

The Newsletter

April 2026

Rector:

*Canon Victor Fitzpatrick,
Clonenagh Rectory,
Portlaoise Road,
Mountrath.*

Phone: 057-8732146 /086-3974035

Parish office: clonenagh@ossory.anglican.org

Diocesan Reader:

*Mabel Peavoy,
Shannon Road,
Mountrath.
Phone:057-8732331*



Primula veris
common cowslip

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Clonenagh Group of Parishes

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

The Rector Writes

Easter Reflection

There is lots to love about bunny rabbits and chocolate eggs, but Easter Day holds a much deeper meaning. Under normal circumstances, the long weekend and improving Spring weather provides families with an opportunity to gather with one another: grandparents welcoming their children and grandchildren, aunts and uncles visiting with siblings and their nephews and nieces, and for many, the sad task of visiting and tending graves of deceased loved ones.

Yet, on Easter Day, the primary reason for our celebrations is the love Christ displayed for humanity when he gave his life – the ultimate sacrifice – for each one of us. He has risen, death has no power over us; indeed we most assuredly have a reason to celebrate!

However, Easter Day should by no means be the only day on which we remember and give thanks for Christ's sacrifice. In fact, because the date of Easter changes each year and isn't fixed on the calendar like Christmas Day is, it actually serves to remind us that the joy of Easter is not exclusive to one single day.

The resurrection of Christ from the dead is the kernel of our faith; we know that, through faith in Christ, death can be defeated, and we look forward to everlasting life. Christ's resurrection gives us a reason to live not only for today, but to sustain hope in our future, no matter how difficult the circumstances we currently face.

Christ is risen! He is risen, indeed! Alleluia!

~Canon Victor

Requiescant In Pace

Please remember in your prayers **William Whitten** (Seir Kieran) and **Ruth Haslam** on the death of their mother, **Evelyn Whitten (née Draper)**, late of Clareen, who died on Tuesday 24th February and following a Funeral Service in Sier Kieran, was laid to rest in Dungar Cemetery, Roscrea, on Friday 27th.

May she rest in peace, and rise in glory

Parish Notes

Evening Prayer For Lent

Services of Evening Prayer with Reflection for Lent conclude on 1st April in Mountrath.

8.00pm Easter Eve Eucharist, Borris-in-Ossory

9.30pm Easter Eve Eucharist, Annatrim

Holy Week & Easter

Maundy Thursday (2nd April):

8.00pm Holy Communion, Mountrath

Easter Day (5th April):

9.00am First Eucharist of

Easter Morning, Roskelton

10.15am Holy Communion, Lacca

11.30am Holy Communion, Mountrath

Good Friday (3rd April):

3.00pm Ante-Communion, Mountrath

8.00pm Service of the Word, Lacca

(PROVISIONAL: Please confirm before attending)

Easter General Vestries

At time of this Newsletter going to print, the Easter General Vestries for 2026 have not yet been scheduled. As soon as they are, the information will be widely distributed.

Easter Eve (4th April):

6.00pm First Eucharist of Easter, Seir Kieran

Register of Vestrypersons

It is that time of the year to update the Register of Vestrypersons, so that new parishioners and those 18 years of age and older can register. By registering your name, you are entitled to vote at the Easter Vestry, when select vestry members are elected along with Church Wardens and Glebe Wardens. You also have the possibility of being elected to the select vestry if you so desire – new members are very welcome. Please contact the relevant Honorary Secretary for more information.

Fellowship Service

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

Golf Classic

Clononagh Parish Fundraising Committee are holding the **annual Golf Classic** in Mountrath Golf Club on **Friday 22nd May**, more details in next month's Newsletter. All support is very much appreciated.

Fundraising Committee Meeting

in the Parochial Hall on Tuesday 24 March at 8.00pm.

Mothers' Union News

To mark **Lady Day**, Archdeacon John Murray will conduct a **Service of Holy Communion** in St. Peter's Church Mountrath on Monday 23rd March at 8.00pm. This will be followed by a short meeting and cup of tea in the Parochial Hall. All are very welcome.



Items for the May 2026 Newsletter need to be with the editor by Wednesday April 22nd **AT THE LATEST**, so that the Newsletter can be assembled in time for the Fourth Sunday, April 26th. **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@clononagh.com

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

Services & Readings

April

Wednesday 1st <i>Wednesday in Holy Week</i>	Isaiah 50: 4-9a Psalm 70 Hebrews 12: 1-3 John 13: 21-32	Mountrath 8.00pm Final Service of Evening Prayer for Lent			
Thursday 2nd <i>Maundy Thursday</i>	Exodus 12: 1-14 Psalm 116: 1, 10-17 1 Corinthians 11: 23-26 John 13: 1-17, 31b-35	Mountrath 8.00pm Holy Communion with Washing of Hands			
Friday 3rd <i>Good Friday</i>	Isaiah 52: 13 - 53: 12 Psalm 22 Hebrews 10: 16-25 John 18: 1 - 19: 42	Mountrath 3.00pm Service of Ante-Communion		Lacca 8.00pm Service of the Word PROVISIONAL: Please confirm before attending	
Saturday 4th <i>Easter Eve</i>	Job 14: 1-14 Psalm 31: 1-4, 15-16 1 Peter 4: 1-8 Matthew 27: 57-66	Seir Kieran 6.00pm Holy Communion	Borris-in-Ossory 8.00pm Holy Communion		Annatrim 9.30pm Holy Communion
Sunday 5th <i>Easter Day -The First Sunday of Easter</i>	Jeremiah 31: 1-6 Easter Anthems Acts 10: 34-43 Matthew 28: 1-10	Roskelton 9.00am Holy Communion		Lacca 10.15am Holy Communion & Easter Egg Hunt	Mountrath 11.30am Holy Communion
Sunday 12th <i>The Second Sunday of Easter</i>	Acts 2: 14a, 22-32 Psalm 16 1 Peter 1: 3-9 John 20: 19-31	Seir Kieran 9.30am Holy Communion		Annatrim 11.00am Holy Communion	
Sunday 19th <i>The Third Sunday of Easter</i>	Isaiah 43: 1-12 Psalm 116: 1-3, 10-17 1 Peter 1: 17-23 Luke 24: 13-35	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
Sunday 26th <i>The Fourth Sunday of Easter</i>	Acts 2: 42-47 Psalm 23 1 Peter 2: 19-25 John 10: 1-10	Annatrim 11.00am Morning Prayer		Mountrath 11.30am Holy Communion	

PLEASE NOTE:

These dates and times are subject to change at short notice.
Up-to-date information can be found on the Parish
WhatsApp group or by contacting a Church Warden.

Parish Diary

March

23rd Monday.....Mothers' Union Lady Day Service

24th Tuesday.....Fundraising Committee meeting

April

6th Monday.....Closing date for Diocesan Magazine Notes

9th Thursday.....Lacca Fellowship Service

22nd Wednesday.....Closing date for May 2026 Newsletter