

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

**Scoil Aonghusa** – Drogheda’s Gaelscoil since 1981. Applications for new Junior Infant pupils for September 2025 are now available from Scoil Aonghusa or on our website [www.scoilaonghusa.com](http://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](mailto:oifig.scoilaonghusa@gmail.com)

**Cemetery Sunday** will take place as usual on the last Sunday of June, this year, Sunday 29th June, in St Peter’s Cemetery at 3.00pm and Newtown Cross at 5.00pm.

**Restoration of the Shrine of St Oliver Plunkett (1625 – 1681)**

Restoration work has commenced at the St Oliver Plunkett shrine area of St Peter’s Church aiming to create a homogenous prayerful space that honours the memory of the martyred Archbishop of Armagh, fosters a deeper spiritual connection for pilgrims, and preserves the historical and architectural integrity of the church. The design draws inspiration from St Oliver’s life of faith, his commitment to reconciliation, and his embodiment of the Communion of Saints. The Shrine area will be cordoned off while restoration works are ongoing. St Oliver’s head will be temporarily housed in the Sacred Heart altar area of St Peter’s Church. It is hoped that the works will be completed by the end of June. Apologies for any inconvenience.

**Prayer to St Oliver Plunkett  
400th Anniversary of Birth, 1625 - 2025**



Glorious Martyr St Oliver, who willingly gave your life for your faith, help us also to be strong in faith. May we be loyal like you to the See of Peter. By your intercession and example, may all hatred and bitterness be banished from the hearts of men and women. May the peace of Christ reign in our hearts, as it did in your heart, even at the moment of your death. Pray for us, for Ireland and the whole world. Amen.

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](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  
Fifth Sunday of Easter**

**18<sup>th</sup> May 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](http://www.sppd.ie)

Email [office@sppd.ie](mailto: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



We are united with **Pope Leo XIV** in spirit today, Sunday, 18<sup>th</sup> May, as he presides over the Mass of Inauguration of his Petrine Ministry in St. Peter’s Square at 9.00am Irish time. We ask the Lord’s blessing on the Holy Father as he begins his ministry as Bishop of Rome. We beg the Lord to guide him and bless him with courage, strength and wisdom. May he lead us all in the paths of faith, hope and love.

**Rosary and Benediction** will be held in St Peter’s Church at 5.00pm each Sunday during May.

**Plunkett Family Gathering** As part of the **St. Oliver 400 celebrations 2025** a Plunkett Family Gathering will take place at the birthplace of St. Oliver in Loughcrew, Oldcastle, Co. Meath A82 X4Y1 on Friday 4th July. The celebration will commence at 12 noon with a reception in the garden coffee shop, followed by an inter-church prayer service in the old church. After a guided tour of the church area including the location of St. Oliver’s boyhood home, a light lunch will be provided in Loughcrew House. The afternoon will continue with talks and introductions of those present, afternoon coffee and entertainment. All welcome. Recommended donation, €10 per person. To assist with catering requirements, please email your intention to attend to [saintoliverplunkett@gmail.com](mailto:saintoliverplunkett@gmail.com) or phone 086 237 7256.

**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

**Congratulations to Louth on becoming Leinster Champions.**

**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).*



**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 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.

**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. Come along to encounter God, make new friends and have fun.

**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.

The **Knights of St Columbanus** hold their annual church gate collection this weekend, 17th/18th May. The Knights are involved in many charitable initiatives, locally and nationally.

**Parish Collection for the weekend of 10<sup>th</sup>/11<sup>th</sup> May 2025**  
Loose €1,530 Envelopes €1,270 Tap to Donate €774 Total €3,574  
**Vocation Sunday** €745

**There is a second envelope this weekend for the Armagh Central Diocesan Fund.**  
This envelope goes towards the running of the Diocesan Curia in Armagh, its safeguarding, youth, and pastoral offices, and its initiatives, including the Synodal Way.

## Baptism

*We welcome* Arthur Albert Walsh and Evangeline Eleanora Holt *into the Christian community.*

## Deaths



*We pray for the recently deceased* Charlie Farrell, Sr Kathleen Crawley MMM, Lena English, Niall Carter, Dan McCann, Tony O'Brien. *May they rest in peace.*

**The Annual Armagh Diocesan Pilgrimage to Knock** will take place on Sunday 25th May. Coach departs from Our Lady of Lourdes Church at 7.45am sharp. Cost per person €25. Early booking is advised as there is a limited number of seats available. Contact Damien on 083 3504 551 or Jacqueline on 086 160 7287 for booking.

**Lough Derg Pilgrimage Season:** The Three -Day Pilgrimage for 2025 begins on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> May, and continues until Friday 15th August (last day to begin pilgrimage is Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> August).

**One Day Retreats** on selected dates in May: Saturday 24<sup>th</sup>, and Monday 26<sup>th</sup>. Further details on [www.loughderg.org](http://www.loughderg.org)

## St Anthony's Novena

St Peter's Church

Thursday 5th June – Fri 13th June 2024

Preacher: Fr Michael Nicholas OFM, Ennis Friary.

Masses 10.30am & 7.30pm daily,  
except Saturday 7th June, 10.30am & 6.15pm

Sunday 8th June Mass at 11.00am, Holy Hour at 7.30pm

Friday 13th June: Blessing of lilies at both Masses. Blessing of children 4.00pm. Closing Mass at 7.30pm.



Over 10,000 pilgrims are expected at the **40th All-Ireland Rosary Rally** on Saturday 7th June at **Knock Shrine**. Events begin at 9:30am with a Marian Conference and conclude with a Pentecost Vigil and Healing Service from 8.00pm – 10.00pm. Highlights include a Rosary making workshop, a 250-person Rosary formation for filming. Keynote at 1.00pm by Msgr Steve Rossetti, USA. Rosary Procession led by children follows the Stations of the Cross at 2.30pm, with Holy Mass at 3.00pm celebrated by Bishop Donal McKeown. Music by Dana. A youth conference runs 6.00pm – 7.30pm. Rosary Rally ends with a Croagh Patrick climb and Mass on Sunday at 12noon. Full schedule and bus info: [www.allirelandrosaryrally.com](http://www.allirelandrosaryrally.com).

**All Ireland Rosary Rally Knock Shrine. Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> June 2025.** A bus has been organised to leave from the Holy Family Church, Ballsgrove at 7.00am on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> June, cost €27 per person. Booking details from Mary McNally on 087 676 1878.