

Ss. Peter & Paul's Church, Athlone Announces Proposed Columbarium Project to Support Sacred Burial Space and Crucial Heating Upgrades

— The parish of Ss. Peter and Paul's Church, Athlone, has announced a proposal to install a columbarium within the church's Old Mortuary Chapel, located to the right of the main entrance door. This sacred installation will offer a dignified resting place for the cremated remains of loved ones while simultaneously funding a long-overdue upgrade to the church's heating system.

To bring this vision to life, the parish has engaged Mr. Joseph O'Neill of **Eternum Columbarium**, an Irish company specialising in partnering with local churches to design, build, and manage sacred niche spaces. The parish extends its sincere gratitude to Joseph O'Neill for his expert guidance and direction in bringing the proposed project to its current phase.

Community Approval and Governance

Addressing potential questions regarding church governance, the parish confirmed that the project strictly aligns with Church Law. The proposal was not decided by the parish priest alone; it was first extensively discussed with and approved by both the **Parish Pastoral Council** and the **Parish Finance Committee**. Following their joint recommendation, the project was presented to the Bishop, who has given his support to the project.

Next Steps and Reservations

The proposal was presented to a group of parishioners at Ss. Peter and Paul's Church on Tuesday, August 8th. With positive community feedback, the project is now progressing into the formal design and planning phase. Several parishioners have already registered their interest in reserving a niche.

Parishioners who have questions or wish to secure a final resting place for their loved ones in the proposed Columbarium are encouraged to contact Joseph O'Neill directly.

Contact Information:

- **Contact Person:** Joseph O'Neill, Eternum Columbarium
- **Phone:** 0852 148301 **Email:** info@eternumcolumbarium.com **Website:** www.eternumcolumbarium.com

Exploring our Catholic Faith (12 sessions of discovery)

We invite you to join us as we embark on a journey through the Catholic faith, a pilgrimage of sorts, moving from initial curiosity to a personal transformation and finally to outward sharing.

We invite you to participate in a series of structured discussions. Our hope is that those who participate will find that the sessions will highlight the richness of your spiritual path in a gentle introduction to our Faith.

The First three Sessions will be held during October, in the Conference Room at the Liturgical Centre on Castle Street.

Part 1	Wednesday	October 7th	7.30 to 9pm	Exploring Our Catholic Faith in the Current Age.	Led By Fr. John Deignan
Part 2	Wednesday	October 14th	7.30 to 9pm	Encountering Christ: The Person of Jesus	Led by Una Feely
Part 3	Wednesday	October 21st	7.30 to 9pm	The Church: Why the Catholic Church?	Led by Deacon Willie Gacquin
Part 4	Wednesday	October 28th	7.30 to 9pm	Foundational Truths: the Creed and Core Doctrines,	Led by Sr. Kathryn Williams

Please book your place by contacting the Parish office on 090 - 6492171 or by emailing parish office@athloneparish.ie

St. Brigid's Church Drum; Over the past few months several upgrades have been happening in Drum Church. The redecoration of the Church has begun. 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; we hope to be able to tarmac the car park at the church in the coming weeks, 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 Clonown church. Thanking you for your support on both projects.

COFFEE MORNINGS IN AID OF HOSPICE

Buccaneers RFC are hosting two Coffee Mornings in aid of the South-Westmeath Hospice. We welcome your continued generous support on Saturday, October 3rd & Sunday 4th from 10 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. on both days at The Bounty. The chosen charity will again be the South-Westmeath Hospice. If you wish to drop in some goodies prior to the event, please contact Geraldine 086 1732711. We look forward to seeing you.

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.
2468176	Caretaker / Grounds person	Drum Community Centre.
2468172	Caretaker / Grounds-person	Athlone Boat Club.
2465273	Administrator / Reception	Athlone Drug Awareness Group

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.

AFTERNOON OF PRAYER

On Saturday 10th October, in Donamon Castle Church F42 YE13, Commencing 2pm Sharp. Time for Reflection, Holy Hour, Rosary, & Mass @ 5pm. Relics of St Teresa, & her Parents, Louis & Zellie Martin for Veneration. Refreshments 3-30 – 4pm. Donation €10. Organised by Achonry/Elphin Diocese of Apostolic Work.

St. Peter's N.S.

Are holding a Table Quiz on Thursday 15th October 8pm to raise money for school ICT upgrades. €40 per table, max team size: 4. Your support would greatly be appreciated.

