

Saturday 18th April, 10.00am-3.00pm, in The Auditorium, MMM Convent, Beechgrove. Admission free. Free parking will be available at Our Lady of Lourdes church beside the venue. Email [commoffice@mmmworldwide.org](mailto:commoffice@mmmworldwide.org) with all queries.

**Lough Derg, One Day Retreat:** 4<sup>th</sup> May 2026. Bus leaves from Drogheda, Monasterboice, Ardee and Monaghan. For more info contact Mary 086 403 2364 or Rose 086 845 8808.

**Lourdes Youth Choir:** St Peter's Parish, Drogheda seeks a new Director for the Lourdes Youth Choir. Suggestions in this regard or expressions of interest should be made to the Parish Office / Parish Priest. Email [office@sppd.ie](mailto:office@sppd.ie) Tel 041 983 8537.

	St Peter's Church	Our Lady of Lourdes Church
<b>Monday 6<sup>th</sup> - 11<sup>th</sup> April</b>	10.30am Mass (No 8.30am weekday Mass) Tuesday St Anthony's Novena 7.30pm	10.00am Mass
	No Confessions on Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> April Confessions on Saturday 11 <sup>th</sup> April, 12.30pm – 1.00pm and before Vigil Masses	
<b>Divine Mercy Sunday 12th April</b>	Exposition, Chaplet, Prayers & Confessions. 3.00pm. <b>Mass 4.00pm</b> Music – Glóir	

***The Prayer of Pope Leo for the special Jubilee Year of St Francis of Assisi 2026***

Saint Francis, our brother, you who eight hundred years ago went to meet Sister Death as a man of peace, intercede for us with the Lord.

In the Cross of San Damiano you recognised true peace. Teach us to seek in Christ the source of all reconciliation that breaks down every wall. You who, unarmed, crossed the lines of war and misunderstanding, give us the courage to build bridges where the world erects borders.

In this time plagued by conflict and division, intercede so that we may become peacemakers: unarmed and disarming witnesses of the peace that comes from Christ. Amen.

The **Parish Newsletter** is available at the back of the churches throughout the week. The next issue will return on 19th April 2026. Items for the Parish Newsletter, may be emailed to [office@sppd.ie](mailto:office@sppd.ie) or handed into the Parish Office by Wednesday evening each week.

## St Peter's Parish Newsletter

St Oliver's Pastoral Area

### Easter Day of the Lord's Resurrection

**5<sup>th</sup> April 2026**

<p>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 &amp; John Taaffe</p>	<p>St Peter's Parochial House      041 983 8537 St Peter's Presbytery      041 983 8239</p> <p>Our Lady of Lourdes Presbytery      041 983 1899</p> <p>St Peter's Church Sacristy      041 984 5355 Our Lady of Lourdes Church Sacristy      041 983 1973</p>
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[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

**Easter Message to Parishioners 2026**

Each Easter we dare to profess our spiritual liberty – our freedom as redeemed sons and daughters of God. Through the mysteries of our faith, the passion, death and resurrection of Jesus we are born anew, and no earthly power or dominion can imprison us.

The Resurrection of Jesus of Easter Day signifies eternal victory over death, darkness and despair. The light of the resurrected Jesus will always have the last word, and his light is our light. In the life of the Risen One we all have life, and this is our hope. We do not succumb to hopelessness, we are not overcome by the gloom or wickedness of this world, or by human frailty. Rather, we unashamedly profess ourselves to be an Easter people, singing Alleluia as our chorus, Alleluia being a Hebrew word meaning "Praise God!"

We look forward to the seven-year pastoral plan for the Archdiocese emerging from the Armagh Diocesan Congress on Youth, Family and Faith of last month. Already the Archdiocese speaks of the celebrations in 2032 to mark the 1600<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the arrival of Christianity in Ireland, and of the Jubilee of Redemption in 2033.

