

18TH JANUARY 2026

CHURCH OF THE ASSUMPTION, ATHENRY

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

Office Hours: Tues. — Thurs. 10:30am — 1:30pm; Fri. 10:30am — 4:30pm. Closed Bank Holidays & Holy Days

2ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

CHURCH OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION, NEWCASTLE

Office Eircode: H65 H224

Closed Bank Holidays & Holy Days

Priests:

Fr. Charlie McDonnell P.P.

Mobile: 086-8193884 Email: [frchaz@me.com](mailto:frchaz@me.com)

Deacon:

Fr. Benny McHale C.C.

Mobile: 087-2387336

Pastoral & Counselling:

Rev. Julian Drapiewski

Mobile: 086-8185188

Parish Secretary:

Mike Dunne

Mobile: 087 9920507 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 JANUARY 17TH, 2026 — VIGIL MASS AT 6.30PM

Noel Madden, Caheroyan (Month's Mind).

Confirmation Enrolment Mass.

SUNDAY JANUARY 18TH, 2026 — MASS AT 11:00AM

Joe Glynn, Caheroyan & Tuam (Month's Mind).

SATURDAY JANUARY 24TH, 2026 — VIGIL MASS AT 6.30PM

Chrissie Flaherty, Park (1st Anniversary)

SUNDAY JANUARY 25TH, 2026 — MASS AT 11:00AM

----

CHURCH OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION NEWCASTLE

SUNDAY JANUARY 18TH, 2026 — MASS AT 10:00AM

Lucy O'Shea-Daly, Mountain South.

Confirmation Enrolment Mass.

SUNDAY JANUARY 25TH, 2026 — MASS AT 10:00AM

Tommy & Margaret Maloney, Shudane

BASKET COLLECTION

ATHENRY & NEWCASTLE €3,505

RECENTLY DECEASED—REST IN PEACE

Teresa Burke, Cuddoo

Brendan King, Toronto, & late of Bawnmore

PARISH STATISTICS (ATHENRY & NEWCASTLE) 2025 & 2024

	2025	2024
Baptisms	80	77
Communions	135	149
Confirmations	151	151
Marriages	7	6
Deaths	57	41

CANDLEMAS — PRESENTATION OF THE LORD

Monday Feb. 2nd is Candlemas Day. Beeswax candles for blessing are available in the Parish Office (6 for €7). Candles will be blessed at Mass on Candlemas Day. Limited amount left.

ATHENRY BIBLE STUDY GROUP

Weekly Bible Study continues Tuesdays 7.30pm in the Pastoral Centre. Open to all. No prior knowledge required.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY WEEKLY DURING SUN 11AM MASS

Children's Liturgy continues during 11am Sunday Mass. Children in Junior / Senior Infants & 1st Class welcome. More info.: Eithna [eithnamoran@gmail.com](mailto:eithnamoran@gmail.com) or Deirdre 0870984379.

READINGS: 24TH & 25TH JAN. — 3rd Sun. in Ordinary Time

1st READ: Is 8:23—9:3 PSALM: 26:1, 4,13-14

2nd READ: 1 COR 1:10-13 GOSPEL: MT 4:12-23

DAILY INTENTIONS 10:00AM. JANUARY 19TH — 24TH

✠ Dave Ward, Ballygurrane

✠ Mary Farrell, Rockfield Cross

✠ Michael John Higgins, Cloonkeen

✠ Charlie Hayes, Castlebar

✠ Josie Hynes, Knockbrack

✠ Philomena Higgins, Walter Macken Place, Mervue

✠ Roddy & Bridie Dempsey, Abbey Row & deceased of the Dempsey & Costelloe families

✠ Tommy Joe & Margaret Quinton & deceased of the Quinton & Coffey families

✠ Sonny Naughton, Mountain South

✠ Pake & Josephine Ruane, Castlelambert & deceased of the Ruane & Burke families

✠ Ann Caulfield, Prospect

✠ John Joyce, Prospect

✠ Bernard King, Toronto & Bawnmore (Recently Deceased)

