



Rialtas na hÉireann  
Government of Ireland



The Mother and Baby Institutions Payment Scheme is open for applications. The Payment Scheme provides financial payments and health supports to people who spent time in Mother and Baby and County Home Institutions in the Republic of Ireland. For further information, please visit [gov.ie/paymentscheme](http://gov.ie/paymentscheme) call our helpline at +353 1 522 9992, or scan the QR code:

Family Carer Training in Louth, an upcoming course ***“Insights into Dementia – Informing and Empowering Family Carers”***, designed specifically for family carers and supporters. This 7-week face-to-face course offers valuable information, practical guidance, and emotional support for those caring for a loved one living with dementia. Venue: Fairways Hotel, Dublin Rd, Haggardstown, Dundalk, A91 E6KC, Mondays 9th February- 23rd March 2026, 7:00pm – 9:30pm. Further details from Alyson Greville 087 033 1480

The next meeting of the **Drogheda COPD Support Group** takes place on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> February 2026, 2.30pm – 4.00pm, in The Barbican Centre, Drogheda. Light refreshments are served and all are welcome to attend. Exercise classes take place every Monday, also in the Barbican Centre, Drogheda from 12noon-1.00pm. Classes are €5 each. For further details, contact Peter 087 807 1138 or Oliver 083 415 6104.

### St Peter's Parish National Schools

#### Common Application and Enrolment - Junior Infants September

Presentation Primary School, St Brigid's & St Patrick's NS., St Joseph's CBS, St Oliver's NS., (all co-ed, i.e. boys and girls). Parents/Guardians may obtain an application form and explanatory notes from any participating school and from local creches (also available online from schools). **Wednesday 4th February 2026** - closing date for completed applications at 12.00 noon at school of first choice, including birth certificate and proof of address, dated within three months of application (e.g. utility bill).

**Scoil Aonghusa:** Application forms for Junior Infant pupils for September 2026 are now available from Scoil Aonghusa, Drogheda's Irish language primary school, or on our website [www.scoilaonghusa.com](http://www.scoilaonghusa.com) Completed application forms to be returned to [oifig.scoilaonghusa@gmail.com](mailto:oifig.scoilaonghusa@gmail.com) or to Scoil Aonghusa, Sunday's Gate, Drogheda A92 PY18 Contact details: 041 9832531 [oifig.scoilaonghusa@gmail.com](mailto:oifig.scoilaonghusa@gmail.com)

The **Parish Newsletter** is available at the back of the churches throughout the week. Items for the Parish Newsletter may be emailed to [office@sppd.ie](mailto:office@sppd.ie) or handed into the Parish Office by 6.00pm on Wednesday each week.

## St Peter's Parish Newsletter

St Oliver's Pastoral Area

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary - St Brigid, Abbess, Secondary Patron of Ireland

1<sup>st</sup> February 2026

Canon Eugene Sweeney PP  
Fr Aidan Murphy PE, AP  
Fr Cleophas Lungu, Priest in Residence  
Fr Desmond Branigan CC  
Fr Piotr Wojtala CC  
Deacons: David Durrigan & John Taaffe

St Peter's Parochial House 041 983 8537  
St Peter's Presbytery 041 983 8239

Our Lady of Lourdes Presbytery 041 983 1899

St Peter's Church Sacristy 041 984 5355  
Our Lady of Lourdes Church Sacristy 041 983 1973

[www.sppd.ie](http://www.sppd.ie)

Email [office@sppd.ie](mailto:office@sppd.ie)



### St Brigid

Brigid lived the Beatitudes. Born around the year 454 in Faughart, Co Louth, she followed her calling to dedicate her life to God. Her life was marked by welcoming the stranger and offering hospitality to all, her care for the sick and the poor, and in her concern for animals, nature and the Earth. Brigid died on 1st February 524 and according to a certain tradition, is buried in Downpatrick, with the other two patrons of Ireland, St Patrick and St Columcille. The Brigid's Cross woven from rushes, expressed her Christian faith. All crosses will be blessed at the Sunday Vigil and morning Masses, today 1st February.

***A Naomh Bríd, a Mhuire na nGael, guí orainne.***

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> February is the **Feast of the Presentation of the Lord, Candlemas Day** and **World Day for Consecrated Life**.

Blessing of candles at all Masses. We thank the Lord for the great witness of the Augustinians, the Medical Missionaries of Mary, and the Dominican Contemplatives (Siena Monastery) in our parish. We also remember all deceased Religious from many Orders who served in Drogheda, and those living, now based elsewhere.

Tomorrow, Monday, is the **St Brigid Bank Holiday**. There will be no 8.30am Mass in St Peter's Church. Mass as usual in Our Lady of Lourdes Church at 10.00am, and in St Peter's Church at 10.30am.

Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> February is the **Feast of St Blaise**. Communal and individual blessing of throats at all morning and evening Masses with a number of priests present.

