

**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.

Plans for the restoration of Shrine can be viewed at back of church.

### St Oliver Plunkett, 1625 – 2025 – Man of Faith

St. Oliver was born in Loughcrew, Co. Meath on 1<sup>st</sup> November, the Feast of All Saints, 1625. As a young man of faith, he wished to become a priest and studied for the priesthood in the Irish College in Rome. After his ordination he was unable to return to Ireland as a result of the Cromwellian conquest, so he undertook further studies, becoming a teaching professor in Propaganda Fide College, Rome. On his appointment as Archbishop of Armagh by Pope Clement IX in 1669 he willingly returned to Ireland, even though he knew a life of hardship with many trials and difficulties awaited him. The Lord rewarded his deep faith and in less than ten years St. Oliver accomplished much as the Archbishop of Armagh. St. Oliver Plunkett, pray for us.



### Prayer to St Oliver Plunkett

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

### Sixth Sunday of Easter

25<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  
St Peter's Presbytery

041 983 8537  
041 983 8239

Our Lady of Lourdes Presbytery

041 983 1899

St Peter's Church Sacristy  
Our Lady of Lourdes Church Sacristy

041 984 5355  
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

**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

### Weekday 8.30am Mass

In order to facilitate the request of the St Oliver's Shrine restoration team, 8.30am weekday Mass, until the end of June, will be celebrated in Our Lady of Lourdes Church, and not in St Peter's Church.

The weekday Mass schedule in St Peter's Parish is therefore as follows: Our Lady of Lourdes Church, 8.30am and 10.00am; St Peter's Church, 10.30am.

Sunday schedule and St Anthony's Tuesday 7.30pm Mass as usual. Many thanks for your understanding.

**St Peter's Church Eucharistic Adoration** Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament in St Peter's Church is as follows: Monday - Friday in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel (including Wednesday due to restoration work at St Oliver's Shrine). Hours of Adoration, 11.00am – 5.00pm (Tuesday to 7.00pm).

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

**St Oliver Plunkett Jubilee Year Walk:** A St Oliver Jubilee Year Walk of two miles, to commemorate the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of St Oliver's birth, will take place in Dorsey, Co. Armagh, on Saturday next, 31<sup>st</sup> May, commencing with a short talk about St. Oliver at 4.30pm at the McAllister residence, 28 Bonds Road, BT35 9PE, the site of the former Blyke's Inn, a well-known hostelry used by St Oliver as a location for meetings with his priests. The pilgrims will then walk to St Oliver Plunkett Church, Dorsey, where Vespers will be prayed at 5.45pm.

**Best wishes** to those travelling from Drogheda on the Armagh Diocesan Pilgrimage to Knock today, Sunday 25th May. Please bring our prayers and petitions to Our Lady's Shrine. Many thanks to Damien and Jacqueline for organizing.

**St Peter's Church Perpetual Adoration:** Adorers are needed for the following hours: Tuesday 3.00pm – 4.00pm, Wednesday and Thursday 4.00pm – 5.00pm. Contact Breda on 087 214 8422 or Josie on 087 771 0264.

**Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament in Our Lady of Lourdes Church,** Sunday afternoon, 1.00pm – 4.00pm, except the First and Fourth 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.

#### **Feast days this week**

Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> May

The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

#### **Parish Collection for the weekend of 17<sup>th</sup>/18<sup>th</sup> May 2025**

Loose €1,435 Envelopes €1,135 Tap to Donate €400 Total €2,970

**Summer Dues** for the support of the priests of the parish will be collected over the coming weeks. Many thanks for your support. Envelopes are available at the back of both churches.

#### **Marriage**

**Congratulations to** William Finnegan and Erin Ryle **on their recent wedding**

#### **Baptism**

**We welcome** Sofia Keblyte **into the Christian community.**

#### **Deaths**



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

**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). 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.



**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)

**St Peter's Male Voice Choir** and Musical Director Edward Holly presents **"Keep It Country Too"** in the Barbican Centre on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> June at 8.00pm, with special guests Dawn, Claire Reagan, violinist Jennifer Murphy and a live band. Compere Gerry Kelly. Tickets €25, no booking fee, from the Barbican, Paddy Davis 087 201 9166, Credit Card Purchase 087 220 7383 or on Eventbrite: [www.eventbrite.ie](http://www.eventbrite.ie)