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

Weekly Newsletter
Feast of Christ the King
November 22nd, 2026



Parish Contact Details

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Ss. Peter & Paul's Office:	**Tues - Fri 9.30am - 1pm**
Secretary: Martina Mc Sweeney,	090 - 6492171
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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
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Parish Organist:	
PJ Stacey	087 248 6206
Folk Group:	
Frank Conroy	086 860 5333
Safeguarding Rep:	
Lisa Malone	089 4724744
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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 21st November – 29th November

Sat. 21st	**8pm (JW)**	Thomas Naughton, Clonark and deceased family members.
Sun. 22nd	**10am (SP)**	Gemma Henry, Clonellan.
Tues. 24th	**7pm (JW)**	Pat Manning, Crannaghbeg -Birthday remembrance.
Thurs. 26th	**7pm (JW)**	P.J. Watson, Rockfield, Drum.
Sat. 28th	**8pm (JD)**	**First Sunday of Advent** Maureen Dunning, Thomastown.
Sun. 29th	**10am (JW)**	Jodie Harney, Crannaghmore **Followed by Rosary in the cemetery weather permitting.**

Drum Parish Office will be close until Monday 30th November. For any queries, please contact the parish office on **090 6492171.**

SS Peter & Paul Church Mass Intentions
Saturday 21st November to Sunday 29th November 2026
ALL MASSES ARE LIVE STREAMED on www.churchservices.tv/athlone

Saturday 21st Nov.		
9.30 am	**(DO)**	Agatha Odjegba.
6.30 pm Vigil	**(JD)**	**Memorial Mass for all those who have died during the year.** Teresa Bell **– Month's Mind.** Maureen Ryan **– 1st Anniversary.** John (The Count) Mc Cormack – **1st Anniversary.**
Sunday 22nd Nov.		
9.00 am	**(DO)**	**People of the Parish**
12.00 pm	**(JW)**	Martin Mc Neill **– Month's Mind.** Martin, Mary, Mark, Liam & Rita O'Connor. James & Margaret Malynn. Michael Kenny & deceased family members. Colm Shine & his wife Fraces who recently passed away. Agatha Odjegba.
Monday 23rd Nov.		
9.30 am	**(SP)**	Bridget Harris and sons David & Raymond. Agatha Odjegba. **Followed by Novena & Benediction**
Tuesday 24th Nov.		
9.30 am	**(SP)**	**No Intention Booked.**
Wednesday 25th Nov.		
9.30 am	**(JW)**	**No Intention Booked.**
6.00 pm	**(JD)**	**Blessed Sacrament Chapel**
Thursday 26th Nov.		
9.30 am	**(JD)**	Thomas, Mary & Michael Rattigan and dec. members of the Rattigan & Brennan families.
Friday 27th Nov.		
9.30 am	**(DO)**	Sean, Mary-Anne, Hubert & Kathleen Connolly.
7.30 pm	**(JD)**	Dolores O'Reilly **– Month's Mind.** Catherine Dolan Mc Cann, Rosie Davis & dec. members of the Mc Cann families. Kevin, Anne & Martin Devaney. Paddy, Padraig & Breege Sheriff. Robbie & Maura Mc Manus. Breda Carroll. Rosemary Brilly.
Saturday 28th Nov.		
9.30 am	**(JD)**	Brendan Mc Fadden & dec. family members.
6.30 pm Vigil	**(SP)**	**First Sunday of Advent** Gerry Mc Callon **– Month's Mind.** Maeve King (née Husssey) **– Month's Mind.** Bridie, Jimmy & Mark West and dec. family. Thomas Mulligan – Birthday Remembrance.
Sunday 29th Nov.		
9.00 am	**(DO)**	**People of the Parish**
12.00 pm	**(JD)**	Patricia Gibson. John, Kitty & Brian Keena and deceased members of the Kenna family, Lisdillure.

Church gate Collection
The Annual fund-raising collections for the charitable works of St. Vincent de Paul will take place on 5th & 6th December. All donations will be greatly appreciated.

Our Lady of the Wayside, Clonown
Mass Intentions for 22nd November – 29th November

22nd Nov.	**11.15 am (JD)**	Mary, James & Tommy Egan, Callowbeg and deceased family members.
29th Nov.	**11.15 am (SP)**	**First Sunday of Advent** Roddy & Bridget Hardiman, Drumlosh and deceased members of the Hardiman and Dunning families and Norma Shine.

Crowns, Candles, and Communion

As we wrap up the liturgical year this Sunday with the Feast of Christ the King, we are offered a striking contrast.

