

Collectors. Dues envelopes also available in both churches.

### Deaths



**We pray for the recently deceased** William (Billy) Cummins, Townrath, Sean Holdcroft, Mellifont Park, Sr Ursula Cott, MMM, PJ McCourt, Sr Pauline Mary Dean, MMM, Mary (May) McArdle, Kathleen Fay, Eileen Byrne, Alice Carroll, Ursula Fagan, Paddy Smith, Una Reynolds, Jimmy Coyle. **May they rest in peace.**

### Baptism

**We welcome** Alex Kopec **into the Christian community**

**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.

**Vocations** - Anyone considering God's call to Priesthood in the Archdiocese of Armagh is invited to contact Fr Barry Matthews, Vocations Director ([www.armaghpriest.com](http://www.armaghpriest.com)) to arrange a meeting to discuss the process and the programme of formation. This Jubilee Year is an ideal time to consider God's call for your life. Family members also can do their bit by encouraging a young person to consider a vocation to Priesthood or Religious Life and by praying for Vocations.

**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)

**Archdiocese of Armagh Annual Pilgrimage to Lourdes** takes place 5<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> May 2025. Cost per person sharing €995.00, single room supplement €205.00. Further details and bookings please contact Cora on 087 261 0026 or [dundalklourdescommittee@gmail.com](mailto:dundalklourdescommittee@gmail.com)

**Louth Local Development:** Join our Team, Community Health workers. Primary Healthcare for Travellers Project in Drogheda. Part-time position, 12 hours per week. No experience necessary as full paid training provided. If interested please contact Teresa Comiskey at 087 001 7553.

## St Peter's Parish Newsletter

St Oliver's Pastoral Area

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

16<sup>th</sup> February 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](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

### Launch of St Oliver Plunkett 400

A wonderful launch for St Oliver Plunkett 400 took place last Wednesday in St Peter's Church. Archbishop Eamon Martin, Cllr Paddy McQuillan, Mayor, and a large congregation of dignitaries and parishioners were in attendance. Students from St Oliver's National School and St Oliver's Community College participated in the service through readings and song. A St Oliver 400 parish resource e-booklet was launched, as well as a superb primary school resource, prepared by St Oliver's NS. Many thanks to the hard-working St Oliver Plunkett 400 Committee members for all their efforts.

An excellent **Commemorative Book**, including colour photographs and beautiful illustrations was launched. Articles include those on the life of Saint Oliver, his trial, genealogy, key people, and significant places associated with the Saint, 17th century Drogheda, memories of the 1975 canonisation, and the great role which the Medical Missionaries of Mary played in the Saint's canonisation through the miracle attributed at the MMM clinic in Naples, Italy. Contributors include the editors, Tommy Burns and Tomás Hodgins, Cardinal Seán Brady, Senator Alison Comyn, community historian Brendan Matthews, Fr Paul Clayton-Lea and Fr Eugene Sweeney, with forewords from both Archbishop Eamon Martin, and Bishop Tom Deenihan of Meath. The book retails at €5 and is available in St Peter's Church shop. We hope to make it available after weekend Masses in the near future. A wonderfully crafted lapel pin badge, specially commissioned to mark the 400th anniversary, is also available in St Peter's Church shop costing €5.

### St. Oliver Jubilee Walk - 2025

During a period of persecution which necessitated St. Oliver moving to a more secure location, he wrote: "Snow mixed with big hailstones was

falling, a cutting wind was blowing into our faces... finally after frequent danger of being suffocated in the snowdrifts, we arrived at the house of a poor gentleman... God be praised that He gave us the grace to suffer for the chair of Peter and on the day dedicated to chair founded upon the rock which, I hope, will in the long run break the violence of these tempestuous waves.”

Commencing at 2.30pm on Saturday 22nd February, feast of the Chair of St Peter, at the house where St. Oliver resided at Doctor's Quarters (Map ref. 54.144553, - 6.465519) and following a short talk and blessing of the water in the nearby St. Oliver's Well, the Jubilee Pilgrims will walk two and a half miles via Daly's Bridge and Milltown to the church at Lislea. Vespers will be recited at 5.00pm, just as St. Oliver would have prayed on his arrival at the safe house, all those years ago.

For further information: email: [tobroin@gmail.com](mailto:tobroin@gmail.com)

### **Jubilee Year 2025 – ‘A call to action’**

The celebration of Jubilee 2025 has now begun throughout the universal Catholic Church on the theme ‘Pilgrims of Hope’. Everyone is invited to participate in the special year of faith. Specifically, Pope Francis is encouraging each of us to be messengers of hope in our very troubled world during this holy year. The Jubilee, in our Christian tradition, has a strong family focus on reconciliation and renewal, including reaching out to people on the margins. It is normally celebrated every 25 years, so that more people can experience it at least once in a lifetime. People in dioceses and parishes around Ireland are celebrating specific Jubilee occasions both locally and in Rome. Reflecting the Jubilee Year in the Universal Church, the Irish Synodal Pathway will also focus on hope ahead of the national pre-synodal assembly in Kilkenny on 18<sup>th</sup> October 2025. For further information on Jubilee 2025 Year of Hope, see the dedicated page on [CatholicBishops.ie](http://CatholicBishops.ie)

**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).

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

**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.

**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.

**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.

**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 Wednesday evening each week.*

**Pope Francis' intention for February:** For vocations to the priesthood and religious life. Let us pray that the ecclesial community might welcome the desires and doubts of those young people who feel a call to serve Christ's mission in the priesthood and religious life.

**Feast days this week**

Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> February The Chair of St Peter, Apostle

The monthly Mass in honour of **St Oliver Plunkett** will be celebrated next Saturday in St Peter's Church at 6.15pm.

The **Family Mass** will be celebrated in Our Lady of Lourdes Church next Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> February at 10.30am.

***Parish Collection for the weekend of***

*8<sup>th</sup> /9<sup>th</sup> February 2025*

Loose €1,515 Envelopes €1,430 Tap to donate €690 Total €3,635

There is a **second envelope** this weekend 15<sup>th</sup> /16<sup>th</sup> February, for the national services offered by the **Irish Bishops' Conference**, which include Pastoral Renewal and Youth Ministry; Catholic Education; Marriage, Family, Migrants & Pastoral Care; National Safeguarding of Children services; Communications; Worship & Faith Development. The Irish Bishops' Conference also has various social outreaches, including a Drugs Initiative and support for Irish prisoners overseas.

The priests of the parish are grateful for your support and thank you for the **Spring Dues** which are being collected from now to St Patrick's weekend. Many thanks to our loyal Dues