

8TH MARCH 2026
CHURCH OF THE ASSUMPTION, ATHENRY
Parish Office: (091) 844076 Email: info@athenryparish.ie
Office Hours: Tues. — Thurs. 10:30am — 1:30pm; Fri. 10:30am — 4:30pm. Closed Bank Holidays & Holy Days

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

Deacon: Rev. Julian Drapiewski **Mobile:** 086-8185188

Pastoral & Counselling: Mike Dunne **Mobile:** 087 9920507 **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

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

**WE ENCOURAGE REGULAR ATTENDANCE AT:
MASS, ADORATION AND ROSARY DURING LENT**

✠ MASS TIMES ✠
CHURCH OF THE ASSUMPTION ATHENRY
SATURDAY MARCH 7TH, 2026 — MASS AT 6:30PM
Francis Kennedy, Boyhill, (Month's Mind)
SUNDAY MARCH 8TH, 2026 — MASS AT 11:00AM
Pro Populo (People of the Parish)
SATURDAY MARCH 14TH, 2026 — MASS AT 6:30PM
Intention
SUNDAY MARCH 15TH, 2026 — MASS AT 11:00AM
Mary Quigley, Cullairbaun, (1st Anniversary)

CHURCH OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION NEWCASTLE
SUNDAY MARCH 8TH, 2026 — MASS AT 10:00AM
Sarah & Martin Molloy, Pat & Nora Forde
SUNDAY MARCH 15TH, 2026 — MASS AT 10:00AM
Jimmy & Rita Molloy, Shudane
Paddy, Nora & Madeline Molloy, England

RECENTLY DECEASED — MAY THEY REST IN PEACE
Pete Ruane, California & late of Cuddoo, Newcastle
Noreen Forde nee Finn, Kinnegad & late of Rocklodge House (died Jan. 2026), sister of the late Martin Finn

BASKET COLLECTION LAST WEEKEND
ATHENRY & NEWCASTLE
€4,295

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT
ATHENRY Mon — Wed. 10:30am — 6:00pm daily
Thurs. 10:30am — Sat. 6:00pm (perpetual)
Sunday 12 noon — 6:00pm
NEWCASTLE Saturday 6:00pm — 7:00pm (note time change)
Monday 6:00pm — 9:00pm

ATHENRY BIBLE STUDY GROUP
Weekly Bible Study continues Tuesdays 7.30pm in the Pastoral Centre with a special welcome to those aged 18-35.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY WEEKLY DURING SUN 11AM MASS
Continues for Infants & 1st Class children. More info. contact: Eithna eithnamoran@gmail.com or Deirdre 0870984379.

READINGS: 14th & 15th MARCH - 4th Sun. of Lent (Laetare)
1st READING: 1 SM 16-1, 6-7, 10-13
PSALM: 22
2nd READING: EPH 5:-8-14
GOSPEL: JN 9:1-41

3RD SUNDAY OF LENT
CHURCH OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION, NEWCASTLE
Office Eircode: H65 H224
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DAILY INTENTIONS 10AM. 9TH - 14TH MARCH

✠ Margaret Maloney, Shudane
✠ Dan & Monica Kennedy, Swangate
✠ Úna Carroll, Derrydonnell
✠ Richard Higgins, Castlelambert
✠ Sally Finn & deceased of the Finn family, Moorpark
✠ Lily Murphy, Enniscorthy
✠ Karen Torpey & her father Eamonn & the deceased of the Torpey & Kelly families
✠ John & Kathleen Donoghue, Northgate St. & Caheroyan Pk.
✠ Niall Walsh, Cullairbaun
✠ Lena & Thomas Murren & their baby son Thomas Patrick & deceased of the Murren & McGarry families
✠ Nora & Bernard Gaughran, Prospect
✠ Martin Shaughnessy, Cahertubber, & deceased of the family
✠ John & Mary McLoughlin & deceased of the family
✠ Joe O'Driscoll, Esker & Dunmanway, Co. Cork

"FIRST FRIDAY" CALLS FOR MARCH
Fr. Benny
will do his March calls on
Friday 13th March

FIRST CONFESSIONS
First Confessions for children preparing to receive First Holy Communion this year, will begin in the national schools this week & will continue to take place in the schools over the coming weeks. These are special moments in the faith journey of our young people. We keep all the children, their families, & their teachers in our thoughts & prayers as they take this important step in their preparation for First Holy Communion.
GO MBEANNAÍ DIA DAOIBH GO LÉIR.

