

31ST AUGUST 2025

CHURCH OF THE ASSUMPTION, ATHENRY

Parish Office: (091) 844076 Email: info@athenryparish.ie

Office Hours: Tuesday to Thursday 10:30am — 1:30pm; Friday: 10:30am — 4:30pm

Priests: Fr. Charlie McDonnell P.P. Mobile: 086-8193884 Email: frchaz@me.com
Fr. Benny Mc Hale C.C. Mobile: 087-2387336

Deacon: Rev. Julian Drapiewski Mobile: 086-8185188

Pastoral & Counselling: Mike Dunne Mobile: 0879920507 Email: counsellingmike@gmail.com

Parish Secretary: Bríd Higgins Office: 091 844076 Email: info@athenryparish.ie

Newcastle Bookings: Mary Gannon Mobile: 086-4060187

Safeguarding Rep: Eithna Moran Office: 091-844076

Email: info@athenryparish.ie Website: www.athenryparish.ie Facebook: St. Mary's Parish Athenry

Parish Webcam: www.athenryparish.ie Parish FM: 106.5


Bank Details for Weekly Church Offerings:
Bank: AIB, Athenry; Account Name: St. Mary's Parish Athenry IBAN:IE59 AIBK 9370 1013 1670 45; BIC:AIBKIE2D

PRIEST ON DUTY THIS WEEK: Fr. Charlie McDonnell P.P. Mobile: 086-8193884

TWENTY SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

CHURCH OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION, NEWCASTLE

Office Eircode: H65 H224



✠ MASS TIMES ✠

CHURCH OF THE ASSUMPTION ATHENRY

SATURDAY AUGUST 30TH — VIGIL MASS AT 6:30PM
John Reidy, Toberroe, (Month's Mind)

SUNDAY AUGUST 31ST — MASS AT 11:00AM
Tony Kelly, Castlelambert & Gort, (Month's Mind)

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 6TH — VIGIL MASS AT 6:30PM
Seán Monaghan Riversdale Hse., & ex Arklow, (Month's Mind)

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 7TH — MASS AT 11:00AM
Mary Brady, Moanbaun (1st Anniversary)

CHURCH OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION NEWCASTLE

SUNDAY AUGUST 31ST — MASS AT 10:00AM
Malachy Ruane, Cuddoo

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 7TH — MASS AT 10:00AM
Michael & Mary Harte & deceased of the Ryan & Harte families

✠ RECENTLY DECEASED — MAY THEY REST IN PEACE ✠

Tommy Qualter, Knockbrack

Gerard Daughton, New York & late of Listowel, (burial in U.S.)
brother of Mairéad Williams, Castle Ellen

COLLECTION LAST WEEKEND: ATHENRY & NEWCASTLE

Saturday 23rd & Sunday 24th August €3,340

SACRAMENT OF THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK


Takes place next SATURDAY SEPT. 6TH, AFTER 10:00AM MASS.
It is recommended that this Sacrament be received
no more than once per month unless it is genuinely needed.
For the Sacrament to be effective is should really be
accompanied by the Sacrament of Confession.

WEEKLY CONFESSION TIMES

CHURCH OF THE ASSUMPTION, ATHENRY
Saturdays 9.15am - 9.45am before 10:00am Mass or by appt.

CHURCH OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION, NEWCASTLE
After 10.00am Mass on Sundays.

BIBLE STUDY RETURNS

The Bible Study Group continues on Tuesdays at 7:30pm in the room next to the Parish Office.
The 18 — 35 demographic is especially encouraged to attend but everyone of all ages are welcome.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION & CONFIRMATION DATES 2026

We hope to publish these dates by mid-September. We know families need dates to make arrangements and we will release them as soon as we hear from the Diocesan Office.

READINGS: 6TH & 7TH SEPT. — 23RD SUN. ORDINARY TIME

1st READ: Wis 9:13-18 PSALM: 89:3-6, 12-14, 17
2nd READ: PHM 9-10, 12-17 GOSPEL: Lk 14:1, 25-33


DAILY MASS INTENTIONS: 10:00AM — 1ST - 6TH SEPT.

