

14TH DECEMBER 2025

CHURCH OF THE ASSUMPTION, ATHENRY

Parish Office: (091) 844076 Email: [info@athenryparish.ie](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:counsellingmike@gmail.com)

Parish Secretary: Bríd Higgins Office: 091 844076 Email: [info@athenryparish.ie](mailto:info@athenryparish.ie)

Newcastle Bookings: Mary Gannon Mobile: 086-4060187

Safeguarding Rep: Eithna Moran Office: 091-844076

Email: [info@athenryparish.ie](mailto:info@athenryparish.ie) Website: [www.athenryparish.ie](http://www.athenryparish.ie) Facebook: St. Mary's Parish Athenry

Parish Webcam: [www.athenryparish.ie](http://www.athenryparish.ie) Parish FM: 106.5

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

CHURCH OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION, NEWCASTLE

Office Eircode: H65 H224

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](mailto: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](mailto:counsellingmike@gmail.com)

Parish Secretary: Bríd Higgins Office: 091 844076 Email: [info@athenryparish.ie](mailto:info@athenryparish.ie)

Newcastle Bookings: Mary Gannon Mobile: 086-4060187

Safeguarding Rep: Eithna Moran Office: 091-844076

Email: [info@athenryparish.ie](mailto:info@athenryparish.ie) Website: [www.athenryparish.ie](http://www.athenryparish.ie) Facebook: St. Mary's Parish Athenry

Parish Webcam: [www.athenryparish.ie](http://www.athenryparish.ie) Parish FM: 106.5

PRIEST ON DUTY THIS WEEK:

*Fr. Charlie McDonnell P.P.*

Mobile: *086-8193884*

Bank Details for Weekly Church Offerings:

(Please include your name and/or envelope number if you have one)

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

✠ MASS TIMES ✠

CHURCH OF THE ASSUMPTION ATHENRY

SATURDAY DECEMBER 13TH — VIGIL MASS AT 6.30PM

Michael Cannon, Ballydavid South, (1st Anniversary)

Grow in Love — First Holy Communion Mass

SUNDAY DECEMBER 14TH — MASS AT 11:00AM

----

SATURDAY DECEMBER 20TH — VIGIL MASS AT 6.30PM

John Anthony Kelly, Cussane, (1st Anniversary)

SUNDAY DECEMBER 21ST — MASS AT 11:00AM

----

CHURCH OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION NEWCASTLE

SUNDAY DECEMBER 14TH — MASS AT 10:00AM

Seán O'Connor, Lenamore (Month's Mind)

Grow in Love — First Holy Communion Mass

SUNDAY DECEMBER 21ST — MASS AT 10:00AM

Tom & Margaret Kelly & deceased of the Kelly family, Tiaquin

BASKET COLLECTION 6TH, 7TH & 8TH DECEMBER

ATHENRY & NEWCASTLE

€4,150

RECENTLY DECEASED — MAY THEY REST IN PEACE

Ellen (Helen) Feeney, Willmount House & Rahoon

Deirdre Monahan, The Glade & formerly Knockbrack

Annie Roughan nee Nolan, Gort & formerly of Athenry,

sister of Kitty Naughton, Mountain South

Peggy Farrell, Rockfield Cross

CHRISTMAS CONFESSION TIMES

CHURCH OF THE ASSUMPTION ATHENRY

Saturday December 20th 9:00am — 9:50am.

Monday December 22nd 6:00pm — 8:00pm

Wednesday December 24th 10:30am—11:30am

CHURCH OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION NEWCASTLE

Sunday December 22nd 10:45 — 11:30am

WELCOMING OUR NEWLY BAPTISED

We welcome Tommy, Saorlaith, Cóilí & Harry, baptised in November, into our parish family. May God bless them.

MARY'S MEALS BAKE SALE / CRAFT FAIR

Takes place in the Pastoral Centre after Mass: Sat. 13th & Sun. 14th Dec. All proceeds go to help feed some of the world's poorest children in school, school+food=hope. [marysmeals.ie](http://marysmeals.ie). All donations will be doubled this Christmas Season thanks to the Tom Cunningham Trust.

mary's meals

IRELAND

20 year anniversary

Takes place in the Pastoral Centre after Mass: Sat. 13th & Sun. 14th Dec. All proceeds go to help feed some of the world's poorest children in school, school+food=hope. [marysmeals.ie](http://marysmeals.ie). All donations will be doubled this Christmas Season thanks to the Tom Cunningham Trust.

DAILY MASS INTENTIONS 10AM. 15TH — 20TH DEC.

✠ Vincent Shields, Cross St.

