

following Programmes: Online - starting on Tuesday 4th November Ardee – starting on Friday 7th November in the Regional Education Centre To book your place please contact Aine 041 685 0676 / 087 114 0371, Elaine 041 686 0710 / 087 430 8735.

Armagh Diocesan Congress 20th - 22nd March 2026 - Youth, Family and Faith – Preparatory Consultation In preparation for the Armagh Diocesan Congress of March coming, St Oliver’s Pastoral Area Consultation, as requested by the archdiocese, is hosting an autumn congress gathering. The main discernment question will be: “What can we do together, in our schools, homes, parishes and in the Archdiocese of Armagh, to help young people and families to grow in faith and get to know Jesus in a real and personal way?” The meeting will take place in the Barbican, William St on Wednesday 5th November at 7.30pm. Please come along.

Prayers for the Pre-Synodal Assembly of the Catholic Church in Ireland 18th October
All Catholics are invited to pray for a special gathering that will take place in Kilkenny on 18th October, called a Pre-Synodal Assembly of the Catholic Church in Ireland. This assembly is an important juncture on the journey towards a National Synodal Assembly to be held in 2026. Around 240 people will be in attendance, and these are drawn from each diocese on the island, Religious Congregations and Church movements. A preparatory document, entitled Baptised and Sent - the fruits of listening sessions across Ireland last spring - will be the basis for discussion at this gathering, and for the next stage of the journey of renewal. Central to the document is a renewed focus on baptism as the foundation of our Christian dignity, unity, and mission and how baptism infuses the life and mission of the Church in Ireland today and into the future. You are invited to read this document by visiting www.synod.ie/baptised-and-sent-preparatory-document-available-now/ Please pray that the Holy Spirit will guide the conversations at Kilkenny, and those flowing from it, as we walk together as sisters and brothers of Christ, united by our baptism and filled with hope.

Abide in His Love Women’s Conference 21st-23rd November. The Great Northern Hotel, Bundoran Co. Donegal. A beautiful event for women exploring the beauty and gift of their feminine identity in Christ. Guest Speakers include Sr. Mary Madeline Todd OP (USA), Megan Madden from ‘A Mother’s Lace’ (USA/UK), Fr. Barry Braum, Fr. Mark Wharton (UK), Fr. Francesco Mary Gavazzi, CFR, the Nashville Dominican sisters, & Mass with Archbishop Eamon Martin. Check Eventbrite for tickets and more information.

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 6.00pm on Wednesday each week.

St Peter’s Parish Newsletter

St Oliver’s Pastoral Area

Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

12th October 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

Our Lady of Lourdes Presbytery

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

041 983 8537
041 983 8239

041 983 1899

041 984 5355
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

St Oliver Plunkett Golden Jubilee of Canonisation
In addition to marking the 400th Anniversary of the birth of St Oliver Plunkett this year, we also celebrate the Golden Jubilee of his Canonisation by Pope Paul VI in Rome on 12th October 1975. Celebrations to mark the Canonisation giving thanks for the gift of our saintly Archbishop and asking his intercession for the renewal of faith in our land will be as follows:
St Peter’s Church, Drogheda, today, Sunday 12th October, 11.00am - Mass celebrated by Bishop Michael Router, Auxiliary Bishop of Armagh.
St Patrick’s Cathedral, Armagh, Sunday 12th October, 11.00am - Mass celebrated by Archbishop Eamon Martin, 23rd Successor to St Oliver Plunkett in Armagh.

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.

Rosary and Benediction in St Peter's Church at 5.00pm. At Pope Leo's request we pray for peace during our Sunday evening devotions which take place in the months dedicated to Our Lady, namely May and October.

St Peter's Parish Pastoral Council meeting tomorrow evening, Monday 13th October.

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 – 5.00pm (Tuesday to 7.00pm).

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

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: Parents should 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 –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.

God First, St Peter's Youth Group Teens aged 13 - 17 are invited to come along on the 2nd and 4th Friday of each month, 6.00pm – 8.00pm in the Family Room in 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

Pope Leo's monthly intention for October: *For collaboration between different religious traditions:* Let us pray that believers in different religious traditions might work together to defend and promote peace, justice and human fraternity.

Feast days this week

Saturday 18th October St Luke, Evangelist

Parish Collection for the weekend of October 4th /5th October 2025

Loose €1,255 Envelopes €1,210 Tap to Donate €652 Total €3,117

World Mission Sunday, which is celebrated on the second last Sunday in October each year, will take place next Sunday 19th October. World Mission Sunday is the Holy Father's annual appeal in support of overseas mission. All offerings made at this time will help missionaries care for some of the world's most vulnerable people in over 120 countries. **Missio** Ireland coordinates World Mission Sunday throughout all dioceses in Ireland. There is a second envelope next weekend for Mission Sunday.



Deaths

We pray for the recently deceased Jenny Collins, Forest Hill, Vincent Healy, John Paul Court, William (Willie) Cummins, Ballypark, Patrick (Pat) Sheehan, Matson Lodge, Gay Gorman, Anthony Connor, Keith Gorman, Bernard Gallagher Jnr, Derek Matthews, Anthony (Tony) Murphy, Eamonn Wright, Denis Doherty, Therease Leddy. **May they rest in peace.**

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

Young Helpers wanted for Family Mass - Last Sunday of each Month

We are looking for young volunteers to help out once a month at our Family Mass. Children can participate by: Reading the Prayer of the Faithful. Reading the Scriptures, a Poem or a Reflection. Bringing up Gifts to the Altar. If your child would like to participate, please contact Clare on 086 850 8955 or speak to us after Mass.

We warmly invite all families to join us for our annual **October Dress-Up Family Mass** on Sunday 26th October at 10.30am at Our Lady of Lourdes Church. We encourage all children to come dressed as their favourite saint — whether it's St Patrick, St Brigid, St Carlo Acutis, or any of the countless heroes of faith who inspire us! We'll have a short procession of saints and gifts and treats for the children after mass. We look forward to coming together as a parish family to honour all the saints in heaven and celebrate the call to holiness in our own lives.

Aras Mhuire Nursing Facility in Beechgrove Drogheda offers Long Term Care, Respite, Convalescence & Palliative Care. It is owned and managed by The Medical Missionaries of Mary and is fully HIQA compliant. Currently we have vacancies and are open to admissions. Please email your enquiries to nursemanager@arasmhuire.com

Are you, or someone you know, living with a long-term health condition? If so, then you may be interested in the 'Living Well Programme'. Living Well is a FREE, 6week self-management group programme for adults living with long term health conditions, such as asthma, COPD, diabetes, heart conditions, stroke. There are spaces available on the