

Christmas 2023 / New Year 2024

Masses

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Sunday 24th December

St Peter's Church	6.15pm (Vigil), 8.00am, 11.00am
Our Lady of Lourdes Church	7.00pm (Vigil), 9.00am, 10.30am, 12.00 noon

The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, Christmas Vigil - Sunday 24th December

Our Lady of Lourdes Church	4.00pm, 6.00pm, 8.00pm
St Peter's Church	5.00pm, 7.00pm, 9.00pm

The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, Christmas Day - Monday 25th December

St Peter's Church	8.00am, 11.00am
Our Lady of Lourdes Church	9.00am, 10.30am, 12.00 noon

Weekdays 26th – 30th December

Our Lady of Lourdes Church	10.00am
St Peter's Church	10.30am

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

Sunday 31st December

St Peter's Church	6.15pm (Vigil), 8.00am, 11.00am
Our Lady of Lourdes Church	7.00pm (Vigil), 9.00am, 10.30am, 12.00noon

Mary, The Holy Mother of God, New Year's Day – Monday 1st January

Our Lady of Lourdes Church	11.00am
St Peter's Church	12.00 noon

The Epiphany of the Lord –

Saturday 6th January

St Peter's Church	8.30am, 10.30am
Our Lady of Lourdes Church	7.30pm (Vigil), 10.00am

Confessions for Christmas

Penance Service – Monday 18th December

Our Lady of Lourdes Church	7.30pm
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Saturday 23rd December

St Peter's Church	12.00 noon – 2.00pm
Our Lady of Lourdes Church	12.00 noon – 2.00pm

Throughout the Year

St Peter's Church, Wednesday & Saturday	12.30pm – 1.00pm
Both Churches, 30 minutes before Saturday Vigil Mass	

All Masses are streamed live by webcam.

www.sppd.ie or www.churchservices.tv (Drogheda).

Items for the Parish Newsletter may be emailed to office@sppd.ie or handed into the Parish Office by Wednesday evening each week.

St Peter's Parish Newsletter

St Oliver's Pastoral Area

Third Sunday of Advent (Cycle B)

Gaudete Sunday

17th December 2023

Canon Eugene Sweeney PP	St Peter's Parochial House	041-9838537
Fr Aidan Murphy PE,AP	St Peter's Presbytery	041-9838239
Fr Cleophas Lunga, Priest in Residence		
Fr Desmond Branigan CC	Our Lady of Lourdes Presbytery	041-9831899
Fr Piotr Wojtala CC		
Deacons David Durrigan & John Taaffe		

St Peter's Church Sacristy	041-9845355
Our Lady of Lourdes Church Sacristy	041-9831973

www.sppd.ie

Email office@sppd.ie

X@PetersDrogheda



Masses will be broadcast live by webcam

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 - 6.00pm.

Email office@sppd.ie

The Barbican,

St Peter's Parish Centre

041 980 7416

As we journey in Advent and look forward to Christmas, we celebrate our joy at the coming of the Lord. Joy, prayer and thanksgiving should characterise Christian worship. Because the man of integrity has come with good news for the poor, we can exult for joy, but his coming will mean that we also will practise justice and integrity.

Advent is a time of waiting, conversion and of hope:

waiting – memory of the first, humble coming of the Lord in our mortal flesh;

waiting – supplication for his final, glorious coming as Lord of History and Universal Judge;

conversion, to which the liturgy at this time often refers quoting the prophets, especially John the Baptist, 'Repent for the kingdom of heaven is at hand' (Mt3:2)

joyful hope that the salvation already accomplished by Christ and the reality of grace in the world will mature and reach their fullness, thereby granting us what is promised by faith, and 'we shall become like him for we shall see him as he really is' (Jn 3:2)

Digital Advent calendar2023 marks the tenth year of the digital Advent calendar which is a resource for families, schools and parishes on the homepage of catholicbishops.ie. During the 22 days of Advent, new content will be available behind the calendar's digital doors. Every day online viewers can enjoy brief personal video reflections and prayers on this holy season.

Penance Service

Monday 18th December in Our Lady of Lourdes Church at 7.30pm with a number of priests available.

Confessions on Saturday 23rd December in both churches, 12.00noon – 2.00pm.

Wednesday Confessions in St Peter's Church as usual, 12.30-1.30pm

St Peter's Shop has a large range of Advent Calendars, Christmas Cards, Crib scenes, Christmas Mass Bouquets, and faith-based gifts in stock. Many thanks to our wonderful volunteers.

