

Day of Prayer for Survivors of Abuse in the Catholic Church 2025 As part of the Catholic Church response to victims of abuse the Irish Bishops have designated the first Friday of Lent each year as a special day of prayer for victims and survivors of abuse in the Church. This year that day will happen next Friday 7th March. All Churches across Ireland are invited to offer prayers on that day for all those who have been impacted by the terrible sins and crimes of abuse in the Church. In many churches a Candle of Atonement will be lit, and the Prayer of Atonement offered as we acknowledge the wrongs of the past and pray for the assistance and guidance of the Holy Spirit as we work to ensure they cannot be repeated. This initiative and the prayer were instigated by a survivor of abuse in the Church, and I ask that everyone remembers victims of abuse in their personal and family prayers, and most especially in this coming Friday.

Archbishop Eamon Martin, Archbishop of Armagh

Human Life International Speaking Tour HLI (Ireland) is organising an event at St Mary's Parish Centre, Drogheda from 7.00 pm to 9.30 pm today, Sunday 2nd March. No prior booking is required and entrance is free.

Vocations Retreat 7th – 9th March Drumalis Retreat Centre Larne: The Vocations Directors of the Metropolitan Archdiocesan area are hosting a special Retreat for anyone who is discerning a vocation to the Priesthood. If interested please contact Fr Barry Matthews on 0044 2837522813 or barrynmatthews@gmail.com

Scoil Aonghusa – Applications for new Junior Infant pupils for September 2025 are now available from Scoil Aonghusa or on our website www.scoilaonghusa.com Completed application forms to be returned to Scoil Aonghusa, Sunday's Gate, Drogheda A92 PY18. Contact details: 041 983 2531 oifig.scoilaonghusa@gmail.com

Irish Blood Transfusion Service: Blood Donor Clinics in the TLT Monday 3rd – 6th March. St. Oliver's Primary School, Ballymakenny Road, Thursday 13th March, 2025. All Blood Donor Clinics are still by appointment. www.giveblood.ie or 041 685 9994

St Oliver Plunkett 400 An excellent Commemorative Book and a specially commissioned crafted lapel pin badge to mark the 400th anniversary, are now on sale for €5 each in St Peter's Church shop and both church sacristies. We hope to make the book available after weekend Masses in the near future.

Light the Fire Monday 17th March, St Patrick's Day: 5.00pm Vespers on the Hill of Slane and procession. 5:00 p.m. - Vespers on the Hill of Slane followed by Rosary Procession to the Church. 6:15 p.m. - Holy Mass in St. Patrick's Church, Slane, celebrated by Papal Nuncio Archbishop Luis Mariano Montemayor and Bishop Tom Deenihan, followed by Eucharistic Adoration. Let us carry the Light of Christ into the next generation. For further information contact The Franciscan Sisters of the Renewal 041 983 0441 or www.franciscansisterscfr.com/st-anthony

St Peter's Parish Newsletter

St Oliver's Pastoral Area

Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Day of Prayer for Temperance

2nd March 2025

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

Email office@sppd.ie



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

The Barbican
St Peter's Parish

Centre
041-980 7416

Sean Walshe Retirement

After 63 years as sacristan in Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Seán Walshe retires today, Sunday. His retirement will be marked at the end of the 10.30am Mass.

Seán's contribution to the life of St Peter's Parish through Our Lady of Lourdes Church was truly outstanding. He began as sacristan in the early years after the Church's opening and has served faithfully since. He loves the bricks and mortar of the building, and has facilitated so much worship and praise over the decades.

Seán has served under 6 parish priests, viz, Mgr Stokes, Mgr Laverty, Bishop Lennon, Mgr Donnelly, Mgr Carroll and Canon Sweeney. During his 63 years as sacristan there have also been 6 Popes and 6 Archbishops of Armagh.

In 2022 Seán was conferred with the Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice Cross (For Church & Pontiff) by the Archbishop of Armagh, Dr Eamon Martin. This is a major award from Pope Francis for "exceptional works and zeal". Seán was also presented with a framed drawing of Our Lady of Lourdes Church.

Many thanks, Seán, for your loyal service over so many decades. The clergy and parishioners join together in wishing Terrie, you and family much health and every blessing.

Ash Wednesday

Ash Wednesday, 5th March, the first day of Lent, a Day of Fast and Abstinence. Masses in St Peter's Church at 8.30am and 10.30am, and in Our Lady of Lourdes Church at 10.00am and 7.30pm. Ashes will be distributed at all Masses.

Lent is a special time of prayer, penance and almsgiving. Attendance at daily

if possible, is commendable.

Lenten Days of Fast and Abstinence: Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. Catholics, aged 18+ and under 60 years, are encouraged to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. All Catholics, 14 years and older, are encouraged to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday, Good Friday and all Fridays of Lent. Fasting means partaking of only one full meal and two other light meals in the day. However, if you are in ill health or if there are other mitigating factors, you are exempt.



Stations of the Cross in Our Lady of Lourdes Church each Sunday during Lent at 5.00pm, led by the priests and deacons of the Parish.

Trócaire: Trócaire boxes are available in the churches. Trócaire is the overseas development agency of the Catholic Church in Ireland.

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). **Adorers are needed** for the following hours: Monday 12noon - 1.00pm. Friday 1.00pm -2.00pm & 3.00pm - 4.00pm. Please contact Breda on 087 2148422 or Josie 087 771 0264.

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 or www.churchservices.tv (Drogheda).

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.

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.

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 monthly church collection this weekend. Thank you for your support.

The SVP Our Lady of Lourdes Church January Gate Collection amounted to €559.20 and February €1069. Many thanks.

The Parish Newsletter is available at the back of the churches throughout the week. Also see church noticeboards, parish website, Facebook, X and Instagram. *Items for the Parish Newsletter, may be emailed to office@sppd.ie or handed into the Parish Office by Wednesday evening each week.*

Pope Francis' intention for March: For families in crisis: Let us pray that broken families might discover the cure for their wounds through forgiveness, rediscovering each other's gifts, even in their differences.

Friday 8th March 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.

First Saturday **Fatima Devotions** in St Peter's Church after the 10.30am Mass on Saturday.

Men's Rosary on the first Saturday of each month at 12.00noon in the Augustinian Church Garden, Shop Street.

Parish Collection for the weekend of

22nd /23rd February 2025

Loose €1,484 Envelopes €1,415 Tap to donate €363 Total €3,262

The priests of the parish are grateful for your support and thank you for the **Spring Dues** which are being collected from now to St Patrick's weekend. Many thanks to our loyal Dues Collectors. Dues envelopes also available in both churches.

Baptism

We welcome Esther Anuoluwapo Olawoyin, Paul Oluwadolabomi Olawoyin, Elizabeth Oluwadamilola Olawoyin, Lottie Lillyann Owens and Pippa Kate Kierans **into the Christian community**

Deaths

We pray for the recently deceased Anthony Burke, Mellifont Park, Olive Dempsey, College Rise, Dorota Kucharska, North Strand, Mary Boyle, Kieran Kelly, William (Billy) Cummins, Sean Holdcroft, Sr Ursula Cott, MMM, PJ McCourt, Sr Pauline Mary Dean, MMM. **May they rest in peace.**