



## Clonenagh Group of Parishes - March 2004

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

Date ->	Feb 29th.	7th Mar	14th Mar	21st Mar	28th March
	<b>Roskelton</b> United Family Service.  <b>11:00am</b> followed by tea/coffee	Seir Kieran Sat Eve @ 8.30pm	<b>Mountrath</b> H.C. Service. <b>9:45am</b>	Seir Kieran Morning Prayer	Seir Kieran M.P. <b>10am</b>
<b>10:15am</b>		Borris-in-Ossory Holy Communion		Borris-in-Ossory Morning Prayer	Annatrim Holy Communion
<b>10:15am</b>		Roskelton Morning Prayer	<b>Annatrim</b> United Family Service. <b>11:00am</b> followed by tea/coffee	Roskelton Holy Communion	
<b>11:30am</b>		Mountrath Baptism & HC		Mountrath Morning Prayer	Mountrath Holy Communion
<b>11:30am</b>		Lacca Morning Prayer		Lacca Holy Communion	
<b>Informal Evening Service :</b> 8.30pm Saturday 6th March. Seir Kieran Patronal Festival					

24th Tue 8.30pm.....Laois CIYC 10-13's Camp Preparation Meeting, Mountrath Rectory.  
 25th Wed 8pm.....Holy Communion Service - Ash Wednesday. St. Peter's Church, Mountrath.  
 26th Thurs 8.30pm.....Lent Course - 'Lost for words' - Session 1.  
 28th Sat daytime.....COMAC - Pre-Marriage Course in Kilkenny.  
 8.30pm.....Kool Club - Parochial Hall.  
 29th Sun 11am.....United Family Service with Abbeyleix Parish - Roskelton Church.  
**March:**  
 2nd Tue 8pm.....Lenten Service - Borris-in-Ossory Church.  
 4th Thurs 8.30pm.....Lent Course - 'Lost for words' - Session 2.  
 5th Fri 6.30pm.....Confirmation Class - Parochial Hall.  
 6th Sat 10am.....Kids Club - Parochial Hall, Mountrath.  
 morning.....Diocesan Youth Board, Kilkenny.  
 8.30pm.....Informal Praise & Worship Service - Seir Kieran Church.  
 8th Mon 5pm.....Mountrath FAS Committee Meeting.  
 9th Tue 8pm.....Lenten Service - Annatrim Church.  
 11th Thurs 8.30pm.....Lent Course - 'Lost for words' - Session 3.  
 13th Sat 8.30pm.....Kool Club - Parochial Hall, Mountrath.  
 14th Sun 11am.....Family Service - Annatrim.  
 16th Tue 12.30pm.....Senior Citizen's Lunch - ICA Hall Castletown.  
 8pm.....Lenten Service - Seir Kieran.  
 17th Wed 10am.....Holy Communion Service - St. Patrick's Day. St. Peter's Mountrath.  
 18th Thurs 8.30pm.....Lent Course - 'Lost for words' - Session 4.  
 19th Fri 6.30pm.....Confirmation Class - Parochial Hall.  
 20th Sat 10am.....Kids Club - Parochial Hall, Mountrath.  
 Afternoon.....Puppet Training Seminar - Parochial Hall, Mountrath.  
 22nd Mon 8pm.....Mother's Union Service, St. Peter's Church, Mountrath & MU Meeting in Parochial Hall.  
 23rd Tue 8pm.....Lenten Service - Lacca Church.  
 25th Thurs 8.30pm.....Lent Course - 'Lost for words' - Session 5.  
 26th Fri 9pm.....Ossory League Table Tennis Dinner Dance- Abbeyleix Manor Hotel.  
 27th Sat 8.30pm.....Kool Club - Parochial Hall.  
 30th Tue 8pm.....Lenten Service - Roskelton Church.  
**April**  
 1st Thurs afternoon.....Diocesan Meetings, Kilkenny.  
 8.30pm.....Lent Course - 'Lost for words' - Session 6.  
 3rd Sat 10am.....Kids Club - Parochial Hall.

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We express our sympathy to Sloane Cooper (The Village) and his family on the death of **Essie Cooper** who died in Kilminchy Nursing Home on the 4th of February at the age of 89.

We send our best wishes and prayers to **Richard Lalor** who has been in and out of hospital in recent weeks, and also to **Alison Holmes** following a short stay in hospital.

### Lent in Clonenagh Group:

**Services:** Each week in Lent there will be a service on *Tuesday Evenings* in the churches around the parishes. At this service we are going to examine where we are going as a church. I am not encouraging people to go each church, but just to go to their own church building, as at these services we will be thinking about the role and opportunities for each church unit. **Please make every effort to go, but only to your own church.**

**Course:** On *Thursday Evenings* in Lent at 8.30pm in the Rectory, we are going to be doing a course called 'lost for words'. Have you ever been asked by someone to explain what you believe and found yourself 'lost for words'? If so, and you want to explore your faith and be able to put it into words, then this course is for you.

### Together with Abbeyleix Parish.

Having 5 Sundays in February is a 1 in 28 year event (on average). On this occasion

we are joining with Abbeyleix for the day. We have been invited to take part in their early morning BCP Holy Communion Service in Durrow at 8.30am and the special candlelit BCP Evening Prayer in Ballinakill at 7.00pm. They are joining us in Roskelton for an informal all-age service at 11am. Please make every effort to support this coming together.