With the clergy, Parish Pastoral Council and Pastoral Area Resource Team, I wish all our parishioners and their loved ones, at home and abroad, peace, health, and joy this Easter. I ask the Lord to comfort those who have lost loved ones and to grant eternal rest to our dead. We are conscious of those who are sick, lonely, anxious, isolated, and all those who face housing, employment and financial uncertainty. Similarly, we ask the Easter Lord to be with the people of the Middle East, Holy Land, Ukraine, East and Central Africa, and all the other troubled parts of the world. May the Risen Lord who never lets us down or abandons us continue to be with us. In him we trust.

**Eugene Sweeney, PP**

**Bottles of Easter Holy Water** available in both churches from the Easter Vigil/ Easter Sunday. Many thanks to the Parish Pastoral Council and to our sacristans for organising this initiative.

**Trócaire boxes** may be returned to the designated box in either church during Easter Week.

**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).

**All Masses are streamed live by webcam. [www.sppd.ie](http://www.sppd.ie) or [www.churchservices.tv](http://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:** 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.

Our Lady of Lourdes Praesidium **Legion of Mary** meets in the Stables Meeting Room (Augustinian Church) on Wednesday each week at 4.45pm. All are welcome.

**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** March Churchgate collection amounted to €1204. Many thanks to all who contributed. The monthly St Vincent de Paul church gate collection will be held this weekend.

**The Pope's monthly intention for April for priests in crisis:** Let us pray for priests going through moments of crisis in their vocation, that they may find the accompaniment they need and that communities may support them with understanding and prayer.

**Parish Collection for the weekend of 28<sup>th</sup> /29<sup>th</sup> March 2026**  
Loose €1,400 Envelopes €1,170 Tap to Donate €703 Total €3,273

## Baptism

**We welcome** Alex Ryan Murray, Amelia Lily Tallon and Bella Grace Smyth **into the Christian community**

## Deaths



**We pray for the recently deceased** Patricia Hoek, Trinity Gardens, Dessie Murray, Glenmore Drive, Fr Colm O'Mahony, OSA, John Breen, Park View, Jim Rock, Brookville, Marion Smith, Brookville, John Russell, Seamus Harrison, John Murray, Declan Bennett, Stephen McCluskey, Patrick (Paddy) Nulty, Seamus Mullen Jimmy Cudden, Dom White, Michael Dowd, Patrick Dennis. **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](mailto:info@droghedacsc.net)

**SportUile** - A free 6-week Stretch & Flex programme for adults aged 50+ in Drogheda. Programme Details: St Nicholas GFC, Drogheda, A92 E1CP, 📅 Tuesday 14th April – 26th May from 10.30am - 11.30am. All equipment provided. Fun, social with chair-based exercises. Wear comfortable clothing and bring water. Limited places – booking essential via eventmaster on the attached link <https://eventmaster.ie/event/12VofwDHeM> Any queries please contact 📧 [pbrowne@meathcoco.ie](mailto:pbrowne@meathcoco.ie) 📞 087 192 1858

The Annual General Meeting of the **Drogheda COPD Support Group** will be held on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2026, at 10.30am in The Barbican Centre, William Street, Drogheda. Light refreshments served, all are welcome to attend. Exercise classes take place every Monday, also in the Barbican Centre, from 12noon-1.00pm, cost €5 per person. All are welcome. For further details, contact Peter 087 807 1138 or Oliver 083 415 6104.

**Retreat Lough Derg** 25th April 2026: As we rush through a busy world, shaped by endless media and influencers, there is still a place for Faith and Stillness. We invite you to join us at our Retreat on Lough Derg Co Donegal – A Sanctuary of Faith and Stillness on Saturday 25th April 2026 – Boat departs at 9.30am. The day will conclude with the Celebration of the Eucharist at 5pm (open to the public). This day is open to young people aged 18-35 and is free to attend (supported by the Knights of St Columbanus). Registration is essential – [www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/lough-derg-60185780863](http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/lough-derg-60185780863) For further information please contact [info@knightsofstcolumbanusomagh.co.uk](mailto:info@knightsofstcolumbanusomagh.co.uk) / +44 7759 49667

The Medical Missionaries of Mary **Spring Fest**, celebrating community, creativity and care. Craft vendors, art, raffle, food, plants, flowers, bake sale, family fun and eco-talks.