

The Newsletter

September 2025

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The Maize Maze at Dealgrove

(NO CHEATING by bringing this Newsletter along with you!)

(Image kindly provided by Jennifer Lalor)

Clonenagh Group of Parishes

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

The Rector Writes

The start of the school year

Father, at the start of another year we thank you for our school.

We ask that you bless the children and the teachers, and everyone who helps our school to be the best that it can be.

Be with us, we pray, in the year ahead.

Guide us and watch over us so that in everything that we do we will show your love to one another, bring your light to the world and grow, day by day, into the knowledge that you give to us.

We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*~The Rt Revd Dr Paul Colton, Bishop of Cork, Cloyne and Ross.
(Praying Together Ed. Jacqui Wilkinson)*

We welcome Reverend Janet Finlay to the Parish

I am delighted to announce that for the foreseeable future we will have the assistance of the Reverend Janet on the second and third Sundays of the month. I'm sure that you will give her a warm welcome and I know that she'll be very happy here. I'm very grateful to Bishop Adrian for appointing her. We will continue to have the assistance of Reverend Alison for one Sunday per month.

Farewell & Thank You - Mervyn Tomb

Parishioners of Lacca, and indeed the wider Group, will be bidding a very fond farewell to Mervyn Tomb this weekend (Sunday 24th August) as he leads his last Family Service in Lacca Church. There is a time for everything and I take this opportunity to thank him most sincerely for all the wonderful work he has done in the parish over the years. It has been a joy and a pleasure to have his invaluable assistance with the services in Lacca, his Bible Studies classes and his youth ministry; and for the talents, insights and gifts he has brought to our community through his ministry among us.

Mervyn will in due course begin a new chapter in his ministry as he commences his mission in Edinburgh, and we wish both he and his wife Rachel and family every blessing and happiness. He will be greatly missed.

There will be an opportunity to wish Mervyn well this Sunday with after-service tea & coffee in Lacca Parish Hall. All welcome.

*"The LORD will watch over your coming and going both
now and for ever more." (Psalm 121:8, NIV)*

I'd like to extend my sincere thanks to the parishioners who so kindly and generously donated online to my **50th Birthday Facebook Fundraiser** in aid of the MSA Trust, and to those who donated anonymously in cash at the Rectory. I had hoped to raise €150 or so, and I was overwhelmed by the response - €1200 was raised within days and a further €500 in pledges. Thank you one and all for your wonderfully generous and thoughtful response to this fundraiser!

~Canon Victor

Requiescant In Pace

Please remember in your prayers:

The family and friends of **Edward (Tom) Chambers**, Clonin, Mountrath, who passed away on 13th August and was laid to rest in Lacca Church / Annatrim Churchyard on Saturday 16th August.

May he rest in peace, and rise in glory

Parish Notes

Harvest Thanksgiving Services 2025

September 21	Roskelton 9.30am Borris-in-Ossory 11am
September 25	Mountrath 7pm
September 27	Seir Kieran 7pm
September 28	Annatrim 11am
October 19	Lacca 4pm

Wedding Joy

We send our heartfelt congratulations to:

Phillip McKay & Chiara Hendrix (Ballycleary) on their recent marriage at Mount Wolsey Hotel on 25th July,
...and to **Nikita Telford** (Clonenagh) & **Eanna Byrne** (Ballacolla) who were married on 9th August at Kilshane House, Tipperary.

We wish the new couples every blessing and joy as they begin their journey together.

Fellowship Service

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

Home Communions

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.

Safeguarding Trust Audit

The parish will be audited for Safeguarding Trust on Wednesday 10th September at 2pm in the Rectory. Members of the parish Panel are asked to attend. The audit will take around two and a half hours.

Parish Fundraising Committee meeting in the Parochial hall on Tuesday night 2nd September at 8pm, to finalise the Golf Classic.

Best Wishes to Stephen Pratt who opened a giant living **Maize Maze** in Dealgrove Farm, Shanahoe, at the end of July. It will be open weekends until the end of October and is perfect for a great family day out.

Visit www.maizemaze.ie for further information.

Clonenagh National School News

Clonenagh National School will be buzzing with excitement as we reopen our doors on the 27th of August! We are especially thrilled to welcome our 12 brand-new infants—our youngest and cutest recruits—as well as several other wonderful children who are joining our school this year.

We're also sending a big wave and a cheer to last year's Sixth Class. They're off on the next leg of their adventure in secondary school, and we know they'll shine brightly wherever they go. We hope they'll pop back to visit and let us know how they're getting on—we'll always be cheering them on from here!

A huge, heartfelt thank you goes out to everyone who rolled up their sleeves over the summer with tidying the playground. You've helped make our school sparkle, and we couldn't have done it without you!

This year, we welcome Miss Emma Coughlan, Miss Emma Dunne and Miss Rachel Wheeler onto our teaching staff in temporary positions. Eva Brophy joins us as our new bus escort. We wish all four ladies the very best of luck and we look forward to working with them all.

Student teacher, Amelia Clegg, joins us for 10 weeks over Term One on a 4th year teaching placement. She will work with SET (Special Education Teaching), 5th & 6th Class and then finally with Junior and Senior Infants. We wish her great success and fulfillment during her teaching placement.

We also will host our annual "Cottage Market" on Friday, 5th September, from 1pm until 3pm. Please pop in and support us whilst picking up some delicious healthy treats and vegetables.

~The Staff of Clonenagh National School

Services & Readings

September						
Sunday 7th <i>The Twelfth Sunday after Trinity</i>	Jeremiah 18: 1-11 Psalm 139: 1-5, 12-18 Philemon 1-21 Luke 14: 25-33	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 14th <i>The Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity</i>	Jeremiah 4: 11-12, 22-28 Psalm 14 1 Timothy 1: 12-17 Luke 15: 1-10	Seir Kieran 9.30am Holy Communion		Annatrim 11.00am Holy Communion	Mountrath 11.30am Morning Prayer	
Sunday 21st <i>The Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity</i>	Jeremiah 8: 18 - 9: 1 Psalm 79: 1-9 1 Timothy 2: 1-7 Luke 16: 1-13	Roskelton 9.30am St. Matthew's Day Harvest Service	Seir Kieran 9.30am Morning Prayer	Lacca 10.30am Service of the Word	Borris-in-Ossory 11.00am Holy Communion Harvest Service	Mountrath 11.30am Morning Prayer
Thursday 25th		Mountrath 7.00pm Evening Prayer Harvest Service				
Saturday/Sunday 27th/28th <i>The Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity</i>	Jeremiah 32: 1-3a, 6-15 Psalm 91: 1-6, 14-16 1 Timothy 6: 6-19 Luke 16: 19-31	Seir Kieran Saturday 7.00pm Holy Communion Harvest Service	Lacca Sunday 10.30am Morning Prayer	Annatrim Sunday 11.00am Morning Prayer Harvest Service	Mountrath Sunday 11.30am Holy Communion	

Parish Diary

September

2nd Tuesday.....Fundraising Committee meeting
 5th Friday.....Clonenagh National School Cottage Market
6th Saturday.....Closing date for Diocesan Magazine Notes
 10th Wednesday.....Parish Safeguarding Trust Audit
 11th Thursday.....Lacca Fellowship Service
24th Wednesday.....Closing date for October 2025 Newsletter

Items for the October 2025 Newsletter need to be with the editor by Wednesday September 24th **AT THE LATEST**, so that the Newsletter can be assembled in time for the Fourth Sunday, September 28th.

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