✠ Edward & Maggie Mongan, their sons Pat & Francie & their daughter Ellen & deceased of Mongan & McDonagh families

✠ Mary O'Connell, Green Acre

✠ Patrick & Annie Mary Loftus, Mayo

✠ Gerry & Geraldine Ahern, Clarin Crescent

✠ Seán Rooney, Blain

✠ Kathleen & Jackie Murray, Prospect

✠ May, Miko, Catherine, Paddy, Sarah & Mary Cronnelly, Church St. & Moanbaun

✠ Joe & Nora O'Connor, Kiltullagh, their son Tom & their grand-daughter Majella

✠ Pat & Kate Conneely, Galway, John Conneely, Boston & Michael Conneely, London

✠ Patsy Keane, Rathmorrissey

✠ Michael Cannon, Ballydavid

✠ Tommy & Mary Grealish, Lisheenkyle

✠ Peter Jennings, Coldwood

✠ Paddy, Kathleen & James Feeney, Ballyloughane

✠ John McCarthy, Ballintubber

✠ Martin & Nonie Keane, Ballydavid

✠ Emile & Michelle Romero, Lyon

✠ Eileen & Mattie Ryan, Park & the Ryan & Collins families

✠ Sr. Theodore Shaughnessy, The Mater, Dublin

✠ Margaret & Gerard Costello

✠ Annie Greally, Prospect

✠ Teresa Blake, Barrack St.

✠ Edward & Nora Mullins, Cussane

✠ Patrick Burke, Derrydonnell

✠ Dick & Nancy Corson

♪ HYMNS FOR 11:00AM SUNDAY MASS ♪

Entrance: O Come Divine Messiah

Offertory: Creator Alme Siderum

Communion: O Come O Come Emmanuel

Recessional: Lo He Come with Clouds Descending

O come, divine Messiah! / The world in silence waits the day

When hope shall sing its triumph, / And sadness flee away.

1. Sweet Saviour, haste: come, come to earth:

Dispel the night, and show thy face,

And bid us hail the dawn of grace. O come, divine Messiah! .....

2. Shalt come in peace and meekness,

And lowly will thy cradle be; All veiled in human weakness,

Thy majesty we'll see. Sweet Saviour, haste. ....

READINGS: 20TH & 21ST DECEMBER (4TH SUN. OF ADVENT)

1st READING: Is 7:10-14 PSALM: 23:1-6

2nd READING: Rm 1:1-7 GOSPEL: Mt 1:18-24

ADVENT & CHRISTMAS 2025

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

CHURCH OF THE ASSUMPTION ATHENRY

CHRISTMAS EVE WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 24TH

6:30pm Family Mass

9:00pm Christmas Eve Mass

CHURCH OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION NEWCASTLE

CHRISTMAS EVE WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 24TH

6:30pm Christmas Eve Mass

CHRISTMAS DAY THURSDAY DECEMBER 25TH

9:00am Mass at Dawn

11:00am Christmas Day Mass

CHURCH OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION NEWCASTLE

CHRISTMAS EVE WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 24TH

6:30pm Christmas Eve Mass

CHRISTMAS DAY THURSDAY DECEMBER 25TH

10:00am Christmas Day Mass

FR. BENNY'S ADVENT SCRIPTURE COURSE — ATHENRY

Interested in learning more about the Scriptures read at Mass? This year's Gospels come from St. Matthew. Fr. Benny continues his short introductory course, for the remaining Mondays of Advent — December 15th & 22nd; 8:00—9:30pm in the Pastoral Centre. This will be of interest to readers & Holy Land pilgrims, those interested in Lectio Divina. All welcome. No experience needed. Please bring a Bible (copies available).

NATIVITY FILM

On Monday December 22nd at 8:00pm, there will be a special showing of a film on the Nativity of the Birth of Jesus. It will be shown in the Pastoral Centre. All are welcome.

BAMBINELLI SUNDAY

Pope St. John Paul II began the tradition of Bambinelli Sunday which takes place this weekend. Figures of the Baby Jesus brought by people to Mass are blessed, reminding us of Christ's presence in our homes & hearts this Christmas. May this simple devotion inspire faith, hope, & love in every household.

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT ("GAUDETE" SUNDAY)

During Advent it is worthwhile to reflect on how we can wait well. Advent is the perfect season for this, to slow down the pace, to focus on what really matters & embrace the joy of expectant hope. However on the Third Sunday of Advent ("Gaudete" or "Rejoice" Sunday), the liturgy takes on a more joyful character as a reminder that the birth of Christ is near. To reflect this, the organ, which is normally silent during Advent, may be played. We also see that the rose candle is lit on the Advent wreath, the priest may wear rose-coloured vestments (rather than the usual violet colour of Advent), & the sanctuary area may be decorated with flowers.

