

The Newsletter

June 2024

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A scene from Easter Service in Lacca Church

(Photo kindly provided by Sylvia Stotesbury)

Clonenagh Group of Parishes

Annatrim - Borris-in-Ossory - Lacca - Mountrath - Roskelton - Seir Kieran

The Rector Writes

The Summertime

For many people summer is the most wonderful time of the year. The summer months, with their long days, slower pace, smell of sausages and hamburgers on the barbecue, and lying on a sandy beach can feel almost heavenly. Sadly, all too often, the lazy, hazy days of summer when many are taking a break from work, college or school, all too often becomes a holiday from the practice of our faith.

However, summer is actually a wonderful opportunity to deepen our relationship with God through our prayer. If we take time to ourselves to switch off the mobile phone, to leave checking our emails for a time, to silence the podcasts and take out the earbuds, we can give ourselves some time to thank God for all he has done for us in Christ Jesus our Lord.

The sunny beach, or the back garden, or the open field, can present us with a lovely opportunity to find the peace and quiet that is so necessary for prayer. Prayer doesn't even require us to say a word. It merely requires us to quiet our interior self, as St Paul wrote: "In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us through wordless groans. And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for God's people in accordance with the will of God." (*Romans 8:26-27, NIV*). The garden or the beach or the field can be a valuable time for us time to read the Bible.

Pope Francis recently spoke of the disciples who climbed Mount Tabor with Jesus, that we too can disengage from worldly matters "to rediscover the peaceful and regenerative silence of meditating on the Gospel, on the reading of the Bible, which leads to a destination rich in beauty, splendour, and joy. When we meditate in this way, with the Bible in hand, in silence, we begin to feel this interior beauty, this joy that the Word of God engenders in us."

But ultimately, let us not abandon church on our holidays. Amidst all the plans we make for our days away, surely, we can plan for church too? Visiting a different church while on holiday can be a very enriching experience. Meeting new people, experiencing a different style of liturgy and hearing new perspectives can be wonderfully uplifting and enlightening, and most importantly, spiritually rewarding.

~Canon Victor

Requiescant In Pace

We extend our sincere condolences to Joe Bland, Winsdor, Coolrain, on the sad passing of **Elizabeth (Ann) Jenkins** on 1st May in UL Hospital, Limerick. Ann was laid to rest in her native Lisburn, Co Antrim.

A service to commemorate her life will be held in Annatrim Church on Saturday 1st June at 2pm.

A lovely Service of Remembrance for **Gladys Danne** on the occasion of her First Anniversary, led by James Bennett, was held in Lacca Church on Sunday 21st April. Over 60 family members, friends and neighbours took part in the service which gave great comfort to the many who continue to grieve and mourn for a still very much missed and much-loved lady.

May they rest in peace, and rise in glory

Parish Notes

Fellowship Service

The Fellowship Service takes place in Lacca Church on the second Thursday of every month at 8pm. All welcome!

GFS

Date for your diary:

Friday 7th June 19.15-20.30:

Presentation of certificates Parochial Hall Mountrath

The **Clonenagh Parish Fundraising Committee** annual **Golf Classic** in Mountrath Golf Club is ongoing as this issue of the Newsletter goes to press on Friday 24th May. Full report next month.

Badminton Club

If anyone is interested in playing Badminton for fun or competitive leagues, you are more than welcome to attend training on Tuesday & Thursday evenings every week in Mountrath Community School Hall. Juvenile 7pm – 8pm, €4 pp fee. Adults 8pm – 10pm, €5 pp fee.

Home Communion

Please contact the Rector if you or a loved one would like to be added to the monthly Home Communion list or would simply just like a visit and a chat.

Robert & James Harvey, AKA '**The Harvey Brothers**', launch their new album '**The Lads of Laois**' in Bloom HQ, Mountrath, on Friday 28th June at 8.00pm.

Recorded at Roundwood House, the album is all Laois tunes spanning the 1800s to the present day collected by Robert and some new compositions by James.

Everyone is welcome, and admission is free.

Jane Bakes!

