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

Weekly Newsletter
32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time
November 8th, 2026



Parish Contact Details

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Ss. Peter & Paul's Office:	**Tues - Fri 9.30am - 1pm**
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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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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 7th November – 15th November

Sat. 7th	**8pm (JD)**	John McManus and his parents Mai & Pat, Nure.
Sun. 8th	**10am (JW)**	Thomas Hynes, Drum Road.
Tues. 10th	**7pm (JW)**	Deceased members of the O'Reilly & Grenham families.
Thurs. 12th	**7pm (JW)**	Mary Strickland (née Caulfield) USA. Formerly Doohan.
Sat. 14th	**8pm (SP)**	Martin & Mai O'Rourke, Rathpeak. Thomsie Murray, Gorrynagowna.
Sun. 15th	**10am (JD)**	Colm Doyle, Bealnamulla **– 1st Anniversary.**

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 7th November to Sunday 15th November 2026
ALL MASSES ARE LIVE STREAMED on www.churchservices.tv/athlone

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.
Monday 9th Nov.		
9.30 am	**(SP)**	Patrick & Rose Kirby. Patrick & Vera O'Hanlon. **Followed by Novena & Benediction**
Tuesday 10th Nov.		
9.30 am	**(SP)**	**No Intention Booked.**
Wednesday 11th Nov.		
9.30 am	**(JD)**	Thomas Mulligan **– 1st Anniversary.** Patrick, Susan, Madge & Patrick Naughton and Rose Morgan. Eithne Kearney.
6.00 pm	**(JW)**	**Blessed Sacrament Chapel**
Thursday 12th Nov.		
9.30 am	**(JD)**	William & Mary Clarke Snr. and their son William Clarke Jnr. Noel, Mary & James Maher.
Friday 13th Nov.		
9.30 am	**(DO)**	**No Intention Booked.**
7.30 pm	**(SP)**	Pam Ward & daughters Sarah Smith & Patricia Ryan. Mary Vaughan. Mary, John, Tommy & Sean Keogh & dec.family. Mike & Vera Harney. Michelle Harney. Margaret Farrell. Tom & Bridget Keegan. Jack & Teresa Keegan. Nancy Glennon. Patsy & Betty Beaumont.Bernie & Phyliss Mack.
Saturday 14th Nov.		
9.30 am	**(DO)**	Seán Dillion.
6.30 pm Vigil	**(JW)**	Bernadette Geraghty **– 1st Anniversary.** Thomas Mulligan **– 1st Anniversary.** Jackie & Nellie Gough.
Sunday 15th Nov.		
9.00 am	**(DO)**	**People of the Parish**
12.00 pm	**(SP)**	Pat Watson **– 1st Anniversary.** Pat & Babs Treacy. Eamon Egan. Terry O'Neill, Summerhill. Ultan & Marie Shanahan. George Bannon.

Recently Deceased
Pray for the repose of the souls of
Maeve King (née Hussey), Parnell Square.
Thomas Anthony (Tom) O'Connor, Crannaghmore.
Michael McDermott (USA) formerly of Corbo, Roscommon.
May they rest in the peace of Christ.

Our Lady of the Wayside, Clonown
Mass Intentions for 8th November – 15th November

8th Nov.	**11.15 am (SP)**	James, Irene and Ronan Mulligan, Taylorstown.
15th Nov.	**11.15 am (JW)**	Jimmy Shine, Drumlosh **– 1st Anniv**

OUR LADY OF THE WAYSIDE

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.

Just a thought!

As the autumn days grow shorter and the crisp air reminds us that nature is settling in for its winter rest, the Church's liturgy turns our gaze toward the ultimate horizon of our lives. The scriptures for this 32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time invite us into a deep, beautiful meditation on readiness, anticipation, and the pursuit of true wisdom.

In our first reading, the Book of Wisdom personifies Wisdom as someone eagerly waiting to be found by those who seek her. She is not hidden away; she "readily lets herself be seen by those who love her." Wisdom, in the biblical sense, isn't about accumulating facts or worldly success. It is about making choices that align our hearts with God, ensuring we are prepared for the moments that matter most.

St. Paul, writing to the Thessalonians, encourages a community grappling with grief and the mystery of death. He reminds them—and us—that our faith gives us a unique lens on the future. We do not grieve as those "who have no hope." Instead, we live in the comforting assurance that whether we wake or sleep, we belong to the Lord.

This brings us to the famous and striking parable in today's Gospel: the ten bridesmaids waiting for the bridegroom. Five are wise, and five are foolish. The difference between them wasn't their desire to meet the bridegroom—all ten of them wanted to be there. The difference was preparation. The wise ones brought extra oil for their lamps, recognising that the journey might take longer than expected.

We live in a culture that loves instant gratification, yet the spiritual life requires endurance. The "oil" in our lamps represents the small, daily choices of faith that cannot be borrowed at the last minute: our quiet prayers, our acts of forgiveness, the time we spend loving our neighbour's, and the moments we allow God's grace to transform us. These are things we must cultivate over a lifetime.

As we gather around the Eucharistic table today, let us ask the Holy Spirit to replenish the oil in our lamps. May our parish be a community marked by watchful hope and joyful readiness, always keeping our hearts open to recognise Christ when He comes—whether in the quiet moments of today, in our neighbour in need, or at the end of time.

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 is nearing completion. We plan to be back in the church for Masses next weekend. The Cost or the redecoration is in the regions of €30,000. not including other works. We ask for your help in meeting the cost by using the special envelope which is now available at the back of Drum church. **Thank you for your support in this project.**

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

The Legion of Mary invite you to join them in praying the rosary for all our deceased relatives, friends and neighbours, in local graveyards during November:

- Sunday 8th November @ 3pm in Cornamagh Cemetery.
- Sunday 15th November @ 3 pm in Coosan Cemetery.

The Annual Memorial Mass for deceased staff of ESB Networks will be celebrated on Saturday, 14th November in The Bounty, Lower Deck @ 5.00

A Visit form the St. Elisabeth Community

Will take place this weekend in St. Peter & Paul's church on Saturday 7th & Sunday 8th November at all masses. They will have a small stall of their icons and crafts for sale. The aim of St Elisabeth Community is to follow the footsteps of our Convent's patron in heaven, Saint Elisabeth and helping disadvantaged poor people is a large part of our mission. At our farmsteads, we offer people in difficult life situations shelter, work**,** food and clothing, a chance to change their lives and an opportunity to meet God. We have established two farmsteads near Minsk - one for women and the other one for men.

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.

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.

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).

Ss. Peter & Paul's Church Weekly Offertory Collection
Sunday November 1st € 1,980.
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