



Clonenagh Group of Parishes - April 2004

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

Date ->	4th April	11th April Easter Eve and Easter Day	18th April	25th April
		Borris-in-Ossory Easter Eve H.C. - 9.00pm	Seir Kieran Morning Prayer	Seir Kieran Morning Prayer 8.45am
10:15am	Borris-in-Ossory Holy Communion	Roskelton 'Midnight H.C.' - 11.00pm	Borris-in-Ossory Morning Prayer	Annatrim Holy Communion
10:15am	Roskelton Morning Prayer	Seir Kieran Holy Communion - 8.30am	Roskelton Holy Communion	
11:30am	Mountrath Holy Communion	Annatrim Baptism & H.C. - 10.00am	Mountrath Morning Prayer	Mountrath Morning Prayer
11:30am	Lacca Morning Prayer	Mountrath Holy Communion - 11.30am	Lacca Holy Communion	
Informal Evening Service : 8.30pm Saturday 17th April - Annatrim Church.				

- 29th Mon 8pm..... Clonenagh Select Vestry Meeting n Parochial Hall (Upstairs).
8.45pm..... Glebe Wardens Meet in Parochial Hall.
9.00pm..... Group Select Vestry Meeting - Parochial Hall - Downstairs.
- 30th Tue 8pm..... Lenten Service - Roskelton Church - for all in Mountrath & Roskelton.
- April**
- 1st Thurs 8.30pm Lent Course - 'Lost for words' - Session 5.
2nd Fri 6.30pm..... Confirmation Class - Parochial Hall.
3rd Sat 10am Kids Club - Parochial Hall.
5th Mon 8pm Holy Week Service - Borris-in-Ossory.
6th Tue 10am Confirmation Class at Rectory
8pm Holy Week Service - Seir Kieran.
7th Wed 8pm Holy Week Service - Annatrim.
8th Thurs 8pm Maundy Thursday Service (Holy Communion) - Mountrath.
9th Fri. 8pm Good Friday Service - Lacca.
10th & 11th Easter Day Services - See service arrangements above.
13th Tue 5pm Mountrath Community Employment (FAS) meeting.
17th Sat 8.30pm Informal Praise & Worship Service - Annatrim Church. Theme - Romania.
19th Mon 8pm Mother's Union, Parochial Hall, Mountrath.
8pm Seir Kieran Easter Vestry - Seir Kieran Church.
20th Tue 8pm Borris-in-Ossory Easter Vestry - St. Mark's Church.
22nd Thurs Mountrath Secondary Schools Outing / Retreat.
8pm Clonenagh Easter Vestry.
23rd Fri 6.30pm..... Confirmation Classes, Parochial Hall.
24th Sat. 10am Kids Club going to Roll & Bowl (& play area) in Portlaoise.
evening Adults going Bowling & Chinese in Carlow - Book with deposit by 13th April.
26th Mon. 3.30pm..... Clonenagh National School Board of Management.
30th - 2nd May Laois CIYC 10-13's Camp in Kerry.
4th - 6th May Diocesan Clergy Conference, Dungarvan.
7th May Clonenagh Golf Classic, Mountrath Golf Club.
8th May 10am Kids Club, Parochial Hall, Mountrath.
14th May 6.30pm.. Confirmation Class, Parochial Hall.

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

Rector's Ramblings.

It was probably the most difficult think I have ever had to do to announce that I had been appointed as Rector of Athy Union at the services on the 6th and 7th of March. I feel great sadness as we will be leaving many people that we have come to know and respect, many areas of ministry that have been established over the past three years, and that we will not be personally here to see to maturity. Of course there is a level of excitement and expectation of being called to another place, with new people to meet, and a new challenge to face.

Sunday 16th of May will be my last Sunday in the Parish, and arrangements for services on this Sunday will be announced in the May edition of the newsletter. The Institution in Athy is on Thursday 3rd of June, and all Parishioners of Clonenagh Group are invited to attend.