✠ Cyril Dooley, Galway

✠ Mick & Ellen Freeney, sons Anthony & Midie, daughters Mary & Nano (Sr. Gabriel)

✠ Bill Freeney, Derrydonnell

✠ Paddy & Mary Freeney, Castlelambert

✠ Anne McDonagh, Newbridge, Co. Kildare (Month's Mind) & her husband Paddy

✠ Bridie & William Doherty, Caheroyan

✠ Noreen Farrell, nee Kelly, formerly of Castlelambert

🎵 HYMNS FOR 11:00AM SUNDAY MASS ATHENRY 🎵

Entrance: Immaculate Mary

Offertory: Hail Queen of Heaven

Communion: Lord Jesus Think of Me

Recessional: Praise to the Holiest

1. Immaculate Mary! Our hearts are on fire; That title so wondrous fills all our desire. Chorus: Ave, ave, ave Maria!

2. We pray for God's glory, may His kingdom come! We pray for His vicar, our father, and Rome. Chorus: Ave, ave, ave Maria!

3. We pray for our mother, the Church upon earth, And bless, sweetest Lady, the land of our birth. Chorus: Ave, ave, ave Maria!

FR. BENNY'S PILGRIMAGE TO MEDJUGORJE 2026

Fr. Benny will lead a 7-day pilgrimage to Medjugorje from 7th — 14th October flying from Knock to Mostar. Full religious programme operated by Marian Pilgrimages & their guides. Very limited places available. Contact Martina 086 8641720.

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK 2026: 18TH — 24TH JANUARY

NORMAL LIVES, CALLED TO HOLINESS!

Pupils, teachers, families, & parishes are invited to explore the call to holiness as something both universal & accessible. Holiness is not for a few, but for all; not reserved for religious professionals, but for every student, teacher, parent & grandparent living each day in friendship with Jesus Christ. Catholic schools exist to form individuals who know that their lives have a purpose & a calling. This year's theme resonates with the central conviction that education is a path not only to knowledge & maturity, but to sainthood. Each of us is called to be holy by living our lives with love & by bearing witness in everything we do. As usual, the theme will be connected at primary level with Grandparents' Day on the Wednesday of Catholic Schools Week (21st Jan.). This is a cherished tradition, honouring the vital role grandparents & elders play in passing on the faith & in showing how holiness can be lived over a lifetime. Pupils are encouraged to show gratitude & to celebrate their family roots.

ATHENRY PRIMARY SCHOOL GRANDPARENTS' DAY

As mentioned above Catholic Schools Week takes place 18th – 24th Jan. Grandparents are invited to visit Athenry Primary School on Grandparents' Day, Wed. Jan. 21st from 10:45am – 12 noon. (If grandparents are unable to come, then a parent is very welcome to come in their stead). They will visit their grandchildren's classrooms & refreshments will be provided.

PARISH COMMITTEE MEETINGS — JANUARY

PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING

Monday January 19th at 8:00pm in the Pastoral Centre.

FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING

Monday January 26th at 8:00pm in the Pastoral Centre.

ATHENRY PRIMARY SCHOOL ENROLMENTS — Sept 2026

Enrolment forms available on: [www.athenryprimaryschool.ie](http://www.athenryprimaryschool.ie) or from the school office: (091) 844510 or by email [office@athenryprimaryschool.ie](mailto:office@athenryprimaryschool.ie). Closing date for receipt of completed enrolment forms is Monday February 2nd.

ESKER NATIONAL SCHOOL ENROLMENTS

Enrolment details on website [eskerns.ie](http://eskerns.ie) or email [office@eskerns.ie](mailto:office@eskerns.ie) or call 091848008.

ATHENRY AGRICULTURAL SHOW AGM

Takes place on Tuesday 20th January 2026 at 8pm in Raheen Woods Hotel. New members are very welcome.

TUAM DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO FATIMA

Fatima and Lisbon Coast; 7 nights (4+3); June 25th to July 2nd 2026; With Spiritual Director; ex Dublin. For details and booking: 012410800.

