

Mass intentions this Week in Ss. Peter & Paul's Parish

All Masses are streamed on www.churchservices.tv/athlone.

For the duration of the Coronavirus restrictions the Masses will not be said in public to conform with Government Policy & for the protection or health.

The Rosary will be recited each weekday before Mass

Sunday March 22nd	11 a.m.	Mass for the people of the parish; Morgan Keena Months Mind Ned, Nell & John Anthony McManus; Tommy Kelly; Pakie, Michael and Chris Harney, Clonrulla. Willie and Kathleen Ward, Currnaboll.
Monday:	9.30 a.m.	Michael & Bridie Nolan The Goode Family
Tuesday	9.30 a.m.	Christy & Molly Willis & Dec Family Members
Wednesday	9:30 a.m.	Thanksgiving Mass Patrick Gallagher, Craigavon.
Thursday:	9.30 a.m.	May McNeill
Friday:	9 30 a.m.	Jackie & Molloy Keane, Betty Tumulty Hughie Martin, PJ Gordon, Phil Dawson, Mary Kate & Denis O'Callaghan, Tom & Maura Fitzgerald, Niall Fitzgerald & Deceased family members, Jane & James Connaughton, Billy, Molly, Junie & Carol Dowling, Mary Ellen Whyte, Thomastown.
Saturday March 29nd	9.30 a.m.	Sean Dowling (1st Anniversary), John Cox, John Joe Meares, Curryroe.
Sunday	11am	Mass for the people of the parish Margaret & Edward Mulligan, John Lafferty. Paddy & Teresa Greene, Formerly of Creggan Kathleen Shine, Currnaboll. Also, deceased family members.

Bell Circle & Parish Bingo

Main Prize Winners March 16th

€200: Deirdre Moran, €50: Ann & Gerry €30: Mary Kelly

Inter-Parish Bingo and Bell Circle is cancelled for the foreseeable future to comply with the Coronavirus restrictions

Accord - Marriage Care

Accord is recruiting Marriage Preparation Facilitators to present Pre- Marriage courses in the Elphin Diocese. Centres are located in Sligo, Boyle and Roscommon. Full training provide. Facilitators are part voluntary and part paid. Selection and training will take place later this year. Full details from Anne at 071-9145641 or Email accordsligo@eircom.net Also, Counselling Services are available at the Sligo Centre for any problems that couples may have in their relationship. Professional and confidential service is available by contacting Anne for an appointment at Accord Sligo 071-9145641

St. Peter & Pauls Parish

Athlone, Drum, Clonown

Parish Newsletter

22nd March 2020

**Fourth Sunday in Lent
Mothers Day**



Our Parish on-line

Email: stpetersparishathlone@gmail.com
www.sspeterandpaulsparishathlone.com

Facebook.com/Sspeterandpaulsparish -

Twitter ; @stpetersathlone

Live Camera Feed

www.churchservices.tv/athlone

Contact Details

Fr. John Deignan P.P.

(10 Ashford, Monksland) 090—6490874 frjohndeignan@gmail.com

Ss. Peter & Paul's Office

Forthill House Secretary Ciara O'Connell 090 -6492171

Monday - Friday 9.30am - 1pm stpetersparishathlone@gmail.com

Fr. Bernard Ngalame C.C.

Forthill House, Battery Road, 089 4678885

Fr. Michael Hickey CSSp

(Drum / Clonown Areas) 090-6437125

Drum area Office

Catherine Higgins, Secretary 090 6437125 drumparish1@gmail.com

Deacon Tony Larkin

085 7392473 / deacontony17@gmail.com

Parish Organist;

Mr PJ Stacey 087 2486206

Safeguarding Officer;

Fr. John Deignan P. P.

Parish Pastoral Council;

Colm Naughton, Chairperson c/o Parish Office

Parish Finance Committee

Marie McEvilly, Chairperson c/o Parish Office

Sacristy Ss. Peter & Paul's Church (attended at Mass times only) 090 -6494150

Sacristans'

Christine Kenny & Tom O'Neill

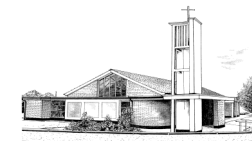
Baptism, Confirmation & Marriage Certificates are issued from the Sacristy



**Ss. Peter & Paul's
Church, Athlone**



**St. Brigid's Church,
Drum**



**Church of Our Lady of the
Wayside, Clonown**

A thought on today's Gospel

As the story unfolds, the man's eyes were fully opened, including the eyes of his mind. Jesus was intent on healing the whole person, body and soul. When the man in today's gospel knew how fully he was healed, he fell on his knees, full of worship and joy.

- Could we too share in his gift of healing? The greatest good we can do for other people is not given with money, though that has its proper place, but by helping them count their blessings and revealing their own value to them. It is good to help others feel affirmed, loved and appreciated. Many people are burdened with a poor self-image, and they may not see the good in themselves. That is a form of blindness in others that any of us can help to heal. The most certain proof that Christ lives in us is our willingness and ability to affirm and bring a blessing to other people.