♪ **HYMNS 11:00AM SUNDAY MASS ATHENRY** ♪
Entrance: Lord Jesus Think of me
Offertory: Ubi Caritas (Chant)
Communion: Attende Domine (chant)
Recessional: Ave Regina Caelorum

1. **Lord Jesus, think on me,**
And purge away my sin,
From worldly passions set me free,
And make me pure within.
2. **Lord Jesus, think on me,**
With care and woe oppressed;
Let me your loving servant be,
And taste your promised rest.



LENT AND LETTING GO

LET GO OF **BITTERNESS** EMBRACE **FORGIVENESS**
LET GO OF **JEALOUSY** EMBRACE **GRATITUDE**
LET GO OF **ANGER & HATE** EMBRACE **CHARITY**
LET GO OF **PRIDE** EMBRACE **HUMILITY**
LET GO OF **LUST** EMBRACE **PURITY**
LET GO OF **SINS** EMBRACE **GOD**

✠ STATIONS OF THE CROSS DURING LENT ✠
Takes place every Friday during Lent at 7pm in Athenry Church
HOW TO PRAY THE STATIONS: 3 sections to praying each:
1. Beginning at the first station, we genuflect or bow and say:
V/. We adore thee O Christ and we praise thee.
R/. Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.
2. Then using scripture or reading material, meditate on the particular station. Alternatively you may simply gaze & reflect on the particular station itself using the picture & title of each.

SUGGESTED WAYS OF FULFILLING FRIDAY PENANCE
From statement of Friday Penance — Bishops' Conference 2011.

- ✠ Abstaining from meat or some other food
- ✠ Abstaining from alcoholic drink or smoking
- ✠ Making a special effort at involvement in family prayer
- ✠ Making a special effort to participate in Mass on Fridays
- ✠ Visiting the Blessed Sacrament
- ✠ Making the Stations of the Cross
- ✠ Fasting from all food for a longer period than usual and perhaps giving what is saved to the needy
- ✠ Helping the poor, sick, old or lonely

COME AND SEE DAY — A DAY TO EXPLORE PRIESTHOOD
Talks, time for prayer, answering your questions, discerning a vocation. Saturday 28 March 2026. 11am – 4:30pm. (Including Eucharist). Knock House Hotel, F12R6Y5. Booking through National Vocations Office. Enquiries: carol.king@vocations.ie.

MEN OF ST. JOSEPH
The March meeting takes place this Sunday 8th March @ 7pm in the Blessed Sacrament chapel Tuam (H54 T656). Guest speaker is Fr. Shane Sullivan, speaking on Ignatian spirituality & its use in our everyday prayer life.

KNOCK SHRINE EVENTS
MOTHER'S PRAYERS — ANNUAL WEEKEND 2026
At St John's Rest & Care Centre, Knock Shrine, Fri. 13th — Sun. 15th March. It is especially for mothers who wish to pray together for their children & grandchildren, all women are welcome. There is no cover charge & you are welcome to come, even for a short time. Enquiries: Marie 087 6184110/ 091 771009 or email ireland@mothersprayers.org.

CHILDREN'S ROSARY AND EUCHARISTIC ADORATION
Children's Rosary and Eucharistic Adoration on Thursday, 19th March at 5:30 - 6:15 pm in the Apparition Chapel, Knock Shrine. For children and teens of all ages. Everyone is welcome to join in prayer. Under 18's must be accompanied by a parent or guardian at all times. For any questions: 087 2299 623. Website: www.ChildrensRosary.org.