My greatest hope is that all of the activities, groups and ministries that have been started will continue in the interim, while a new Rector is being sought. If this is to happen, it will involve people rising to the challenge, and taking a more active part in the various groups and activities. In the coming weeks you may be asked by myself or others in the parish groups and activities to help with or lead a group or activity. It is only if people are not willing that these activities will fall by the wayside. **If you are able to help, please be willing to help !!**

Last Lent Service (Tue- 30th): In Roskelton, for all parishioners of Clonenagh Parish

(Mountrath & Roskelton). At these services we have been looking at the first century church and comparing it to our church today.

We send our **best wishes** and prayers to **Richard Lalor** who in Beaumont Hospital for tests.

Monday 29th March - Group Select Vestry Meeting. At 9pm there will be a Group Vestry Meeting in the Parochial Hall, Mountrath to discuss the development of the Rectory and to review (as planned) our Parish Youth Worker's Role. Prior to this meeting there will be a **Clonenagh Select Vestry Meeting at 8pm**, and a meeting of all of the **Glebe Wardens at 8.45pm**, all taking place in the Parochial Hall.

Swapping with Abbeyleix.

For Holy Week Rev. Cliff and Rev. Patrick Harvey are doing a 'swap'. Services for Monday to Friday in Clonenagh Group are in the diary section.

Bowling & Chinese in Carlow has been planned for the adults of the parish on Saturday 24th April. There are only 30 places, and a €10 deposit is required per person. Please book with either Jennifer Lalor or Kathleen Bennett by 13th April.

Rev. Patrick Harvey has been appointed by the bishop to be the 'Priest-in-Charge' of Clonenagh Group of Parishes during the vacancy. He will have pastoral responsibility, deal with funerals, weddings, home communions, parish administration, and be the person you contact when you would normally contact



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the Rector. The responsibility for Sunday Services falls with the Archdeacon, Ven. John Murray, and he will arrange the service rota.

Senior Citizen Lunch - There was a great crowd at the Senior Citizen's Lunch on the 16th of March, with nearly 60 people attending including the helpers. A little issue with Rev. Cliff's maths left us short of place settings (need to go back to school !!) thankfully there was plenty of soup, sandwiches and desert so that none went without. The next senior citizens lunch is planned for **Tuesday 11th of May**, and this will probably be the last in Castletown ICA, but . . . this is one group that is determined to continue. Our own **Parochial Hall is in the process of being renovated**, with heating to be installed, kitchen upgraded, and the inside of the hall cleaned up, painted and improved also. From September it is planned that the Senior Citizen Lunches will take place in our own hall, and the Mother's Union, who have been doing a great job in the past with the catering, setting up, serving and tidying up afterwards, will take over the responsibility of organising this parish event.

Clonagh National School.

The building project had a minor setback on the windy Saturday (20th) in March. Even though they were supported, two of the gable walls of the school fell in. Gerry O'Connor, the builder had wisely decided that it was too windy to work on it, so that there was no-one there at the time they fell. This goes to show that building sites are dangerous places, and we need to respect that no-one should go on the site, unless they are supposed to be there.

New Prayer Books have arrived, and will be available to see at the Group Select Vestry Meeting on Monday 29th of March in the Parochial Hall. We expect to start using them on Easter Sunday. Thank you to Heather Jestin for bringing them down from Dublin.

Mother's Union & Young Wives.

On Monday 23rd of February we had a lovely evening with the Matron from Mountmellick Hospital Catherina O'Keaffe. She explained the work done in the hospital and the her

hopes and plans for the future. A small donation was presented to Elisa McDonnell (treasurer of the friends of the hospital) whom also attend the meeting. On the 22nd March we celebrated Lady Day with Holy Communion service 'Walk with Mary' held in the hall. This service involved many of the members lead by Rev. Cliff.

