



Newsletter

Clonenagh Group of Parishes - February 2004

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

Date ->	1st Feb	8th Feb.	15th Feb.	22nd Feb.	29th Feb.
	Seir Kieran H.C. 10am	Annatrim H.C. Service. 9:45am	Seir Kieran M.P. 8.45am	Seir Kieran M.P. 10am	Roskelton United Family Service. 11:00am followed by tea/coffee
10:15am	Borris-in-Ossory Baptism - 2pm		Borris-in-Ossory Morning Prayer	Annatrim Holy Communion	
10:15am	Roskelton Morning Prayer	Mountrath United Family Service. 11:00am followed by tea/coffee	Roskelton Holy Communion		
11:30am	Mountrath Holy Communion		Mountrath Morning Prayer	Mountrath Holy Communion	
11:30am	Lacca Morning Prayer		Lacca Holy Communion		
Informal Evening Service : 8.30pm Saturday 7th February. Roskelton Church					

- 26th Mon. 8pm.....Mother's Union & Young Wives - Pottery Demonstration and 'Hands on'.
- 27th Tue. 7.30pm.....Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Service, Borris-in-Ossory Roman Catholic Church, Preacher, Rev. Cliff Jeffers.
- 9.30pm.....Borris-in-Ossory Parish Select Vestry Meeting, St. Mark's Church, Borris-in-Ossory.
- 29th Thurs eveDiocesan Meetings, Kilkenny.
- 9.30pm.....Clonenagh Parish Select Vestry, Parochial Hall, Mountrath.
- 30th Fri. 11am.....Informal Clergy Gathering in Mountrath Rectory for discussion on Youth Work.
- 6.30pm.....Confirmation Class - Parochial Hall.
- 31st Sat. 8pm.....Bowling and Chinese in Portlaoise (for Adults). **Book with Jennifer Lalor by 25th.**
- February:**
- 1st Sun. 2pm.....Baptism of Amy Jestin, Borris-in-Ossory Church.
- 2nd Mon. 11.15am.....Pottery Class Begins - Parochial Hall.
- 8.30pm.....Offerlane Parish Select Vestry, Annatrim Church.
- 7th Sat. 10amKids Club - Parochial Hall, Mountrath.
- 8.30pm.....Informal Evening Service - Roskelton. Rev. Paul Hoey, CPAS to be the speaker.
- 8th Sun 11amFamily Service - Mountrath Church. Rev. Paul Hoey, CPAS to be the speaker.
- 13th Fri. 6.30pm.....Confirmation Class - Parochial Hall.
- eve.Laois CIYC Committee Meeting - Parochial Hall, Mountrath.
- eve.Rathdowney Table Tennis Championships.
- 14th Sat. 8.30pm.....Kool Club - Parochial Hall.
- 17th Tues afternoon.....Paintball outing for 16+ age group. **Book with Linda by 15th Feb.**
- 20th Fri Eve.....Laois CIYC - Bowling & Chinese for 16+ **Book by 16th Feb. (see notes).**
- Eve.....Ossory League Table Tennis Open Tournament.
- 21st Sat 10amKids Club - Parochial Hall, Mountrath.
- 25th Wed 8pm.....Holy Communion Service - Ash Wednesday. St. Peter's Church, Mountrath.
- 28th Sat daytimeCOMAC - Pre-Marriage Course in Kilkenny.
- 8.30pm.....Kool Club - Parochial Hall.
- 29th Sun 11amUnited Family Service - Roskelton Church.
- March:**
- 2nd Tue 8pm.....Lenten Service - Borris-in-Ossory Church.
- 5th Fri 6.30pm.....Confirmation Class - Parochial Hall.
- 6th Sat 10amKids Club - Parochial Hall, Mountrath.
- morningDiocesan Youth Board, Kilkenny.
- 8.30pm.....Informal Praise & Worship Service - Seir Kieran Church.

- Gillian Murphy - Mission Partner
- Parish Assistant - Linda Wharton

Rector:
Rev. Cliff Jeffers. The Rectory, Mountrath, Co. Laois
Ph: 0502-32146 Mob: 087-2390849
E-Mail: cjeffers@eircom.net

Parish Assistant (Youth):
Linda Wharton, Dromoyle House, Birr, Co. Offaly.
Ph: 0509-31077 Mob: 086-1966166
E-Mail: linda_wharton@msn.com

Adults going bowling and meal out. On Saturday 31st of January we have booked bowling and a Chinese. Bowling starts at 8pm in Portlaoise, and then going to the Royal Tycoon in Kilminchy, Portlaoise. If you want to book a place, please contact Jennifer Lalor (0502-35962) by Sunday 25th of January at the latest.

