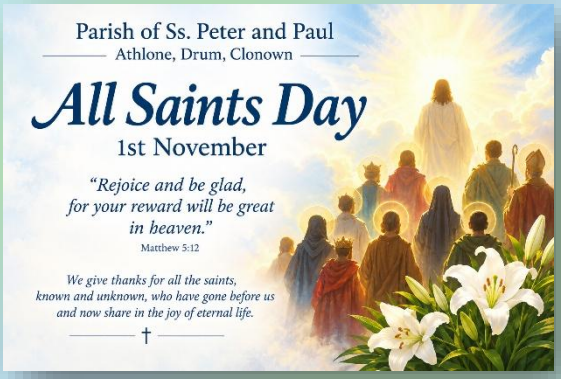
PARISH OF
SS. PETER & PAUL
Athlone, Drum & Clonown

Weekly Newsletter
All Saints Day
November 1st, 2026



Parish Contact Details

V. Rev John Deignan P.P.	**090 - 6490874**
10 Ashford, Monksland.	frjohn@athloneparish.ie
Fr. Simon Peter Akpoja CC	**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,	090 - 6437125
St Brigid's Presbytery, Drum	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
Safeguarding 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

St. Brigid's Church, Drum
Mass Intentions for 31st October – 8th November

Sat. 31st	**8pm (SP)**	Mike & Bridie Naughton, Culfatha and their son Michael.
Sun. 1st Nov.	**10 am (SP)**	**All Saints**
Tues. 3rd	**7pm (JW)**	**No Intention Booked.**
Thurs. 5th	**7pm (JW)**	Tom & Kathleen Nicholson, Cornafulla South and their son Oliver.
Sat. 7th	**8pm (JD)**	John McManus and his parents Mai & Pat, Nure.
Sun. 8th	**10am (JW)**	Thomas Hynes, Drum Road.

Drum Community Care Fundraiser in the Athlone Springs Hotel on Saturday 21st November from 9pm to 12.30am. Music by Checkers. Admission €10. Raffle on the night. Your support would be greatly appreciated.

SS Peter & Paul Church Mass Intentions
Saturday 31st October to Sunday 8th November 2026
ALL MASSES ARE LIVE STREAMED on www.churchservices.tv/athlone

Saturday 31st Oct.		
9.30 am	**(JD)**	**No Intention Booked.**
6.30 pm Vigil	**(JD)**	Luke Duffy – 2nd Anniversary.
Sunday 1st Nov.		**All Saints**
9.00 am	**(DO)**	**People of the Parish**
12.00 pm	**(SP)**	Fergus Mc Carrick – **1st Anniversary.**
		Joe Hussey – **1st Anniversary.**
		Elizabeth Cherry Keyes – **1st Anniversary.**
		Joe & Betty Hussey.
		Paul Grogan.
Monday 2nd Nov.		
9.30 am	**(JD)**	Deceased Clergy of the Parish.
		Followed by Novena & Benediction
10.30am		**Prayers for Positive Mental Health.**
Tuesday 3rd Nov.		
9.30 am	**(JD)**	**No Intention Booked.**
Wednesday 4th Nov.		
9.30 am	**(JW)**	Molly & Jackie Keane.
		Breda O'Neill.
6.00 pm	**(JD)**	**Blessed Sacrament Chapel**
Thursday 5th Nov.		
9.30 am	**(SP)**	**No Intention Booked.**
		Followed by Prayers for all the priests.
Friday 6th Nov.		
9.30 am	**(DO)**	Ann Shine.
11.00am		**Annual Defence Forces Mass for Deceased Members.**
7.30 pm	**(SP)**	**No Intention Booked.**
Saturday 7th Nov.		
9.30 am	**(SP)**	Peter & Nellie Shiel, their sons & daughter.
		Anne & Norman Johnson & Mary Malone.
6.30 pm Vigil	**(SP)**	Jimmy & Josie Mc Gowan.
Sunday 8th Nov.		
9.00 am	**(DO)**	**People of the Parish**
12.00 pm	**(JD)**	Jackie Fallon – **Month's Mind.**
		Paddy, Molly, Brendan & Dermot Lennon.
		Kit & Christina Keogh.
		Paddy & Martha Reidy & deceased family.
		Willie & Martha Derwin and Peter Finlass.

Annual Defence Forces Mass for Deceased Members

The 2026 Mass for Deceased members of the Defence Forces will take place on Friday November 6th @ 11am in Ss. Peter and Paul's Church.

Information Evening – Knights of St. Columbanus

Will be held at their premises (St. Mary's Square, last building on left before the church) on Wednesday 18th November @ 7pm. All those interested in the work of the Knights, both men and women, are invited to attend.

Recently Deceased

Pray for the repose of the souls of
Thomas Joseph (Joe) Dunning, formerly of Clonown.
Martin Mc Neill, Patrick Street & Connaught Street.
Teresa Bell, Clonown Road.
Gerry Mc Callan, Parnell Square.
Dolores O'Reilly (née Fletcher), Cedarwood Drive, Monksland.
Mike Shine (USA) formerly Drumlosh.
Margaret Shine (née McKeena), Taylorstown.
May they rest in the peace of Christ.

Our Lady of the Wayside, Clonown
Mass Intentions for 1st November – 8th November

1st Nov.	**11.15 am (JD)**	**All Saints**
		Lil, Jack and Pat Ward. Clonown.
6th Nov.	**8.00 pm (JW)**	Sean Boyle, St. Comans Park.
8th Nov.	**11.15 am (SP)**	James, Irene and Ronan Mulligan, Taylorstown.

