The Newsletter

November 2026

Acting Priest in Charge:
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A scene from the Harvest Thanksgiving Service held in Lacca Church recently

Clonenagh Group of Parishes

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

Parish Notes

Baptism

On Saturday 3rd October Baby Aoibheann Cara McKay was baptised by Rev'd Janet Finlay in St. Peter's Church. Daughter of Philip and Chiara McKay, sister to Oisin, grand-daughter to Tommy and Margaret McKay.



(Photo kindly provided by Philip McKay)

Congratulations

...to Lisa Lalor and Eoin Lawler on their recent Engagement;

..and to Margaret Griffith nee Lalor and Philip McCloskey on their recent Engagement.

Wishing them all God's blessing as they plan their Wedding Days.

Best wishes are extended to Mrs Serena Senior, as she takes up her new post as principal of Maryborough National School.

Collection / Thank you

A very sincere thank you to everyone who supported the Church gate collection for the Irish Guide Dogs on Sunday 27th September which raised €1,080. *~Sean*

Lacca Harvest Service

In glorious winter sunshine, Rev'd William Bennett officiated a Harvest Thanksgiving Service in Lacca Church (*see photo on front page*).

Rev'd William has a great gift of delivering the Message of God off the cuff along with getting the Congregation involved. And let's not forget Miriam on the Harp accompanied by Joan.

This was followed by refreshments in the Hall provided by the Lacca Tea Ladies where Old Friends, New Friends, Past and Present Parishioners and Neighbours reminiscent over Old Times and Good Times in Life.



Lacca tea ladies enjoying a night out
(Photo kindly provided by Sylvia Stotesbury)

Congratulations to Miriam Senior who has been awarded the very prestigious Naughton Scholarship 2026. Miriam received 625 points in her Leaving Certificate Exams and has now started studying Chemical Science in Trinity College.

Mountrath Community School Principal, Ms Kathryn O'Brien, accompanied Miriam and her family to the awards ceremony at Trinity College to celebrate this fantastic achievement. This is a wonderful recognition of Miriam's hard work, dedication and academic excellence.

Fellowship Service

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

Hospital Visits

Just a reminder to everyone, if you or a loved one are in Portlaoise Hospital and would like a visit from the Chaplain, Rev'd Janet Finlay, please let her know. Since the introduction of GDPR the only way she will know is if you contact her on 087-7598384.

~Rev'd Janet

Mountrath Indoor Bowls Club

For Winter Nights Fun & Laughter, Mountrath Indoor Bowls Club meet on Thursday nights in the Community School, 7:15-9:30pm.

The Annual
Poppy Appeal Collection

The collection boxes for 2026 will be available in the Group churches throughout November. As some churches have 2 services in a month and others have 3 or more, it's not possible to deliver and collect them all on the same day.

In recent years I have been able to send over €300/year to the RBL Limerick Branch, and this Group of Parishes has frequently been commended on being among the very best contributors in the country! I will give a detailed report of past donations in a future Newsletter.

I would like to thank the six churches of the Clonenagh Group of Parishes for all their support in the past, and hope for their continued support in the future.

~Lionel Gyves

Clonenagh National School News

Enrolment at Clonenagh National School – 2027/2028

We are delighted to announce that applications for admission to Junior Infants for the 2027/2028 school year will open on Monday, 2nd November 2026.

Applications will be accepted until Monday, 30th November 2026.

For the 2027/2028 school year, we will have:
12 places available in Junior Infants
2 places available in our class for children with autism

Our Admissions Policy and Application Form for Admission are available to download from our school website at www.clonenaghns.ie.

Application forms can also be collected directly from the school. Please feel free to telephone us on 057 873 2516 or simply pop into the school and we will be very happy to provide you with a form. You can also email us at clonenaghns@gmail.com.

We warmly welcome prospective families to come and visit us. If you would like to have a look around the school, meet us and have a chat about your child and our school, please do get in touch. There is never any problem arranging a visit, and we would be delighted to meet you.

Clonenagh National School is very proud of its friendly and welcoming school community, and we look forward to welcoming new children and families for the 2027/2028 school year.

Services & Readings

November

Sunday 1st *The Fourth Sunday before Advent*	*Joshua 3: 7-17* *Psalm 107: 1-7, 33-37* *1 Thessalonians 2: 9-13* *Matthew 24: 1-14*	**Roskelton** 9.30am Holy Communion	**Seir Kieran** 9.30am Morning Prayer	**Lacca** 10.30am Morning Prayer	**Borris-in-Ossory** 11.00am Holy Communion	**Mountrath** 11.30am Morning Prayer
Sunday 8th *Remembrance Sunday*	*Isaiah 2: 1-5* *Psalm 4* *Revelation 1: 1-7* *Matthew 5: 1-12*	**Annatrim** 11.00am Holy Communion		**Mountrath** 11.30am Morning Prayer		
Sunday 15th *The Second Sunday before Advent*	*Judges 4: 1-7* *Psalm 123* *1 Thessalonians 5: 1-11* *Matthew 25: 14-30*	**Roskelton** 9.30am Holy Communion	**Seir Kieran** 9.30am Morning Prayer	**Borris-in-Ossory** 11.00am Morning Prayer	**Mountrath** 11.30am Holy Communion	**Lacca** 4.00pm Holy Communion
22nd *The Sunday before Advent (The Kingship of Christ)*	*Ezekiel 34: 11-16, 20-24* *Psalm 100* *Ephesians 1: 15-23* *Matthew 25: 31-46*	**Annatrim** 11.00am Morning Prayer		**Mountrath** 11.30am Morning Prayer		
Sunday 29th *The First Sunday of Advent*	*Isaiah 64: 1-9* *Psalm 80: 1-8, 18-20* *1 Corinthians 1: 3-9* *Mark 13: 24-37*	**Seir Kieran** 9.30am Holy Communion		**Mountrath** 11.30am Morning Prayer		

PLEASE NOTE:

These venues and times are subject to change, or even cancellation, at short notice!

Up-to-date information can be found on the Parish WhatsApp group or by contacting a Church Warden.

Parish Diary

November

2nd Monday.....Clonenagh National School Enrolment opens

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

12th Thursday.....Lacca Fellowship Service

18th Wednesday.....Closing date for December 2026 Newsletter

Items for the December 2026 Newsletter need to be with the editor by Wednesday November 18th AT THE LATEST, so that the Newsletter can be assembled in time for the Fourth Sunday, November 22nd.

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–

clonenagh.newsletter@gmail.com

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