Jane's Bakes is open Saturdays outside The Cosy Café, Mountrath, from 10am-12pm selling baked goods. (Instagram/ Facebook janess_bakess)



Congratulations to young Lacca parishioner Katelyn Shore who graduated on Wednesday 22nd May from Mountrath Community School and who was awarded Sportsperson of the Year. Well done!

(Photo kindly provided by Ray Shore)

Clonenagh National School News

Clonenagh National School Fundraising

The **Clonenagh National School Annual Summer Fete** will return on Sunday 9th June 2024 from 1pm - 5pm. The Fete takes place in the school grounds on the Portlaoise Road in Mountrath, with all funds raised going towards the school. The Tea Rooms will be located inside the school building and will be run by the school staff. Be sure to drop by for a tea/coffee, a tasty treat and a chat! There will also be a number of exciting stalls and events to enjoy on the day including pony rides (two sessions: 2pm and 3pm), face-painting, a children's play area, penalty shoot-out, bric-a-brac stall, cake stall, plant stall, bottle stall and guess the sweets. The extremely popular sponge-throwing stall will return again this year so you'll have the opportunity to throw a wet sponge at some familiar local faces!

All donations such as bric-a-brac, bottles etc will be gratefully received by the school. Donations can be dropped to the school during school hours. Plants and baked goods would also be appreciated on the day for our plant and cake stalls.

Sunday Services & Readings

June						
Sunday 2nd <i>The First Sunday after Trinity</i>	1 Samuel 3: 1-10 Psalm 139: 1-5, 12-18 2 Corinthians 4: 5-12 Mark 2: 23 - 3: 6	Roskelton 9.30am Holy Communion	Seir Kieran 9.30am Morning Prayer	Lacca 10.30am Holy Communion	Borris-in-Ossory 11.00am Morning Prayer	Mountrath 11.30am Holy Communion
Sunday 9th <i>The Second Sunday after Trinity</i>	1 Samuel 8: 4-11, 16-20 Psalm 138 2 Corinthians 4: 13 - 5: 1 Mark 3: 20-35	Seir Kieran 9.30am Holy Communion		Annatrim 11.00am Holy Communion	Mountrath 11.30am Morning Prayer	
Sunday 16th <i>The Third Sunday after Trinity</i>	1 Samuel 15: 34 - 16: 13 Psalm 20 2 Corinthians 5: 6-10, 14-17 Mark 4: 26-34	Roskelton 9.30am Morning Prayer	Seir Kieran 9.30am Morning Prayer	Lacca 10.30am Service of the Word	Borris-in-Ossory 11.00am Holy Communion	Mountrath 11.30am Morning Prayer
Saturday/ Sunday 22nd/23rd <i>The Fourth Sunday after Trinity</i>	1 Samuel 17: 1a, 4-11, 19-23, 32-49 Psalm 133 2 Corinthians 6: 1-13 Mark 4: 35-41	Seir Kieran Saturday 7.00pm Holy Communion	Lacca Sunday 10.30am Family Service	Annatrim Sunday 11.00am Morning Prayer		Mountrath Sunday 11.30am Holy Communion
Sunday 30th <i>The Fifth Sunday after Trinity</i>	2 Samuel 1: 1, 17-27 Psalm 130 2 Corinthians 8: 7-15 Mark 5: 21-43	Mountrath 11.00am Holy Communion				

Parish Diary

June

1st Saturday.....Service of Remembrance, Annatrim Church
 6th Thursday.....Closing date for Diocesan Magazine Notes
 7th Friday.....GFS Meeting & Presentation
 9th Sunday.....Clonenagh National School Fete
 19th Wednesday.....Closing date for July/August 2024 Newsletter
 28th Friday.....'The Harvey Brothers' album launch

Items for the July/August 2024 Newsletter need to be with the editor by Wednesday June 19th **AT THE LATEST**, so that the Newsletter can be assembled in time for the Fourth Sunday, June 23rd.

PLEASE make your item as ready for publication as possible, and please ensure that names are spelled correctly.

Ideally, items should be submitted by e-mail to: newsletter@clonenagh.com

Otherwise to- Ivor Clegg, Cloncourse, Mountrath, Co. Laois. 057-8621277/087-2522162

To receive the Newsletter by post, please forward stamped addressed envelopes to this address.

This Newsletter and many older editions can be downloaded directly from www.clonenagh.com