GRÁSTA MARRIAGE RELATED COURSES 2026

Grásta, the voluntary Irish group of Married Couples, has facilitated Catholic Pre-Marriage Courses for over 25 years (formerly at Esker Monastery; highly recommended by Fr. Charlie). For more info. & details visit [www.grasta.org](http://www.grasta.org) or email [info@grasta.org](mailto:info@grasta.org). Weekend residential courses below:

Pre-Marriage: 6th — 8th March; 13th — 15th November.

Married Couples: 7th — 8th March; 14th — 15th November.

POOR CLARES GALWAY HALF-DAY RETREAT

“Cherished Daughters” -a half day retreat for women 18-40 including Adoration & Evening Prayer. Speaker Beth Davis of Blessed is She Ministry. This is an opportunity to encounter God's love & deepen your life of prayer & communion with God. Takes place from 2 — 6pm, Sunday 1st February. For more info. / to register: <https://cherisheddaughters.eventbrite.ie>

OCTAVE OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY

Sunday 18 January until Sunday 25 January 2026

During this annual Week of Prayer, Christians worldwide pray that all who are baptised into Christ may grow in unity, as Jesus prayed “that all may be one.” The theme for 2026, from Ephesians 4:4, is: “There is one body & one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling.” This reminds us that, despite differences in Christian traditions, we share one calling in Christ, are united by the same Spirit, & live in the same hope of salvation. We encourage you to pray for Christian unity this week, especially at Mass, & to reflect on how we can be signs of reconciliation & peace in daily life. May it deepen our commitment to unity as one Body in Christ.

RECEIVE A PATRON SAINT FOR 2026

As we enter a new year amid challenging times, many of us seek spiritual support, hope, & meaning in our daily lives. Receive a Patron Saint for 2026 is a New Year initiative inviting everyone to experience the comfort & strength of the Communion of Saints. At Sunday Mass on 25th January, you are invited to take part in a simple yet meaningful draw. From a box containing 300 names of patron saints, you will select one name at random. The saint you draw will become your Patron Saint for 2026 — a spiritual companion to guide & intercede for you throughout the year. You are encouraged to get to know your Patron Saint: learn their story, reflect on their life, & pray through their intercession. Through this relationship, may you discover you are not alone in your struggles & heavenly assistance is always near. It's not too late to receive a little help from above. All welcome to participate.

ATHENRY PARISH LENTEN MISSION 2026

KEEPING HOPE ALIVE — LEARNING TO JOURNEY THROUGH LIFE BRIMMING WITH HOPE. 23RD – 25TH FEB. 7 – 9:30PM

CHURCH OF THE ASSUMPTION ATHENRY

Mass, Talks, Confessions, Adoration, Music, Anointing of the Sick, Healing, Refreshments. More info: contact 091844076 or [info@athenryparish.ie](mailto:info@athenryparish.ie) or visit [www.athenryparish.ie](http://www.athenryparish.ie).

KNOCK SHRINE EVENTS

Visit [www.knockshrine.ie](http://www.knockshrine.ie) for more information


January 24th and 25th — Retreat

Beautiful Words — a contemplative overnight retreat where poetry, scripture, silence and prayer meet. Booking required.


January 30th — The future of Catholic Schools in Ireland

TRADITION, TRANSITION or transformation?


What is the future of Catholic ethos? Join us for an essential discussion with an expert panel.

Dr Tom Carroll -


Mary Immaculate College

Dr Aine Moran -

Post-Primary School Principal and Co-founder Fóláine Catholic Education Leadership Services

Alan Hynes -

CEO Catholic Education Partnership.

Fr Brendan Kilcoyne -

Parish Priest and Presenter “The Brendan Option”

FRIDAY 30<sup>th</sup> January 2026

Time: 7:30 Sharp (Doors open 7pm)

Donations only. Free refreshments on the night

Venue: St Johns Centre, Knock Shrine, Co. Mayo

Sunday February 8th — Latin Mass

The next Latin Mass will take place at 6pm, in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel Knock.