recently Deceased

Pray for the repose of the souls of
Des Norton, Monksland.

Stephen (Stevie) Noonan, St. Ruth's Park.

Seán Ó Beacháin (Coolmine, Dublin) formerly of Ballinasloe.
May they rest in the peace of Christ.

Ss. Peter & Paul's Church Weekly

Offertory Collection

Sunday August 30th € 1,690.

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