**Patrick's Day Parade.** This year the Parish Puppet team are doing a float, and they hope to promote the Kids Club and Parent and Toddler Group at they do their stuff on Paddy's Day in Mountrath. Please come out and support them if you can. The parade leaves St. Peter's Church at 12 noon and goes down to St. Fintan's Church. From 11am to 3pm the road will be closed with festivities and bouncy castles etc. and the St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee hope that it will a great day out. Why not start the day with Holy Communion in St. Peter's Church at 10am, followed by tea / coffee (in Church or Rectory) and then on to the festivities in town.

**Senior Citizen Lunch** - This is planned again for Tuesday 16th March, the day before Paddy's Day. Invitations should be out by the time you read this, and we hope to have a good number of people along for lunch, activity (mental !!) followed by Holy Communion for those who wish to stay.

**Clonenagh National School.**

Building progress has been slow, but we now have blocks waiting to be laid, and substantial progress is expected in the coming weeks. Both classrooms are comfortable in the surrounds, even if quite inconvenienced at times.

We welcome back **Aoife Anton**, our resource teacher following maternity leave. We say thank, farewell and hello again to **Jacqueline Bowe**, as she is leaving us as substitute resource teacher, but returning to fill in for **Ber McWey** who is unwell at present. We wish Ber a speedy recovery.

The school are preparing a **short drama** to use in the Family Service on Sunday 29th of February in Roskelton.

**New Prayer Books** have now been ordered for the parishes. They are due to be delivered at the end of March, and when they become available they will be distributed to those who ordered them. We have not yet decided on a start date for using the new book, but we will keep you posted.

**Mother's Union & Young Wives.**

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

On the 26th of January, Linda Wharton was to do a pottery demonstration, but it was cancelled due to the fear of bad weather. We hope to get back to this later in the year.

We meet again on Monday 22nd of March for our Annual Holy Communion Service which will be followed by a meeting in the Parochial Hall.

**Pottery Classes for Adults** have begun, with about 8 adults participating. Thank you to Linda Wharton for facilitating this group, which we hope will continue doing other arts and crafts after the pottery session. Others can still join if you want to come along on Monday mornings in the hall at 11.15am.

**Gillian Murphy, our Parish Mission Partner**

has sent us a newsletter, in summary: We finally have had rain in Kampala! She updates us on her work and what is going on. She is going to India for 2 1/2 weeks. *There is a Newsletter from Gill at the back of the churches, if you want to read more about what she is doing.*

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. Those preparing for confirmation this year are Peter Allen, Nigel Condell and Philip McKay. Please pray for them as they prepare. A few of the young people who were confirmed in previous years are joining the classes to be a support for those who are preparing.

The Bishop will be offering an opportunity for any **adults who wish to be confirmed** (who have not already been). This is planned to take place in St. Canice's Cathedral on Easter Eve at 9pm. If anyone is interested in Confirmation that has not already been confirmed, please let Rev. Cliff know.

**Seir Kieran** are having the Patronal Festival Service on Saturday 6th of March at 8.30pm. This year it is going to take the form of an **Informal Evening Service**. Seir Kieran Parishioners and the many visitors they had on Christmas Eve have been asking when can we do a service like that again? Answer: 6th of March, 8.30pm!

**Rev, Paul Hoey from CPAS** visited the parish over the weekend of the 7th and 8th of February. We are very thankful for his input to the Praise & Worship Service in Roskelton on Saturday Night where he preached and also joined in the music group on the keyboard. Many thanks to Robert and James Harvey for playing the traditional flute and mandolin. On the Sunday morning Rev. Paul Hoey spoke at our family service in Mountrath. He was very im-

pressed with the Kids Club Team and wants to include what they are doing in his next CPAS Newsletter !!

**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.

Blood Transfusion Service will be in Mountrath on Wednesday next (25th Feb) from 4.30pm to 8.30pm.

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Our **parent and toddler group** is growing quickly, there are now over a dozen parents from both the parish and the wider community who meet each week in the Parochial Hall on a Tuesday Morning from 10.30 to 12noonThe group is being careful to keep a Christian Character through children's worship songs and Bible stories. On the 21st of February the Parents (without the toddlers!!) went out for a meal together in the Whitehouse Restaurant, Mountrath. Well done to Linda Wharton for her work with this group.

**Kids Club** (4-11's) meets on the 6th and 20th of March. 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) It is planned that Kool Club will meet every second week. Dates planned are 28th Feb, 13th & 27th March. We get together for indoor games, craic, worship and spiritual input, and usually end with a game of unihoc! We have

Rev. Cliff has received forms for grant applications from the **Secondary Education Committee**. This is for those who are attending Protestant Secondary Schools either as a border or day pupil. Forms should be returned by the **28th of February** . . . so if this applies to you, get going !!

**Easter Vestries** will be held after Easter this year, probably in the week of the 19th to the 23rd of April. Secretaries, please inform Rev. Cliff of dates that do not suit

great fun, so if you are in 5th class upwards, please come along on these nights.

**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.

**Puppet Training Day.**

On the **20th of March** we are having some guests in the parish for puppet training. There is a group coming from Greystones, and others from around the parishes in the diocese. They will come and observe Kids Club in the morning, and then stay on for a seminar on using puppets in the afternoon.

**Laois CIYC events:**

Table Quiz for those in Primary School. On the 27th of March there is going to a table quiz in Portlaoise Parochial Hall for those of primary school age. 4 per table, €10 per team. Starts at 7.30pm.

**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).