Surrounded by a Great Cloud of Witnesses

As the calendar turns to November, the brisk autumn air and falling leaves naturally turn our thoughts toward the passage of time and the mysteries of life and death. We begin this month with a double grace: the joyful Solemnity of All Saints on November 1st, followed immediately by our traditional Month of Remembrance for the Faithful Departed.

In many ways, these two observances are two sides of the same coin of Christian hope.

- On All Saints' Day, we lift our eyes to the horizon. We celebrate not just the famous canonized saints of history, but the quiet, everyday saints—the holy mothers and fathers, the resilient neighbours, the peacemakers, and the humble servants of God who have already crossed the finish line. They are the triumphant Church, cheering us on from the grandstands of heaven. The Epistle to the Hebrews reminds us that we are "surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses." We are never truly walking this journey alone.
- Then, as we step into November, we gently turn our prayers toward those still journeying toward that heavenly light—our family members, friends, and fellow parishioners who have gone before us marked with the sign of faith.
- November is not a month of morbid despair; rather, it is a month of deep communion. It is when the boundaries of time and space dissolve. In our Catholic tradition, death does not sever the bonds of love. Through the *Communion of Saints*, we remain intimately connected to those we love but see no longer. When we pray for the dead, we are loving them still. When we whisper their names at our dinner tables, in the quiet of our bedrooms, or during the Mass, we acknowledge that they are still very much part of our community.

This month, let us embrace both the joy of the saints and the tender sorrow of remembrance. Let us ask the holy men and women in heaven to pray for us and let us offer our prayers and sacrifices for our beloved dead, trusting in the boundless mercy of a God who is "not God of the dead, but of the living."

May this November be a season of profound peace, reminding us that we, too, are made for eternity.

Exploring our Catholic Faith

Sincere thanks to all who participated in the first 4 sessions of the Exploring our Faith Course. Thanks also to our presenters, Fr. John, Una Feely, Deacon Willie & Sr. Kathryn. The second four sessions will be held in Spring.

November The month of the Holy Souls

The **November Souls envelopes** are available at the back of the churches and can be returned to the Office, Sacristy or in the collection basket at Mass.
The **Memorial Mass to remember all those who have died in the past year** in our parish will take place on Saturday November 21st at 6.30pm. Please bring this Special Mass to the attention of anyone who had a bereavement during the last year.

Heating in Ss. Peter and Paul's Church

With the heat now on in Ss. Peter and Paul's Church we are expecting the weekly cost for heating the church to be in the regions of €1,300 to €1,500. As we use Marked Gas Oil for the boiler, we have not received any reduction in the cost from the budget. We will leave special envelopes at the back of the church for those who are in a position to help with the huge cost over the winter months. Thank you in anticipation of your generosity.

St. Brigid's Church Drum: Redecoration of the Church We ask your help in meeting this cost by using the special envelope which is now available at the back of Drum church.
Our Lady of the Wayside, Clonown: resurfacing the car park. ask your assistance by using the special Clonown Carpark envelope which is now available at the back of Clonown church. Thanking you for your support on both projects.

CRAFT WORKSHOP

Join us on Tuesday 3 November for handcrafting and for the chats. We will be creating memory cushions and hearts, each for a special someone. And please bring along a garment or fabric you would like to use. Find us in Room 14, ACT building, Ball Alley Lane, Parnell Square, Athlone, between 10am and 1pm. These monthly workshops are organised by Athlone Family Resource Centre and are **free of charge**. Looking forward to seeing you there.

HUGG FREE Workshop - 'Colour, Create & Connect'

If you have been bereaved by suicide, whether recently or many years ago, and are aged 18 or over, you are invited to join HUGG for a Soft Pastel Creative Workshop on Tuesday, 10th November, from 7:15pm to 9pm at the Hodson Bay Hotel, Co. Roscommon (N37 XR82).

Taughmaconnell Drama Group presents "The Maiden Aunt" on the 20th, 21st and 22nd of November 2026 in Taughmaconnell Community Centre. Doors open at 7.30pm and curtain raises @ 8pm. A hilarious 3 act comedy written by Jimmy Keary and directed by Liam Curley. Be sure to come along for a great night's entertainment!

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
2471169	Caretaker / Grounds person Clonown Church & Parish Hall.
2471168	Caretaker / Grounds-person Gentex Football Club.
2471175	Caretaker / Grounds person Monksland Community Centre.
2471170	Environmental Worker Monksland Tidy Towns.
2471172	Caretaker / Grounds person Drum Church & Parish Hall.
2474696	Caretaker / Grounds person Drum Community Centre.
2468172	Caretaker / Grounds-person Athlone Boat Club.
2474687	Administrator / Reception Athlone Drug Awareness Group

Please note that you must be eligible for Community Employment 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.

Breast Cancer Awareness Month 2026
Takes place from Thursday Oct. 1st to Saturday Oct. 31st.
For more information, please visit breastcancerresearch.ie or www.breastcancerireland.com.

Exploring St. Johns Gospel

We are starting a Group for 6 weeks to explore the riches of St. John's Gospel. led by Fr Simon Peter. The group will meet on Thursday evenings **@ 8 pm in Forthill House, beginning 12th November.** All are welcome.
More details @ www.achonryelphin.ie/scripture

Ss. Peter & Paul's Church Weekly Offertory Collection
Sunday October 25th € 1,435.
Thank you for your ongoing contributions and generosity.

Ss Peter & Paul's 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