At the end of December, Violet Carter aged 88 passed away in Abbeyleix District Hospital. We express our **sympathy** to Cecil, Breda and their family.

We also express our **sympathy** to Florence Williams and Tom (Edward) Chambers on the death of their sister Mary, who died in England in the middle of January.

Senior Citizen's Lunch is planned again for the 16th of March. Invitations and more details later.

Baptism in Borris-in-Ossory. Amy Jestin, daughter of Ivan and Susan Jestin is to be baptised in Borris-in-Ossory Church on Sunday 1st of February at 2pm. There will be no morning service on this day, and we hope that many will come to support them on the day.

Clonenagh National School. The Builders have now taken over the school site and at time of writing foundations have been dug, poured and initial block work in place ready for pouring the floors. When the students returned after the Christmas Holidays they had to move to the neighbouring Mission Hall (by kind permission) and were able to retain the use of the Pre-Fab at the school for the present. This makes the interim much more manageable.

Many thanks to the many people who helped with the preparation for and the conducting of the move of the School to the Mission Hall, and the preparation of the Parochial Hall. Linda Wharton is now doing pottery lesson with the Junior Room, which they are enjoying very much.

On the 5th Sunday in February, we are having a Family Service in **Roskelton**, at which we hope to have short drama by some of the senior classes from the school.

New Prayer Book. If you have not ordered your new prayer book, and wish to avail of the discount €16 (instead of €20) then you need to get your orders to your parish treasurer before your parish's next vestry meeting (dates in diary section).

We are also looking for sponsors for the Desk Editions for the churches that are used by clergy & lay readers. Roskelton and Seir Kieran are already 'booked'. If you want to sponsor these, or some pew editions for use of visitors, please let your treasurer know this week, or contact Rev. Cliff.

Mother's Union & Young Wives. On the 26th of January, Linda Wharton will be coming along to demonstrate the making of pottery, and will have an opportunity to give it a go. Please bring suitable clothing and a plate or an object that can be used as a mould (e.g. plate, side plate, etc.)

We plan to have the Matron of St. Vincent's Hospital Mountmellick, on Monday 23rd of February in the Parochial Hall.

Clonenagh Housing Association. We would be interested in hearing from any-

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one in the parish, local community or beyond who might be interested in sheltered housing for the elderly (over 60's) or the disabled in Mountrath area. Please contact Rev. Cliff for more information.

Pottery Classes for Adults. Following requests from a few people, Linda Wharton is going to do some pottery classes for Adults in the new year. This will probably start after the Mother's Union Pottery Evening on the 26th of January . . . if you are interested, you could give your name to Linda, she plans to start on Monday 2nd February for six weeks. The cost will €5 per day which will cover materials.

Congratulations to **Chris and Ann Hannevig** of Coolrain on the birth of Finn just before Christmas.

Gillian Murphy, our Parish Mission Partner in Uganda writes:

'Greetings to you all from Kampala and I hope you are all well and full of the joys of life! I am in sparkling form at the moment - God is doing so many exciting things in my life and the life of the project, that I am so eager to see what the rest of 2004 will bring. I hope and pray that the same is true for each one of you, that you can seek God's will and be in tremendous anticipation of what He will do for you!' *There is a Newsletter from Gill at the back of the churches, if you want to read more about what she is doing.*

At the **Family Service in Annatrim** on the 11th of January we looked at the theme of Living Water in an 'All-Age' style of service. The service was lively, and hopefully had something for everyone to go away thinking about.

Our next **Family Service is in Mountrath** at 11am on Sunday **8th of February**. We will have Rev. Paul Hoey from CPAS (Church Pastoral Aid Society) with us for the weekend and he will be our speaker at this service.

In 2004, Clonenagh Group are joining with Portlaoise for **Confirmation**. Date for Confirmation is the 20th of June at 11am, in St. Peter's Church, Portlaoise.

Confirmation Classes will be on Friday eve-

nings from 6.30 to 7.30 pm in the Parochial Hall (or Rectory), every second week from the **30th January**, until confirmation on the 20th of June. Occasionally we will join up with Portlaoise Group to do something together. Those preparing for confirmation Class will also be expected to come along to Kool Club which will be part of their preparations. If you have not already contacted Rev. Cliff about confirmation and are intending to be confirmed this year, please do so this week.