### Mass Times

**St Peter's Church**  
**Monday to Friday**  
8.30am & 10.30am  
Tuesday also  
St Anthony's Novena  
7.30pm  
**Saturday** 10.30am  
Vigil 6.15pm  
**Sunday** 8.00am &  
11.00am  
**Our Lady of Lourdes Church**  
**Monday to Saturday**  
10.00am  
**Saturday** Vigil 7.00pm  
**Sunday** 9.00am,  
10.30am & 12noon

**St Peter's Church Shop:** Monday to  
Thursday 11.00am –  
2.00pm  
Friday 11.00am –  
3.00pm  
Saturday 11.00am –  
2.00pm

Email [office@sppd.ie](mailto:office@sppd.ie)

**The Barbican**  
St Peter's Parish  
Centre  
041-980 7416



### **Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes, World Day of the Sick, Sunday 8th February.**

The Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes will be celebrated in Our Lady of Lourdes Church on Sunday 8th February, with a Mass at 3.00pm. **Bishop Michael Ruter**, Auxiliary Bishop of Armagh, Chair, Council for Healthcare, Irish episcopal Conference, **will celebrate and preach**. As it is World Day of the Sick individual anointing of the sick will take place at the Mass. Special Lourdes candles will be available in Our Lady of Lourdes Church (€2 each or 3 for €5). These candles may be used in your home, or left in the basket provided in the Church. Candles will be lit on the Feast-day at the Shrine of Our Lady of Lourdes for your intentions. Pope Leo in 2026 for World Day of the Sick invites us to consider the Samaritan's compassion and how we too can offer love by bearing the pain of others.

**St Peter's Church Eucharistic Adoration** Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament in St Peter's Church is as follows: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel; Wednesday in the main body of the church. Hours of Adoration, 11.00am – 4.00pm (Tuesday to 7.00pm).

**Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament** in **Our Lady of Lourdes Church**, Sunday afternoon, 1.00pm – 4.00pm, except the First Sunday of each month when exposition does not take place.

***All Masses are streamed live by webcam. [www.sppd.ie](http://www.sppd.ie) or [www.churchservices.tv](http://www.churchservices.tv) (Drogheda).***

**Confessions** are held as follows:

St Peter's Church, Wednesdays and Saturdays, 12.30–1.00pm;

Saturday evening in both churches 30 minutes before the Vigil Mass.

**Anniversaries and Month's Minds** may be given in person or telephoned to

St Peter's Sacristy, 041 984 5355, Monday – Saturday, 9.00am -1.00pm or

Our Lady of Lourdes Church Sacristy, 041 983 1973, Monday – Saturday, 9.30am - 12.30pm. Mass Stipend may be given via credit / debit card by telephone.

**Baptisms:** Please contact the sacristies to arrange dates or to register. Our Lady of Lourdes Church every Saturday at 5.00pm. Register at Our Lady of Lourdes Church Sacristy, Thursday – Saturday, 9.30am -12noon. Tel 041 983 1973.

St Peter's Church every Sunday at 12.15pm. Register at St Peter's Church Sacristy, Monday – Saturday, 9.00am -1.00pm. Tel 041 984 5355.

**God First St Peter's Youth Group** for teenagers 13-17 years old, meets on the second and fourth Friday of each month in the Family Room of Our Lady of Lourdes Church.

**St Vincent de Paul** (Freephone 1800 67 77 77) continues to be ready to help anyone in need.

**Samaritans** (supporting those in emotional distress 24/7) Freephone number 116 123.

**Aware** 1800 80 48 48. **Drogheda River Rescue Emergency** 089 250 5562.

**St Vincent de Paul church gate** collection will be held this weekend.

**Pope Leo's intention for February:** For children with incurable diseases: Let us pray that children suffering from incurable diseases and their families receive the necessary medical care and support, never losing strength and hope.

Friday 6<sup>th</sup> February is the **first Friday** of the month. The clergy will visit the sick in accordance with Government and diocesan norms, but only after consultation with the person concerned or their family. Please contact the parish office, either sacristy or any priest if you or your loved one would like a visit.

The **Divine Mercy Chaplet** is recited after the 10.00am Mass in Our Lady of Lourdes Church each First Friday.

The monthly Mass in honour of the **Sacred Heart** (Pioneer Association) will be celebrated on Friday at 10.30am in St Peter's Church.

### **Reception of Holy Communion**

When receiving Holy Communion in both churches, typically approach the priest, deacon or minister in one or two lines and then return to your seat by the wall or column. For those approaching the distribution point from the side (e.g., side aisles in St Peter's Church, seats near the walls or family room in Our Lady of Lourdes Church) please stand close to the sanctuary or to the seat nearest the Minister to allow for safe and dignified reception of Communion and movement for all. Those not able to come to any distribution point should raise their hand, or someone with them should do so, and the Minister/Cleric will go to them. Those requiring a gluten-free host should mention this to the priest/sacristan before Mass or to the priest at Holy Communion time.

Thank you for your cooperation.

### **Parish Collection for the weekend of 24<sup>th</sup>/25<sup>th</sup> January 2026**

Loose €1,630 Envelopes €1,075 Tap to Donate €443 Total €3,148

### **Deaths**



**We pray for the recently deceased** David Curran, Mellifont Park, Jennifer Rooney, Moneymore, Sylvie Kierans, Maureen McCrumlish Altolaguirre, Gus Mathews, Philip Thornton, Rita Cowley, Geraldine Rock, Deirdre Copas, Maggie Thornton, Ciaran Hogan, Kathleen McQuillan, Jim Fulcher.  
**May they rest in peace.**

**Drogheda Community Services** provide a one-to-one Bereavement Counselling Service at Dermot Kierans Centre, Scarlet Crescent, Drogheda. This is a free service. To make an appointment please call 041 983 6084 or email [info@droghedacsc.net](mailto:info@droghedacsc.net)

**Armagh Diocesan Annual Pilgrimage to Lourdes** takes place from 10th – 15th May 2026. Booking or further information contact Cora at [dundalklourdescommittee@gmail.com](mailto:dundalklourdescommittee@gmail.com) or phone 087 261 0026.