Ss. Peter & Paul's Church Weekly Offertory Collection

Sunday September 27th € 1,615

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

Weekly Newsletter

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

October 4th, 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, 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

Clonown Mass Intentions for 3rd - 11th October

Sat. 3rd. 8pm (JW) Patrick and Margaret Curley, Clonellan.
Also, their daughter Mary.
Sun. 4th 10am (JD) Teresa McManus, Nure, Cornafulla. First Anniversary.
Tues. 6th 7pm (JW) Kathleen and Jim Carr, their son John. Also,
deceased members of the Brady and Carr families.
Thurs. 8th 7 pm (JW) Pat and Mary Ellen Duignan, Doohan.
Sat. 10th 8 pm (J) John Naughten, Ardkeenan.
Sun. 11th 10 am (J) Bernadette Shine, Kilty.

Clonown Mass Intentions for 4th - 11th October

Oct. 4th. at 11.15 a.m. Bernadette Dunning and her husband
James. Also, Maureen Dunning, Newrow.
Oct. 11th. at 11.15 a.m. Laurence, Rose and Sonny Shine,
Currnaboll. Also, deceased family
members.

A Prayer for the 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Loving Father, Thank you for planting us in the fertile soil of your love and for blessing our parish with all we need to grow.
You have trusted us to care for your vineyard. Forgive us for the times we have not produced the good fruit of kindness, justice, and peace. Give us the grace to listen to your Word, so that our lives may bring joy to your heart. St. Paul reminds us not to worry, but to bring everything to you in prayer. Fill our hearts with your divine peace—a peace that goes beyond our understanding.
Help us this week to think about what is true, noble, pure, and lovely, and to put it all into practice in our daily lives. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Retirement of Maura Hynes in Drum Sacristy

Wishing Maura, a sincere thank you for your 10 years of service in the Sacristy, your dedication, and all the little things you have done, often quietly and without any fuss, to make our celebrations possible. We pray that your retirement will bring you happiness, peace, good health and above all, that God will continue to bless you.

From all the Clergy & Parishioners

Irish Guide dogs for the Blind

are holding their Annual "Pet Blessing " on Saturday 10th October at 3.30pm at St. Peters and Paul's Church. Athlone. All welcome.

COME CRAFT WITH US

On Tuesday 6 October, we will be marking Baby Loss Month with a handcrafting Activity. Each person, please bring some fabric or a piece of clothing, to make a small cushion or heart-shaped memento out of. The Baby Loss in question may be your own, that of a family member, or a baby who lost it's life in a war-torn country. Join us at 10.00 till 1.00pm in Room 14, ACT building, Ball Alley Lane, Parnell Sq., Athlone. These monthly workshops are free of charge, thanks to the Athlone Family Resource Centre.

Monksland Community Mass

Will be held in the community centre on Thursday evening Octber 8th at 8pm. **All are Welcome. Tea, Scones and friendly chat afterwards**

SS Peter & Paul Church Mass Intentions

Saturday 5th October to Sunday 11th October 2026

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

Saturday 3rd Oct.

9.30 am (JD) Sean & Kathleen Fuery.
6.30 pm Vigil (JD) Breda Grenham - 1st Anniversary.
Betty Lawlor; Fran Murphy

Sunday 4th Oct.

9.00 am (DO) People of the Parish
12.00 pm (JD) Eileen Noone - 1st Anniversary.
Sr. Bernard Lynch. Johnny Lennon.
Maureen Byrne.

Monday 5th Oct.

9.30 am (JD) **No Intention Booked.**
Followed by Novena & Benediction

Tuesday 6th Oct.

9.30 am (JD) **No Intention Booked.**

Wednesday 7th Oct.

9.30 am (JD) Gerry Caldwell
6.00 pm (JW) Blessed Sacrament Chapel

Thursday 8th Oct.

9.30 am (SP) **No Intention Booked.**

Friday 9th Oct.

9.30 am (DO) Thomas Mannion
7.30 pm (JD) Christine Barry (Months Mind)
Evelyn Mulvey (Nee Curley) Frank Kearns;
John & Bessie Harrington and dec. members
of the Barlow Family (Lyster Street)

Saturday 10th Oct.

9.30 am (SP) John Hynes
6.30 pm Vigil (J) Anne Fitzpatrick and Marie Fitzpatrick 1st

Sunday 11th Oct.

9.00 am (DO) People of the Parish
12.00 pm (J) Pat Gavin; Moppy Fallon: Fred & Brenda
Madden and their Son Brendan and
Daughters Freda & Joan.