Next meeting is planned for April 19th when Tricia Roe will come along to 'Get Us Ready For Summer' a make over demonstration. This meeting will be held in the Parochial Hall @ 8pm.

Crafty People !! Following the pottery classes conducted by Linda Wharton, there was a group of people who wish to continue the craft group in the parish. At present they are doing Decoupage, which is being led by Christine Newman from the Pike-of-Rushall. All are welcome to come along. Monday montings 11am - 12:15pm in the Parochial Hall.

Gillian Murphy, our Parish Mission Partner is keeping us up-to-date with another newsletter. At this time of year, our Lenten Collections that are gathered to go to various charities, including Gillian. There is a Newsletter from Gillian in Church this morning.

On 20th June 2004, Clonagh Group are joining with Portlaoise for **Confirmation** in St. Peter's Church, Portlaoise. Those preparing for confirmation this year are Peter Allen, Nigel Condell, Philip McKay, Tara Knowles and Doreen Chambers. 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.

Clonagh Golf Classic is taking place on Friday 7th May. To book a team, please ring Mabel Peavoy on 0502-32331. If you, your company or organisation are able to Sponsor a

hole, please let one of the committee know. Individual sponsorship envelopes are included in the Newsletter to Clonagh Parishioners.

Easter Vestries, please note the date of your Parish's Easter Vestry in the diary section of the Newsletter.

Congratulations to **Troy McDowell-Harney** son of Tracy McDowell and David Harney who was baptised in Mountrath on the 7th of March.

There are three baptisms currently planned over the next 6 weeks. **Finn Hannivig** (son of Chirstoffer and Ann) on Easter Morning in Annatrim; **Corinna Hayes** (daughter of Jimmy & Jillian) on Sunday 18th April in Lacca and **Samuel Gee** (son of Trevor and Trudy) at the Family Service in Mountrath on the 9th of May.

Thank you to **Rev. Leonard Ruddock** who

will be taking the Holy Communion Services on Palm Sunday in the Group of Parishes.

Clonagh Badminton success. Congratulations to the Clonagh Grade 6 team who won the county final on the 26th of March. They now go forward to represent Laois in the Leinster finals in Dublin on the 25th April. Good Luck to the Grade 5 team who play in the county final on Thursday 1st April.

Ossory Table Tennis League. Well done to the B Division Team (Susan Jestin, Joe & Tom Hargroves, Yvonne & Wayne Carter & Rev. Cliff) on winning their league this year. Also the First Junior Team who were the runners up in the Junior League this year.

Informal Praise & Worship Service. On the 17th of April we will have James Krechnyak who works with the Methodist Church in Carlow / Kilkenny with us for the evening. He is



Our **parent and toddler group** continue to meet each week in the Parochial Hall on a Tuesday Morning from 10.30 to 12noon. All are welcome, and parishioners are encouraged to drop in if they are passing to see what goes on, and you are quite likely be offered a cup of tea !

Kids Club (4-11's) meets on the 3rd and 24th of April. On the 24th we are going to the new bowling and kiddies jungle in Portlaoise. Plan is to arrive in Portlaoise at 10.30am. Anyone needing a lift should arrive at the Parochial Hall promptly at 10am. We will be returning to the hall again at 1pm.

Kool Club (5th Class -16 years) The last Kool Club on the 13th of March was probably the best yet. There were 17 young people and 'the craic was mighty'. We meet again on the 27th March and 17th of April.

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.

Secondary School Outing / Retreat.

On Thursday 22nd of April there is a combined retreat planned for the Secondary Schools in the area. Details are to be arranged, and booking forms should be out soon.

GFS (Mountrath) are in need of leaders. If you are willing and able to help please contact Shirley Bennett, Sylvia Lalor or Rev. Cliff. They meet every second Wednesday evening.

Laois CIYC events:

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).

Over 18's Disco - Saturday 24th April in the Gandon Inn.