The Bishop will be offering an opportunity for any **adults who wish to be confirmed** (who have not already been) sometime before Easter. If you want to find out more, please contact Rev. Cliff.

We plan to have our next **Informal Evening Service** in **Roskelton** Church on Saturday 7th February at 8.30pm. Rev. Paul Hoey from CPAS will be with us for the weekend, and we look forward to hearing from him. Please feel free to come along and see what this type of service is like. We will be moving them around the churches so that a wider group of people will experience this type of worship. In March it will be in **Seir Kieran** on Saturday night, 6th March.

All of the **Select Vestries** will meet over the next week or so . . . please check the diary dates for your parish on the back page of the newsletter. Among the issues for discussion are the New Prayer Book and accounts for 2003. We also hope to have some time for discussion on worship and any other issues that wish to be raised.

Mission Hall to use Parochial Hall. Over the coming months, while Clonenagh National School have the use of the Mission Hall, the Mission Hall Group will be using the Parochial hall for their meetings on the 4th Sunday Night of each month.

St. Vincent de Paul (St. Fintan's Conference, Mountrath) have written to use to thank us for our generous donation of €90 collected at the Community Carol Service.

Philip Gray passed sent a note to the parish

informing us that €2,480 has been donated to date to the Friends of Portlaoise Hospital in Memory of the Ven. Hugh Gray, which will be used to improve patient comforts in the hospital.

Thank you to all who subscribed to the Lep-



Parent and Toddler Group continues in the Parochial Hall, meeting every Tuesday Morning for coffee/tea, chat, while the children play with the many toys that are available for them. Our time together always ends with a bible story, and songs, both Christian and Nursery Rhymes. We would do with a few more people to help with setting up, making tea, tidying up and just being there to chat to the parents and play with the kids. If you think you can help, even once a month, please call in on a Tuesday Morning or contact Linda Wharton (086-1966166).

Kids Club (4-11's) meets on the 7th and 21st of February. We are continuing with Storykeepers TV series which the children are enjoying. We have moved back to our own hall, mainly for the benefit of the leaders who have to bring the equipment to and fro each time. Please encourage children to come, from the parish, neighbouring parishes, etc. The leaders put many hours of preparation into every Kids Club, and it's very well presented and great fun for the children, please avail of their hard work !!!

Kool Club (5th Class -16 years) has had a false start, as there was a table tennis match on their night planned for January. We are meeting on the 14th of February (Valentine's night!!) and our subject will be 'Love'. It is planned that Kool Club will meet every second week from then on. Dates planned are 28th Feb & 13th March.

Junior Badminton & Table Tennis
Badminton Sat. Eve. (7-8.30pm) Table Tennis Fri. evening (7.30-9pm). Thank you to leaders and parents who have volunteered to

rosy Mission in 2003. They wrote to acknowledge a donation of €202.09 towards their work. Thank you to those who have collection boxes and make donations each year. For more information about supporting the Leprosy Mission, please contact Olga Telford.

help with these clubs.

Sólás-Solas Puppet Team News.

Their practices continue each week on Friday afternoons from 3.30pm to 5.30pm in Mountrath Church. If any secondary level students are interested in joining the team, please talk to Linda or Rev. Cliff.

Invitations to travel to events are coming in for the team with Dunboyne, Kerry, West Cork, Wales and maybe Northern Ireland on the agenda over the next six months ! We also are having a group of young people coming from Dublin to visit us on the 20th March to see how we do Kids Club and stay for the afternoon to learn how to do puppets.

Twenteens (16-20) are planning to go paintballing on Tuesday 16th of February. This is great craic, and a must for the half term break. Please book with Linda by Sunday 15th.

Laois CIYC events:

Unihoc & Soccer Evening (10 years +). Saturday 7th February, 8pm, Castletown Community Hall. €4, max €10 per family.

Bowling & Chinese (16 +) Friday 20th February, €10 deposit needed by Monday 16th to you LCIYC Rep (Linda Wharton, Jennifer Lalor or Heather Pratt). Total cost, €25.

Advance notice; Junior Weekend in Kerry is planned for the May Bank Holiday Weekend this year. Forms will be out before Easter.

More information on the above from Linda Wharton (086-1966166) or Jennifer Lalor (0502-35962).

