

Mass intentions this Week in Ss. Peter & Paul's Parish  
 All Masses are streamed on [www.churchservices.tv/athlone](http://www.churchservices.tv/athlone).  
 There are no Masses in Drum or Clonown Churches due to the Coronavirus restrictions.  
 All booked intentions will be included in the Mass from  
 Ss. Peter & Paul's Church each day.

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

Sunday 31st May 11:00 am

People of the Parish; Michael Hannon; Baby Ciara Gavin;  
 Bill & Peg Fallon; Newtown; Anthony & Mary Ellen Whyte,  
 Thomastown; Tony Whyte; Matty Redmond. James O'Reilly  
 1st Anniv. & wife Margaret

Monday 9:30 am

Elizabeth Studdert (Months Mind)

Tuesday 9:30 am

Eileen O Dowd, Killeshandra (Months Mind)

Wednesday 9:30 am

Members of Midland Region, Order of Malta.

Thursday 9:30 am

James Duffy, Clonark.

Friday 9:30 am

Mary Dolan, Curraghaleen. 1st. Anniv.  
 Michael & Bridget Hardiman, Drumlosh. Also, Dec members  
 of the Hardiman and Dunning families. John O'Hara,  
 Carmel Kenny, Patrick, Maureen & Patsy Beaumont,  
 Tommy Carberry, Teresa Waters  
 Michael & Ciss Galvin Also, Dec family members.  
 James & Maura Henry. Mount Florence

Saturday 9:30 am

Sunday June 7th 11:00 am

People of the Parish; Betty Cuniffe (Months Mind);  
 Hubert & Mary Naughton, Doohan and Dec members of  
 the Naughton Family. Tommy Grenham, Buggane and Dec  
 family members. James & Mary Sherlock, John Sherlock,  
 Sean McCann. Sheila Quain Birthday Remembrance.

### Prayers at Home

In these extraordinary times when we cannot gather for Mass, we would encourage you to download and print out this prayer booklet for use at home. Perhaps consider printing off some copies to pass on to people who may not have internet access. While you can pray this at any time, a good time to do so would be at the time Mass is normally celebrated in your local parish.

[www.elphindiocese.ie/prayers-at-home-when-gathering-for-mass-is-not-possible/](http://www.elphindiocese.ie/prayers-at-home-when-gathering-for-mass-is-not-possible/)

### St Vincent de Paul

We are living in very strange times. Covid 19 has changed our lives in so many ways. At this time we are all encouraged to reach out to our neighbours, to help and to give to others who are in need. But we must also remember that we all need help sometimes.

Please contact SVP on (091) 563 233 or email [info.west@svp.ie](mailto:info.west@svp.ie) or [www.svp.ie](http://www.svp.ie)



## May 31st 2020 Feast of Pentecost



St. Peter & Paul's Parish  
 Athlone, Drum, Clonown

## Parish Newsletter

### Our Parish on-line

Email: [stpetersparishathlone@gmail.com](mailto:stpetersparishathlone@gmail.com)

[www.sspeterandpaulsparishathlone.com](http://www.sspeterandpaulsparishathlone.com)

Facebook.com/Sspeterandpaulsparish -

Twitter ; @stpetersathlone

### Live Camera Feed

[www.churchservices.tv/athlone](http://www.churchservices.tv/athlone)

### Ongoing Pastoral Care in our Parish

We remain available to respond to sick calls, pastoral needs or if you want a chat during this period of restrictions. Please do not hesitate to contact us if we can be of any help.

**For Sick / House Call requests please call Fr. John 0906 6490874**

Fr. John Deignan P.P.

090-6490874

[frjohndeignan@gmail.com](mailto:frjohndeignan@gmail.com)

Fr. Bernard Ngalame C.C.

090 -6492171

[bernardngalame@gmail.com](mailto:bernardngalame@gmail.com)

Fr. Michael Hickey CSSp

090-6437125

[michaelhickeycssp@gmail.com](mailto:michaelhickeycssp@gmail.com)

**The Parish Offices in Forthill House & Drum are closed for the foreseeable future**

### 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 cocooned, to get groceries, medications etc., or lonely at this time.

**For Assistance 24 / 7 call 087 7195022**

### COVID-19 Support Line for Older People

ALONE has launched a national support line and additional supports for older people who have concerns or are facing difficulties relating to the outbreak of COVID-19 (Coronavirus). Professional staff are available to answer queries and give advice and reassurance where necessary.

The support line is open seven days a week, 8am - 8pm, by calling 0818 222 024.

### Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus,

I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.

I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul.

Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally,

come at least spiritually into my heart.

I embrace You as if You were already there and unite me wholly to You.

Never permit me to be separated from You.