PILGRIMAGES
MEDJUGORJE: 9TH—16TH APRIL
7 night Pilgrimage from the 9th to the 16th of April 2026 led by Carmel & Mick Summerville. Spiritual director is Fr. Brendan Kilcoyne. Enquiries to: 0872072194 / 0871339668.

DIOCESAN FATIMA & LISBON COAST: 25TH JUNE — 2ND JULY
Led by John B McLoughlin. June 25th - July 2nd 2026; ex Dublin. 4 nights at AVENIDA Hotel Breakfast/Lunch & Dinner. 3 nights TRYP COSTA CAPARICA on Breakfast & Dinner. Full religious programme. Fully guided with tours & visits as per final itinerary. Enquiries to: Joe Walsh Tours 01 241 0800.

UPCOMING PARISH MEETINGS
FINANCE COMMITTEE: Monday March 9th at 7:00pm
PASTORAL COUNCIL: Monday March 9th at 8:00pm
Both meetings are being held in the Pastoral Centre.

60 YEARS OF ATHENRY CREDIT UNION
Heartiest congratulations to Athenry Credit Union on reaching a very significant milestone of 60 years this year. We acknowledge & thank the Credit Union for their vital role they play in our community & for the support it gives to individuals, families & community alike. We think of Canon Conor Heaney, our former parish priest & all others who were involved in instigating this deeply valued project. We congratulate & thank all those who carry on the flame to this day. May God bless our Credit Union & all involved.
AD MULTOS ANNOS! BEIR BUA AGUS BEANNACHT.

TRÓCAIRE LENTEN CAMPAIGN
Each year the people of the parish have given generously to Trócaire who are deeply grateful for this. Your donations help provide food, clean water, education, & vital support to families who need it most. Even a small contribution makes a big difference. Trócaire boxes are available in the church. We encourage you to take one home & return it at Easter.

ATHENRY SIMANJIRO PARTNERSHIP
We are delighted to support Trócaire as a Parish annually & we enthusiastically continue to do so, but we also encourage you to consider supporting Athenry—Simanjiro Partnership as part of your Lenten commitment. Information & donation box is available to the right of the main entrance of Athenry church if anyone would like to consider this as an alternative.

ATHENRY CARER'S GROUP
Join other family carers in the Athenry area for a their monthly meeting on the second Wednesday of every month. Meetings take place in the Skylark Centre, Raheen, H65 Y103, 7—9pm & include Health Lectures & Demonstrations etc. Next meeting is on 11th March. New members are always welcome.

FREE DIGITAL SKILLS DROP-IN CLINIC, ATHENRY LIBRARY
Last of the FREE digital skills 'Drop in Clinics' are on Thursdays March 5th & 12th from 3pm — 5pm in Athenry Library. Topics include phone/laptop/iPad/tablet basics, communications, safety & security, messaging & games. Just turn up & bring your own device.

PARÁID LÁ FHÉILE PÁDRAIG, BAILE ÁTHA AN RÍ
The St. Patrick's Day Parade begins approx. 11:45 a.m. It's theme - Year of the Fire Horse, represents independence & progress. It reflects Athenry & it's people, an ancient town that embraces the new & unusual, always with pride of place.

MAKE THE LINK — FREE EVENT BY GRD
Galway Rural Development & the Dept. of Social Protection are hosting a series of FREE 'Make the Link' events, for National Work & Skills Week. Meet employers, education & training providers, Family Resource Centres & local support services to learn of opportunities in education, training & employment. Information on financial support & benefits available. Tuam event will be held Wednesday, 11th March 10am-1pm, in the Ard Rí House Hotel. Enquiries: Freeda in GRD on 087 3674568.

PURPLE DAY — EPILEPSY AWARENESS DAY
Please keep those with epilepsy & their families in your prayers. About 45,000 people in Ireland live with epilepsy. Purple Day on 26 March is Epilepsy Ireland's biggest awareness & fundraising campaign. Visit: www.epilepsy.ie to donate or fundraise to support services, education, & families affected.