We celebrate a King—not adorned in temporal gold, worldly power, or guarded borders, but crowned with thorns, reigning from a cross, and measuring His authority by the depth of His mercy. Christ's kingship flips our human understanding of power upside down. He rules not by demanding service, but by giving His life away.

This particular week, that posture of humble love feels especially poignant as we also pause to remember our family members and relatives who have died over the past year.

In the rhythm of life, November can feel heavy. The days grow shorter, the chill sets in, and the empty seats at our tables feel a little more prominent. But the Feast of Christ the King meets us right in this grief with defiant hope. When we remember our beloved dead this week, we aren't just looking backward; we are looking toward the horizon of Christ's eternal kingdom. We entrust our mothers, fathers, grandparents, siblings, and friends into the care of the ultimate King—one whose jurisdiction extends over both the living and the dead, and whose love is stronger than the grave.

As you light a candle or whisper a name in prayer this week, may you be comforted by the truth that death does not have the final word. Our loved ones are not lost; they have simply crossed the threshold into the fullness of that Kingdom we pray for every time we say, *"Thy kingdom come."* May the gentle and merciful King bring you peace this week, and may He hold our departed loved ones safely in the palm of His hand until we meet again.

2027 Sunday Collection Envelopes

The new boxes and new numbers are currently being distributed throughout the parish. Should you wish to receive one and are not registered please contact the Parish office. By using the envelope system, it allows the parish to access the Charitable Donations Scheme through which the Government can in most cases contribute 30% on behalf of all who contribute more than €250 in a given tax year. This is at no cost to you and does **NOT** trigger a tax audit. We express out thanks for your ongoing support to the parish and our gratitude to the area distributers who deliver the boxes.

Exploring St. Johns Gospel

A Group exploring the riches of St. John's Gospel led by Fr Simon Peter continues **@ 8 pm** on Thursday **in Forthill House**. **All are welcome.**

Heating in Ss. Peter and Paul's Church

With the heat now on in Ss. Peter and Paul's Church We have already used almost €5,000 of oil in the church. We will endeavor to keep the church as warm as possible but if the church is cold on any occasion, please understand it is due to the cost and a lack of resources. **We will leave special envelopes at the back of the church for those who can help with the huge cost over the winter months. Thank you in anticipation of your generosity.**

St Joseph's/Colaiste Chiarain - Car Draw

Win a brand-new Mercedes-Benz GLA 180d Progressive Line Plus Polar White exterior colour with Beige Leather interior

Support children's soccer in the parish as we build our first home. The new 3G astro turf pitch will support young people in their club and school. Tickets can be purchased online at https://www.ccathlone.ie/ or you can also purchase tickets at the Colaiste Chiarain school reception. The draw will take place on News Years Eve in The Mill.

Old Athlone Society

Join the Old Athlone Society on Thursday, 26 November, as best-selling author Julie Parsons tells the fascinating story of her family, the Parsons of Parsons Shoes. From humble beginnings in Moate in 1847, the family business grew to five shops across the region, Julie's talk explores a remarkable family history of enterprise, ambition, courage and tragedy. All welcome, 8pm at the Shamrock Lodge Hotel.

Athlone Little Theatre

Athlone Little Theatre presents Four Short Plays - an eclectic mix of engaging storylines embracing love, kindness, intrigue and comic misunderstandings from Friday, November 27 to Wednesday, December 2 at 8pm, with a Sunday matinee only on November 29 at 3pm. The one-act plays featuring plenty of new talent in a cast of 19 include The Bishop's Candlesticks, Trifles, Enemies and the theatre's first production as Gaeilge, the hilarious comedy, Labhartar Béarla Anseo. Book online at www.athlonelittletheatre.ie or via Eventbrite. Tickets are €15.

Monksland Community Centre

are having an Indoor Christmas Market on the Saturday, 5th of December 11-**4pm** with over 25 stalls. All are welcome.

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
3003357	Caretaker / Grounds person Clonown Church & Parish Hall.
3003395	Caretaker / Grounds-person Gentex Football Club.
3003402	Caretaker / Grounds person Monksland Community Centre.
3003791	Environmental Worker Monksland Tidy Towns.
3003404	Caretaker / Grounds person Drum Church & Parish Hall.
2474696	Caretaker / Grounds person Drum Community Centre.
3002079	Caretaker / Grounds-person Athlone Boat Club.
3003356	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.

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.

Human Life International - Ireland 32 County Mission Night with relics of St Thérèse & The Holy Face. Tuesday 24th November, Creggan Court Hotel, Athlone from 7pm to 9pm. Free Admission, no booking required!

Ss. Peter & Paul's Church Weekly Offertory Collection
Sunday November 15th €1,660.
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