✠ John Kennedy, Rockfield
✠ Joseph Hynes, Knockbrack
✠ Patrick Kennedy, Kingsland
✠ Christy Kelly, Newford
✠ Paddy & Meg Hession, Clarin Crescent
✠ Nora, Willie & Peter Melia, Mountpelier
✠ Thomas & Mary Kate Walsh & their daughter Maureen
✠ Hugh & Helena Kelly & decd. of the Kelly family, Lisheenkyle
✠ Margaret & Jack Grealish, Lisheenkyle
✠ Denize Burges, Brazil
✠ Francie Burke, Cahertubber
✠ Nora & Mark Lally, Belville
✠ Charlie & Kitty Duggan, Knockbrack
✠ Joseph & Bridget Waters & decd. of Waters & McMahon families
✠ Vincent Rohan, New Line

SEPTEMBER FIRST FRIDAY CALLS

The following are the dates for the First Friday Calls this month
Fr. Charlie's calls will be on the **5th September**
Fr. Benny's calls will be on the **19th September**

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

The Children's Liturgy is back, starting September 7th during 11am Sunday Mass. We welcome children from Junior Infants to 1st Class. On your child's first day, parents will need to sign a new consent form. After this, children can attend weekly when the priest calls them up at the beginning of Mass. We're looking for new volunteers (18+). You would only be on the rota for about six Sundays a year, and training is provided. If you're interested please contact Eithna at eithnamoran@gmail.com or Deirdre at 0870984379.

CHY 3 — CHARITABLE DONATION SCHEME

First and foremost we wish to thank you all for your generous support to the Parish which is deeply and genuinely appreciated.

The CHY 3 Tax Contribution Scheme, (Charitable Donation Scheme), is a tax relief programme. It allows us to claim a tax refund on donations received from our parishioners who are taxpayers. It is an important source of revenue to the Church. Please note that this scheme costs you nothing. It applies to individual donations of €250+ in a single tax year through the envelope system. Shortly, we will send CHY 3 forms to parishioners who contributed over €250, in 2024 & who we don't have an up-to-date CHY 3 Form for. A signed CHY 3 Form is valid for 5 years. If you receive one &are: (1) paying tax — please sign it & return it to us; (2) not paying tax — please complete the box on the accompanying letter & return it to us.
Please return them to the church basket at Mass or to Parish Office

PILGRIMAGE TO MEDJUGORJE 2025 — LED BY FR. BENNY


From Knock to Mostar Dates: October 1st—8th 2025.

Some places have become available. Price is €875 & includes:

- Transport from Mostar Airport to Medjugorje
- 7 nights accommodation
- Breakfast and Dinner each day, plus
- Full religious programme by Marian Pilgrimages

PLEASE RING MARTINA (086-8641720) FOR FURTHER DETAILS.

POOR CLARES GALWAY, MONASTIC EXPERIENCE DAY

A Monastic Experience Day is an opportunity to learn more about the Poor Clare way of life & spirituality. It is for women aged 18 - 35. This event will take place from 10am - 5pm on Saturday 6th September. For more info. visit: poorclares.ie/monastic-experience-days. Register at events@poorclares.ie.

LATIN MASS PILGRIMAGE TO KNOCK

The Latin Mass Pilgrimage to Knock will take place on Saturday September 6, commencing with a Missa Cantata at 2pm in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel. The next Latin Mass will takes place Sunday September 14 at 6pm, in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel.

CHILDREN'S ART COMPETITION

A Safe and Welcoming Church

Children and Young Person's Art

Competition 2025

The NBSCCCI invites children and young people to participate in this competition by submitting a piece of art that depicts what 'A Safe and Welcoming Church' looks like or feels like to them. The piece may be a painting, sculpture, photograph or a written piece and is open to everyone who is under 18 years of age
Dates: The competition opens on the 1st of September 2025 and closes on the 30th of September 2025

Prizes
Category 1; 8yrs and younger: 1st Prize €100 voucher for a Toy store, 2nd Prize: €50 voucher for a Toy store, 3rd Prize €25 voucher for a Toy store.
Category 2; 9yrs to 12yrs: 1st Prize €100 voucher for Art Store, 2nd Prize: €50 voucher for Art store, 3rd Prize €25 Art store voucher
Category 3; 13yrs to 15yrs: 1st €150 voucher for Art store, 2nd Prize: €75 voucher for Art store, 3rd Prize €50 Art store voucher.
Category 4; 16yrs to 18yrs: 1st €200 voucher for Photography/Art Store, 2nd Prize: €150 voucher for Photography/ Art store , 3rd Prize €100 for Photography/ Art Store.

