

many gifts to choose from. Will you bring comfort and joy this Christmas, with your Trócaire Gifts of Change? Go to trocaire.org

The new publication ‘**Further Up and Deeper In**’ by Fr. Paul Clayton-Lea is the continuation of the story of Belfast writer C. S. Lewis and his links with Co. Louth. It includes a unique account of Christmas, with Lewis and his brother Warnie in Oxford spent with Frank and Vera Henry from Dunleer, as well as details of the times and places where Lewis stayed in the ‘wee county’ in the 1940s & 50s and other stories. The book is now available in St. Peter's Parish shop, price €10. Fr Paul will be at Masses in the Parish On the weekend of 13th/ 14th December to promote his book.

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 Wednesday 17th December.

As we approach the Christmas season, the **Drogheda Area of Society of St Vincent de Paul** (SVP) is reaching out for your support. At this challenging time of year for many local families, your generosity can make a real difference. We ask you to consider making a financial contribution to help us provide food, warmth and assistance to those in need within our community. Every donation, big or small, helps bring comfort and hope to families who are struggling. To make a donation: By cheque: SVP Drogheda Area (SVP Office, 2, Magdalene Street, Drogheda, Co Louth). By Direct Debit/Bank Transfer SVP Xmas Fund. Currency Euro. Bank AIB. A/C No 3614 6687 IBAN IE46 AIBK 9320 9436 1466 87 BIC AIBKIE2D.

International Christmas Food & Music Festival. Ardee Parish Centre, Saturday 20th December 12.30pm to 6.30pm. A Fundraiser event for Armagh Diocesan Redemptoris Mater Seminary in Dundalk. Tickets for the event and for the raffle are available in the sacristy. €15 adults, €10 students, children go free. Come and join us.

Thought for the Day: For centuries, millennia, the whole world was in a state of advent. It was waiting. Until the Lord revealed himself to Abraham, our ancestors did not know for what or for whom they were waiting, but every thinking being knew (and still does) that our present state is not right. Injustice, violence, misery; this is not how it is meant to be, and all our instincts cry out against it. For us, Advent is the time when the Church asks us to look seriously at how real the incarnation is to us. How does Christ’s coming affect the way we live? It is a praying time to think about the reality of Jesus.

Sr Wendy Beckett, The Art of Christmas.

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

Second Sunday of Advent

Cycle A

7th December 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



St Peter’s Male Voice Choir “Wonderful Christmastime”
Musical Director Edward Holly, Compere Gerry Kelly, with international guests, Celine Byrne, Soprano, violinist Jennifer Murphy, singer Claire Regan and a live band of some of Ireland’s top musicians. A magical evening not to be missed! Friday 12th December at 8.00pm in St Peter’s Church, West Street. Tickets €25, no booking fee, available from St Peter’s Church Sacristy and Shop, 041 984 5355, Paddy Davis 087 201 9166, Liam Kelly 086 311 5114 or Credit Card purchase 087 220 7383.
www.eventbrite.ie

Safety Recall – Christmas Stars, Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Drogheda
For safety reasons, the Syro-Malabar Youth Movement, Drogheda, is recalling the Christmas Stars it distributed after 10.30am and 12 noon Masses in Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Drogheda on Sunday 30th November, 2025. We ask anyone who received a star not to use it and to return it please to Our Lady of Lourdes Church sacristy where you will be refunded in full. We apologise for any inconvenience and appreciate your kindness to our young people. For further information please email smymdrogheda@gmail.com **Syro-Malabar Youth Movement, Drogheda**

The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of Blessed Virgin Mary
will be marked tomorrow **Monday 8th December.**
Masses on Monday in **St Peter’s Church** at 8.30am & 10.30am and in **Our Lady of Lourdes Church** at 10.00am & 7.30pm

#HaveYourSay about your Catholic School

For Attention of Parents of children attending Primary Schools or who have yet to start. The Department of Education is currently conducting a Primary School Survey that will determine the future provision of Primary Schools and crucially could lead to lasting changes in your school. In simple, direct terms, you are being asked if you want your school to stay a Catholic school or if you want that to change. Don't leave it to others, have your say before 16th December 2025. See - <https://www.gov.ie/en/department-of-education/campaigns/primary-school-survey>

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 winter schedule. (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.

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: 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 -12noon. 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.

St Vincent de Paul Christmas Church Gate Collection will take place this weekend, 7th December. Local needs are great.

Parish Collection for the weekend of 29th /30th November 2025

Loose €1,372 Envelopes €1,175 Tap to Donate €648 Total €3,195

Christmas Dues will be collected in the coming weeks. The **2026 parish envelopes boxes** will also be distributed and 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.

Pope Leo's intention for December: *For Christians in areas of conflict.* Let us pray that Christians living in areas of war or conflict, especially in the Middle East, might be seeds of peace, reconciliation, and hope.

Baptism

We welcome Asher Abasiubong Raphael Nsien *into the Christian community*

Deaths



We pray for the recently deceased John Donnelly, Brookville, Leontia Kierans, Greenhills, Susan McGuigan, John Grant, Lynda Cowley, Ronan Quigley, Josephine Kiernan, Owen Brannigan, Doreen Cluskey, Olive McEvoy.
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

Parish Christmas Card with Advent Confessions and Christmas Mass times available at the back of the churches. Please take one.

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

Healing Ministry/Prayer Ministry. Individual prayer for emotional, physical or spiritual healing is held monthly in Mellifont Catholic Church, Tullyallen, Drogheda after 11.00am Sunday Mass. It is organised by Mellifont Parish Small Christian Community. The next date is this Sunday, 7th December 2025.

Drogheda & District Floral Art Group invites you to **Christmas Delights**, a seasonal flower demonstration by club members in the Boyne Valley Hotel on Tuesday 9th December at 8.00pm.

Choose your **Trócaire Gifts of Change** today, and help change lives around the world this Christmas, send life -saving chicks, plant seeds of hope, shine a solar light. There are so