**Amen.**

### A thought on today's readings

- Paul is saying that wherever we find love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, trustfulness, gentleness and self-control, the Spirit is there at work. The Spirit becomes visible in and through these qualities and virtues. The person who most of all had those qualities was Jesus because he was full of the Holy Spirit, full of the life of God.
- In his letter to the Romans he has the wonderful statement, 'God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us'. He also indicates in today's 2nd Reading (1 Cor) that the Spirit is at work in our lives, to make us more like Jesus. The good things people do are all manifestations of the Spirit of God. The spiritual is not something other-worldly; it is humanity at its best.
- In the Pentecost story, humanity appears at its best, united and sharing in wisdom. Pentecost brought about a wonderful bonding of people from all over the Roman Empire. They were united in admiring and praising the marvels of God. In spite of differences of language and culture there was a real communion among them. Wherever communion of heart and mind exist among people of different backgrounds, the Holy Spirit is at work. Unity in diversity is the mark of the Spirit.
- Jesus points out another manifestation of the Spirit: the pursuit of truth. Only the Spirit can lead us to the complete truth. If someone is genuinely seeking for truth, and willing to engage in good works with others, there the Spirit is at work. Fullness of truth and love is always beyond us; but the Spirit is given to lead us towards the complete truth and love, in all its height and depth.

### Parish Finances

I am very aware of the stresses on people financially throughout this period of restrictions, however following on from a number of enquiries regarding contributing financially to the parish during these days of restrictions. There are a number of ways you can do so.

- You can arrange to have your envelopes / contribution dropped into one of the Priests houses.
- You can place your weekly contribution aside each week and drop them all in together when the restrictions are lifted.
- You could organise to set up a standing order from your bank each week / month
- you can donate directly to Ss. Peter & Paul's Parish through a link on the diocesan website on [www.elphindiocese.ie](http://www.elphindiocese.ie).

As you are aware normally a collection for the support of the priests working in the parish is taken up on Pentecost. Due to the restrictions we cannot take this up in the normal way. If you wish to contribute to this fund please mark your envelope / donation "Pentecost" and include your name / address or envelope number. These can be dropped to any of the priests or the sacristy at Ss. Peter and Paul's church. Due to a lack of funds in this account the priests have agreed to receive a reduced salary for the time being.

Thank you to all who responded to the call to drop in envelopes last weekend. Based on the information to hand at the moment we hope to celebrate our first public Mass on Monday July 20th, but do not yet know what if any restrictions will apply when we do. We will keep you informed as we get nearer the date and look forward to seeing you all again in church.

Fr. John

### What is Pentecost and why is it important?

The festival of Pentecost commemorates the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles and other followers of Jesus Christ while they were in Jerusalem celebrating the Feast of Weeks. In the Christian tradition, this event represents the birth of the early church.

### Mass for Confirmation Candidates

On Pentecost Sunday, (Today) when we celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit, Bishop Kevin invites the boys and girls who are preparing for Confirmation, and their families, to join him for Mass online from St Patrick's Church, Strandhill at 11.00 am. [churchservices.tv/strandhill](http://churchservices.tv/strandhill)

### Confirmation Class 2020

On the Feast of Pentecost we remember the Candidates who should have received the Holy Spirit in Confirmation in April.

Today as you join Bishop Kevin on line for Mass from Strandhill we pray for you here in our parish. We pray that as you prepare to welcome the Holy Spirit into your lives that you will always be inspired and guided by that spirit to be the best people you can be by helping and encouraging all you meet along the path of life.

We also think of you as you prepare to make the big step from Primary School into secondary School, an exciting and at times anxious time, but one filled with opportunity and the possibility of lots of new friends.

We will let you know about a new confirmation date as soon as we are told it is safe for us to go ahead and plan for it.

***"Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love. Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created. And You shall renew the face of the earth".***

**Thought:** To the servant of God, every place is the right place, and every time the right time, (St. Catherine of Siena)

### Stay with us Lord; for it is almost Evening—Short Online Reflections

Stay with us Lord; for it is almost Evening – Short Online Reflections

The six Western Dioceses (the Tuam Province) have planned a new initiative as part of the ongoing response to the pastoral challenge presented by COVID-19.

One of the important Gospel stories of these Easter days is the account of how the two disciples met the Risen Jesus on the road to Emmaus and how they asked him: "Stay With Us Lord ; it is almost Evening". With this in mind, we are inviting you to join us for a short (20 min.) Reflection, each Sunday evening at 6.30 pm between now and Pentecost. Each reflection will be given by a different guest presenter and will be broadcast on webcam from a different location in the West. The final reflection is this Sunday 31st May. Fr John Kenny will give the reflection live from St Mary's Church, Westport in the Archdiocese of Tuam. You can watch at [www.facebook.com/stmaryswestport/](http://www.facebook.com/stmaryswestport/)

### Trócaire Box Return

Please return any Trocaire Boxes to one of the Priests or to the Sacristy at Ss. Peter & Paul's Church as soon as you can. Thank You

### Novena

Sincere thank you to all who left flowers for the altar at the picture of Our Lady of perpetual help during our 9 days of Novena Prayers.

**Please remember to check in on your neighbours especially those who live alone or are elderly, a phone call or a kind gesture can make a huge difference to many.**