Ongoing Pastoral Care in our Parish

The Priests of the Parish remain available to help and assist parishioners during this period of restrictions. Please do not hesitate to contact us if we can be of any help.

Fr. John Deignan P.P.	090-6490874	frjohndeignan@gmail.com
Fr. Bernard Ngalame C.C.	090-6492171	bernardngalame@gmail.com
Fr. Michael Hickey CSSp	090-6437125	michaelhickeycssp@gmail.com

Masses in the Parish this week

For the duration of the Covid-19 restrictions Mass will be celebrated each weekday Monday thru Saturday in Ss. Peter & Paul's Church at 9.30am and on Sunday's at 11am.

Any Mass intentions that were booking in any of the three churches will be included in this Mass. While this Mass will be said in private you can join us on-line through our webcam on **www.churchservices.tv/athlone**

Mass on Sunday March 22nd

On Sunday March 22nd we welcome Bishop Kevin Doran as main celebrant of our 11am Mass.

St Peters Parish Covid-19 Community Response Group

A voluntary community response group has been established in the Parish of Ss Peter and Paul's Athlone (Including Drum & Clonown Areas) to assist those who may be self isolating or lonely at this time.

At this time we have more than 50 volunteers with cars ready to respond and a number of volunteer co-ordinators manning a dedicated number 24/7.

This service is available 24 hours a day to ALL those living in the Geographical area of Ss. Peter & Paul's Parish.

Please note the role of the group is to assist with getting supplies / prescriptions etc to those who cannot get out. We are also available to those who are feeling lonely, we can organise someone from their own area to telephone them for a friendly chat

The group **DO NOT** give advice on Covid-19.

For Assistance 24 / 7 call 087 7195022

Living in St. Mary's Parish area and need help Call 0906 6472088

NO Masses in Clonown Church due to the Coronavirus restrictions.

All booked intentions will be included in the Mass from Ss. Peter & Paul's Church each day.

This Mass can be viewed on our Webcam at

www.churchservices.tv/athlone

See back page for intention details

NO Masses in Drum Church due to the Coronavirus restrictions.

All booked intentions will be included in the Mass from Ss. Peter & Paul's Church each day.

This Mass can be viewed on our Webcam at www.churchservices.tv/athlone

See back page for intention details

Mothers Day

Today we celebrate Mothers Day. We give thanks today for the gift of our mothers, women who shaped us into the people that we are. We pray that God will continue to bless our mothers with health and happiness and for those whom he has called home the reward of eternal life.

Caring for the Community

During the Covid-19 emergency we call all play a part to keep the spirit of our community up.

- Telephone someone you know who is living alone or self isolating.
- Share happy stories with those you talk to.
- Maintain Social distancing no matter where you are and be aware of hand washing.
- Stop treating social media posts as true and check credible facts on www.hse.ie
- Spend quality time, not internet time, with those you are living with.
- Pray as a family / housemates

A thought from Bishop Kevin:

I encourage every young person to develop the habit of sitting in the presence of God in some quiet place. Ask Him to give you the wisdom to recognise the gifts that he has given you and to show you how he wants you to use them. Look at what is in your heart; not just on the surface but deep down. Don't be afraid to share your questions and your hopes with some wise person of faith whom you trust. Take your time. God has all the time in the world. (Bishop Kevin, Some Definite Service, Pastoral Letter on Discipleship and Mission in Changing Times, 2019)

Prayers at Home

In these extraordinary times when we cannot gather for Mass the Irish Catholic Bishops Conference have prepared some prayer resources.

www.elphindiocese.ie/prayers-at-home-when-gathering-for-mass-is-not-possible/

Or on www.catholicbishops.ie

Printed copies of some of these resources will be available at the churches in the parish.

Thought for the Week on Vocation:

Saint John Paul II reminds us, that, an ordained priest is essential for the Eucharist. That is because the Eucharist is something that Jesus does, not something we do. He does it through the ministry of the priest who, by ordination, becomes Christ for the community that he is called to serve. (Bishop Kevin, Some Definite Service, Pastoral Letter on Discipleship and Mission in Changing Times, 2019)

Vocations Prayer Focus for Lent - Diocesan Year of Vocations.

"Ask the Lord of the harvest to send labourers into His harvest" (Mt 9:38). During the season of Lent you are encouraged to offer your prayers and good works on Thursdays for the intention of an increase of vocations to the priesthood, diaconate and religious life in our diocese. In particular if you can spend some time in adoration or pray all or part of the Luminous Mysteries of the Rosary. Our diocese needs your help in responding to this critical command of Jesus to pray for vocations.

Please contact Frank McGuinness, Director of Vocations for all matters related to the encouragement of vocations.