

St Peter's Parish Newsletter

St Oliver's Pastoral Area

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

19th July 2026

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 Sacristy

Email office@sppd.ie

041 983 8537

041 983 8239

041 983 1899

041 984 5355

041 983 1973



www.sppd.ie



St Peter's Church

Monday to Saturday 10.30am
Tuesday

St. Anthony's Novena 7.30pm

Saturday Vigil 6.15pm

Sunday 8.00am & 11.00am

Confessions: Wednesday &
Saturday 12.30pm-1.00pm.
Also 30 minutes before
Saturday Vigil Mass



Our Lady of Lourdes Church

Monday to Saturday 10.00am
Saturday Vigil 7.00pm

Sunday 9.00am, 10.30am &
12noon

Confessions 30 minutes before
Saturday Vigil Mass

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

Appointment of Bishop Michael Router as Bishop of Derry

Pope Leo XIV has appointed Bishop Michael Router as Bishop of Derry following Bishop Donal McKeown's retirement. The appointment was announced by the Apostolic Nuncio to Ireland, Archbishop Luis Mariano Montemayor, who confirmed that Pope Leo had appointed Bishop Router, currently Auxiliary Bishop of Armagh, to succeed Bishop McKeown. Bishop Router's installation is expected to take place in September.

Speaking at Saint Eugene's Cathedral in Derry, Bishop Router described his appointment as “an immense honour” and expressed his gratitude to Pope Leo for the confidence placed in him. “I receive this appointment with humility and hope, and with a deep awareness of my own limitations,” he said. Reflecting on his episcopal motto, In Manus Tuas Domine (Into Your Hands, O Lord), Bishop Router said his faith had sustained him throughout his ministry and would continue to guide him as he begins his leadership of the Diocese of Derry. Bishop Router paid tribute to his predecessor, praising Bishop McKeown's leadership during a period of significant change for the Church and thanking him for his dedicated service to the people of Derry. Bishop Router acknowledged the many challenges facing the Catholic Church in Ireland, including declining numbers of clergy, increasing secularisation and the lasting impact of the abuse crisis. He emphasised that renewal would require listening, collaboration and a commitment to synodality, echoing Pope Leo XIV's vision of “a Synodal Church.”

Welcome to the Society of African Missions

As part of the national Mission Awareness (or the CPPP – Coordinated Parish Promotions Programme) the Society of African Missions (SMAs) has been assigned Armagh Archdiocese (parishes in County Louth). Fr. Tommy Faherty, SMA, will visit St Peter's Church next weekend, 25th /26th July and Our Lady of Lourdes Church on the weekend of 1st / 2nd August. He will leave Mission Awareness envelopes on the pews. He will refer to these at the end of his homily and also to the 'African Missionary' magazines on display at the back of the church. People will be invited to take the magazines and envelopes home with them, and if they wish, they may return the envelopes the following week, making a donation to the SMA missionary work.

TheWay.ie is a digital platform set up by the Irish Bishops Conference dedicated to sharing the 'Good News' and the witness of the Catholic Church in Ireland. It is intended to help people discover the faith, live the faith and pass on the faith. It is for both seekers and followers. Use the QR code to access the site



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).



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.

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.

Low-gluten Communion hosts may be received at all Masses. Coeliacs should please go the priest to receive.

Pope Leo's intention for July: For respect and protection of human life in all its stages, recognising it as a gift from God.

The annual **Pioneer** pilgrimage Mass at Knock Shrine will be celebrated in the Basilica at 3.00pm today, Sunday 19th July 2026. www.knockshrine.ie/watch-live/

Sixth World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly, 26th July: The Sixth World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly will take place on 26th July 2026. The theme chosen by Pope Leo XIV for the 6th World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly – “I will never forget you” (Is 49:15) – reminds us that God's unwavering love is the ultimate answer to the isolation and neglect so often experienced by the elderly. It brings comfort and hope, assuring us that the Lord knows each of us personally, forgets no one, and loves us unconditionally, even through the frailties of old age.

Sunday 26th July 2026 - Knock Shrine Annual National Grandparents Pilgrimage

Chief Celebrant Archbishop Eamon Martin. Commencing at 2.30pm with Anointing of the Sick. Visit our website www.catholicgrandparentsassociation.org

Boyne Music Festival, 23rd–26th July.

The Boyne Music Festival returns with four days of chamber music concerts, family events, talks and tours in beautiful historic venues across the Boyne Valley, including St. Peter's Church of Ireland, Drogheda, Townley Hall and Slane Castle. For the full programme and tickets, please visit boynemusicfestival.com Our full festival programme is now online. We look forward to welcoming you at the festival in July!

Parish Collection for the weekend of 11th/12th July 2026

Loose €1,512 Envelopes €940
Tap to Donate €802 Total €3,254

Altar Society Church Gate collection takes place at all Masses in both churches on 25th/26th July. Many thanks to the Altar Societies for their great work.

Youth 2000 Summer Festival: 13th–16th August. Calling all young people aged 16–35! Join us at the Youth 2000 Summer Festival in Newbridge College, Co. Kildare. This is a donation-only event, with free buses available across the country and all meals included. Expect inspiring talks and workshops, Mass, music, prayer, and plenty of opportunities to chill out and meet other young Catholics. To register or find out more, visit youth2000.ie or follow @Youth2000Ireland

Feast Days this week

Wednesday 22nd July

St Mary Magdalene

Saturday 25th July

St James, Apostle

Items for the **Parish Newsletter**, may be emailed to office@sppd.ie or handed into the Parish Office by 6.00pm on Wednesday evening each week.

SportUile – Lourdes Social Bowls (Adults18+)

6-week Social Bowls programme starting Wednesday 22nd July, Lourdes Stadium Drogheda from 10:00am–12:00pm. No experience needed. All equipment provided. Tea/coffee afterwards. Cost €5 for 6 weeks. Limited places – booking essential. Contact Sean: seandoherty@meathcoco.ie or 087 433 8378