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

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament in Our Lady of Lourdes Church on Sunday afternoon, 1.00pm – 4.00pm.

God First St Peter's Youth Group for teenagers 13-17 years old, meets on the first and third Friday of each month in the Family Room of Our Lady of Lourdes Church. Come along to encounter God, make new friends and have fun.


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.



Baptisms Parents should please contact the sacristies to rearrange 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 – 12 noon. 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

Anniversaries and Month's Minds may be given in person or telephoned to St Peter's Church 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.

St Vincent de Paul (Freephone 1800 67 77 77) and **Drogheda River Rescue Emergency** (089 250 5562) continue 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


The **Parish Newsletter** is available at the back of the churches throughout the week. Also see church noticeboards, parish website and Visit our Parish X / Twitter account @PetersDrogheda 

Pope Francis' intention for December: For persons with disabilities: We pray that people living with disabilities may be at the centre of attention in society, and that institutions may offer inclusive programmes which value their active participation.

Baptism

We welcome Lauren Matibag Ocampo, Caelan Mason O'Connor, Emily Rose de Costa Byrne and Clodagh Mae O'Connor *into the Christian community*

Deaths

We pray for the recently deceased Thora Bailey, Glenmore Drive, John Kenny, late of St Laurence's Drive, Bridget (Bridie) Floyd, Scarlet Crescent, Fr Malachy Loughran, OSA, Alice Moran, Rosemary Gaughran, Lush Pepaj, Nicole Corcoran, Emily Coogan, Bart Gordon, Dessie Kelly, Rita Gardiner. **May they rest in peace.** 

Parish Collection for the weekend of 9th/ 10th December 2023

Loose €1,555 Envelopes €1,525 Tap to Donate €343 **Total** €3,423

Christmas Dues will be collected in the coming weeks. The 2023 parish envelope boxes will be distributed as well as the parish Christmas card. Many thanks to our distributors. We thank parishioners in a special way for your continued generosity. Anyone wishing to receive a weekly envelope or who would like to contribute via standing order is asked to contact the sacristy or any of the priests.

Christmas Appeal Once again St Peter's Parish is supporting Drogheda Women's & Children's Refuge and Drogheda Homeless Aid in their Christmas appeals. Items such as non-perishable food and toiletries are needed at this time. Please donate into the boxes provided in both St Peter's and Our Lady of Lourdes Churches by today, Sunday 17th December. Thank you.

Help Children Caught in Conflict This Christmas

Imagine life for a child caught in a conflict zone this Christmas. No soap for cleaning and hygiene. No food for their bellies. No safe water to drink or place to rest their heads. Fragile, frightened. From Gaza to Ukraine, from Ethiopia to South Sudan right now, children and their families are enduring such suffering. They urgently need your help. Your compassionate support at this time will help rush survival kits, emergency dignity kits, and essential food baskets, as well as supporting critical work across Trócaire's global programmes. Please donate what you can on trocaire.org or over the phone by calling 1800 408 408

Bingo is held in the Barbican Centre every Thursday evening at 8.00pm.

Our Lady of Lourdes Church Mechanical and Electrical Upgrade

As of 14th December, exactly 100 contributions have been made amounting to €32,840.00. Many thanks for your great generosity.

The total cost of the project is €281,000. €76,000 has been received by the Parish in grants leaving a total net cost of €205,000, greatly depleting parish resources. Though conscious of the difficult times financially, donations towards the project will gratefully be received from those wishing and able to do so, and may be made as outlined in the letter with donation envelope at the back of the churches. Details are also included here:

By cheque made payable to St Peter's Parish - Our Lady of Lourdes Church Upgrade

By cash

By card through the parish website, www.sppd.ie (Donate Button; Purpose – General Parish Upkeep;

Message – Our Lady of Lourdes Church Upgrade), or through either church sacristy in person or by telephone, Our Lady of Lourdes Church, 041 983 1973, St Peter's Church, 041 984 5355, 9.30am – 12.30pm.

By electronic transfer:

Account Name: St Peter's Parish Envelope Collection, Account Number: 35805507 Bank: AIB, Drogheda,

Bank Sort Code: 932094, IBAN: IE10 AIBK 9320 9435 8055 07

BIC: AIBKIE2D Reference: Donor's name, OLLC.

Many thanks to all those who make these necessary works possible, to those who have already contributed, and for your continued support of St Peter's Parish and Our Lady of Lourdes Church.