For Further details including rules of the competition go to <https://www.safeguarding.isnews-events/a-safe-and-welcoming-church-art-competition-2025>

GRD WORKABILITY EVENT

The East Galway WorkAbility Programme are holding an employer event in the Claregalway Hotel Tuesday 2nd September, 10am - 11am. The aim of the event is to inform employers of the benefits of employing someone with a disability & to raise awareness of the needs of people with a disability in the workplace. More info: email jappegate@grd.ie.



SOILSE DISCO

The next Soilse Disco
Takes place on
Friday 5th September,
8pm — 10pm

THE SEASON OF CREATION

Runs from: World Day of Prayer for Creation on September 1st to the Feast of St Francis of Assisi on October 4th.

POPE LEO XIV'S MESSAGE — “SEEDS OF PEACE & HOPE”
The Pope's full statement is available through the following link:
<https://press.vatican.va/content/salastampa/en/bollettino/pubblico/2025/07/02/250702e.html>

God's creation is not a battleground for vital resources

As the Church prepares to mark the Tenth World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation on September 1st, Pope Leo XIV's message for the occasion urges Christians & all people of goodwill to recognise the urgent need for environmental & social justice in a world increasingly scarred by climate change, conflict, & inequality. The Pope's message resonates with the spirit of the ongoing Jubilee Year, calling the faithful to embrace their role as "pilgrims of hope" & stewards of God's creation.

Justice in a wounded world

Echoing the prophetic words of Isaiah, Pope Leo invites the global community to envision a transformation of today's “arid & parched desert” into “a fruitful field.” This biblical vision, he explains, is not a poetic metaphor but an urgent call to action in the face of alarming ecological & human crises. Quoting extensively from Pope Francis' encyclical *Laudato si'* in it's 10th anniversary year, he writes, “Injustice, violations of international law & the rights of peoples, grave inequalities, & greed that fuels them are spawning deforestation, pollution, & the loss of biodiversity.” Linking environmental destruction to the exploitation of the poor & marginalized, he highlights the disproportionate suffering of indigenous communities & the widening gap between rich & poor as hallmarks of a system that treats nature as a commodity rather than a common home.

Nature as a battleground

He laments the fact that nature itself has become “a bargaining chip,” subjected to policies & practices that prioritize profit over people & the planet. From agricultural lands riddled with landmines to conflicts over water & raw materials, Pope Leo paints a sobering picture of a creation “turned into a battleground” for control & domination. These wounds, he says, are “the effect of sin,” a betrayal of the biblical command not to dominate creation, but to “till & keep” it, a call to cultivate & preserve the Earth through care & responsibility.

Environmental justice as a moral imperative

The Pope's message reaffirms the Church's commitment to an “integral ecology,” a concept at the heart of *Laudato si'*. Environmental justice, the Holy Father affirms, is not an abstract or secondary concern but a “duty born of faith.” “For believers,” he writes, “the universe reflects the face of Jesus Christ, in whom all things were created & redeemed.” In this light, caring for the planet becomes not only an ecological necessity but also a profoundly spiritual & moral vocation.

Seeds that bear fruit

Encouraging concrete action, Pope Leo calls for perseverance & love in sowing “seeds of justice” that will, in time, bear the fruits of peace. He cites the *Borgo Laudato Si'* project at Castel Gandolfo as a tangible example of how education & community life rooted in ecological values can shape a just & hopeful future. “This may take years,” the Pope acknowledges, “but years that involve an entire ecosystem made of continuity, fidelity, cooperation & love.”

A blessing for the future

Concluding his message with a prayer for the outpouring of God's Spirit, Pope Leo invokes the hope of the risen Christ as the guiding light for a world longing for healing. “May [*Laudato si'*] continue to inspire us,” he writes, “ & may integral ecology be increasingly accepted as the right path to follow.”

Article by Linda Bordoni of Vatican News.