ST. MARY'S ATHENRY CHRISTMAS MASS BOUQUET CARDS.

Available in the Parish Office.

Signed by Fr. Charlie / Fr. Benny

CHRISTMAS CAROLS IN OUR PARISH

ATHENRY SIMANJIRO PARTNERSHIP CHRISTMAS CAROLS

Join us for Christmas Carols outside Tesco Athenry on Saturday 20th December from 2:00pm — 4:00pm in aid of Athenry Simanjiro Partnership. All support greatly appreciated.

NEWCASTLE N.S. CAROL SERVICE IN NEWCASTLE CHURCH

The staff and pupils of Newcastle National School wish to invite you to join them for their Carol service on Wednesday 17th December at 12.30pm in Church of Immaculate Conception, Newcastle. All are welcome.

BEST WISHES TO ATHENRY CAMOGIE CLUB

We wish every blessing to the Athenry Senior Camogie Squad — players, mentors & back room team in the All Ireland Senior Camogie Final in Croke Park this Sunday 14th Dec. (4:15pm). It's a proud day for our parish. God 's blessing to you all. **BEIR BUA AGUS BEANNACHT.**

PRIESTS' CHRISTMAS COLLECTION

The Christmas Collection for the priests of the parish will be taken up at **all Masses on Christmas Day**. This is one of the four collections in the year that goes towards the salaries of the priests. We are deeply grateful for the way in which you so generously support us throughout the year. God bless you all. You can also transfer your contribution electronically through: **IBAN: IE33 AIBK 9370 1000 1550 60 BIC: AIBKIE2D**

NOTICE FROM ATHENRY St. VINCENT DE PAUL (SVP)

THANKS TO ALL WHO CONTRIBUTED TO OUR SVP CHURCH GATE COLLECTION LAST WEEKEND AT ATHENRY & NEWCASTLE MASSES.

This is our primary source of funding for the year so again thanks for your support. You may contribute as follows: **Method 1:** Contribute to the church gate collection at mass on the 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> December in Athenry or Newcastle. **Method 2:** Lodge a contribution to Athenry SVP's account in AIB Athenry: Acc. No: 11722064. Sort Code: 93-70-10 **Method 3:** Transfer your contribution electronically through: IBAN: IE79AIBK93701011722064 BIC: AIBKIE2D

For lodgements & transfers, please include **ONLY your NAME & EIRCODE** in the transaction. (Extra text often doesn't appear in the bank statement & we won't know donor name). If you wish to contribute €250 or over, & would like to participate in the CHY3 scheme, please be sure & provide us with your Name & Eircode as instructed above. We will forward necessary documentation. Thanks for your support.

A GENERAL NOTE RE CHY3 FORMS

If you donate €250 or more to multiple charities in a year, you can complete a separate CHY3 form for each. This lets each charity claim tax back from Revenue, up to your total tax paid.

AREA DISTRIBUTORS OF PARISH ENVELOPES 2026

The 2026 parish envelopes are available in the Pastoral Centre for area distributors to collect. THANKS TO THOSE WHO DISTRIBUTE ENVELOPES.

ATHENRY FOOTBALL CLUB FUNDRAISER

Support Aoife & Emma, 2 young parishioners facing serious health challenges. All funds raised go directly to their families to help with treatment, rehabilitation & recovery. Donate via: (1) iDonate: [www.idonate.ie/crowdfunder/AoifeEmma](http://www.idonate.ie/crowdfunder/AoifeEmma); or (2) Athenry Credit Union: Account #63966. More info: Anne: 0857122077 or Athenry FC website & socials.

ATHENRY NEWS & VIEWS FREE MAGAZINE

The valued local publication, Athenry News & Views Magazine has returned after an absence of 5 years. It is available free online. To view it: Scan this QR code or visit [athenryexperience.ie/news](http://athenryexperience.ie/news).

TUAM MEN OF ST JOSEPH MEETING SUN 14TH @ 7PM

Venue: The Blessed Sacrament Chapel, Tuam. Guest speaker: Dominican Fr. Conor McDonough. Topic: Catholic Social Teaching in the lives of Christian men. Enquiries to [frmarkquinn@tuamparish.com](mailto:frmarkquinn@tuamparish.com).

GALWAY CATHEDRAL LIVE CRIB 2025

Takes place in the Cathedral grounds Tues. 16th Dec. 11:30am—4pm. Galway Cathedral community members will portray Mary, Joseph, baby Jesus & shepherds. There will be carols by local national school choirs. All are welcome.