

January Sunday Services				
1st January 1st Sunday of Christmas	8th January 1st Sunday after Epiphany	15th January 2nd Sunday after Epiphany	22nd January 3rd Sunday after Epiphany	29th January 4th Sunday after Epiphany
Mountrath United Service Nine Lessons & Carols 11:00am	Borris-in-Ossory Morning Prayer 8:30am	Seir Kieran Eucharist 8:30am	Borris-in-Ossory Eucharist 8:30am	Roskelton United Service Eucharist 11:00am
	Lacca Morning Prayer 10:15am	Annatrim Morning Prayer 10:15am	Lacca Eucharist 10:15am	
	Mountrath Eucharist 11:45am	Roskelton Morning Prayer 11:30am	Mountrath Morning Prayer 11:45am	

Other Services
6th January (Friday) Epiphany
Annatrim United Service Eucharist 11:00am

Parish Diary - January

6th Friday.....Mountmellick Y.M. 60's-70's Reunion Social Dance (9:30-1:30am)
 18th Wednesday.....**Closing date for February 2006 Newsletter items!**
 30th Monday.....Mothers' Union, Parochial Hall (8:00pm)

Table Tennis practice every second Friday at 7:30pm in the Parochial Hall.

Badminton practice every Tuesday and Thursday at 8:30pm in the Parochial Hall.

Sunday School for Juniors & Seniors, St. Peter's Church, Mountrath (during Sunday service, except United and Family services).

Items for inclusion in the February Newsletter need to be with the editor by the Wednesday (18th January) before the fourth Sunday AT THE LATEST, so that the newsletter can be assembled, printed, and distributed in time for the fourth Sunday (22nd January).
 Ideally, items should be submitted by e-mail to- newsletter@clonenagh.com
 Otherwise to- Ivor Clegg, Cloncourse, Mountrath, Co. Laois. 0502-21277 or 087-2522162
 This Newsletter and many older editions can be downloaded directly from www.clonenagh.com.



Clonenagh Group of Parishes - January 2006

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

Priest in charge:

Rev. Stella Mikhail, Coolrain House, Coolrain.
 Phone: 0502-35127
 E-Mail: clonenagh@ossory.anglican.org

Parish Assistant (Youth):

Linda Wharton, Dromoyle House, Birr, Co. Offaly.
 Phone: 0509-31077 Mobile: 086-1966166
 E-Mail: rectory@clonenagh.com

Get well Wishes!

Our prayers and good wishes are with those who are unwell at the moment.

Congratulations to Wayne Clegg and Norma Bryan on their recent marriage.

Rector's Notes-

A Very Happy New Year to You all!

What about a New Year's Resolution for the Clonenagh Group of Parishes? Read on...

Can we say 'yes' to any of the following questions?:

- We want our parish to be more welcoming of all people and to be filled with the voices of children and youth.
- People are moving in to our area and we want to help our congregation to reach them.
- Many of our members are overstretched and we have trouble finding enough people to help.
- We long to see people of all ages, children, teenagers and adults develop in faith, service and in the use of their God

given gifts.

- We want to see our parish making a greater impact on our community.

I think we can say 'yes' to all those statements, don't you? But where do we start to make these changes?

In the rapidly changing face of Ireland, churches are facing change like they have never faced it before. Many of us within the Church recognise the need for change, but we also recognise that it takes energy and resources to do so. Often all our energy is used up on keeping the show in the road, or maintenance religion. The will to change is there, but the enthusiasm is lacking. We're also afraid that we don't have the resources to bring things forward.

At the invitation of the Standing Committee, the Parish Development Working Group has devised a programme that it believes will be of real help to parishes that want to do more than simply 'hang on in there'. It's called 'Church 21' and it's a programme of Parish Development that I believe will be of great benefit to our group of parishes.



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 Mountrath - 0502-32208 Athy - 0507-31462 Portlaoise - 0502-20952

The good news is, that from our diocese, we are one of four groups of parishes 'in the hat' to be considered for participation in the Church 21 programme. Each diocese in the country gets to have two groups take part, so lets hope that we are one of the two that will get to take part from the combined diocese of Cashel, Ossory, Waterford, Ferns, Lismore and Leighlin.

~Rev'd Stella



Hand Written Bible

The Bible Society of Ireland is 200 years here this year and they want to celebrate in a very special way. To do so, they are planning an exciting project so that everyone can celebrate Scripture by joining together to write a few verses.

The Bible Society are inviting churches, schools and groups of all kinds to get involved. Their aim is to create at least one complete Hand Written Bible, made up of verses copied by thousands, even tens of thousands of people! They will provide the necessary resources.

What do you say that we join them and have some of the verses written by members of our congregation?

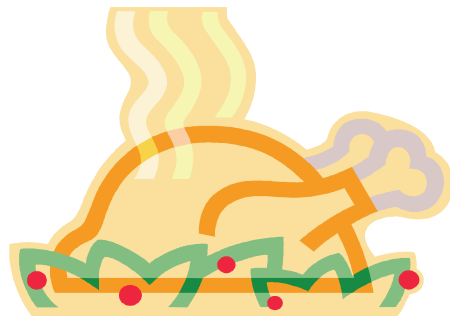
If you'd be interested in joining the thousand or so writers, please let the rector know.

~Rev'd Stella

MOTHERS UNION & YOUNG WIVES held their annual auction on November 28th. Many thanks to all who supported this night and a donation will be made to Abbeyleix Hospital and The Rowanberry Adult Day centre in the New Year.

The next meeting will be on Monday 30th January at 8pm. in the Parochial Hall. Linda Wharton will be coming along to give us a demonstration and talk about her work in ceramics. (Hopefully the weather will be kind to us!)

Senior Citizens Christmas Dinner



was held on Wednesday 7th December when 55 enjoyed a lovely dinner. **MANY THANKS** to all who made this day possible, we had someone as young as three helping with the preparing. **WELL DONE ONE AND ALL.**

A Mountmellick Y.M. 60's-70's **Re-Union Social Dance** will be held in the Y.M. Hall on Friday 6th January, 2006.

Music by Jimmy Fahy; dancing 9:30pm-1:30am; supper at 10:30pm; admission €15.00; door & spot prizes.

Tickets available from:

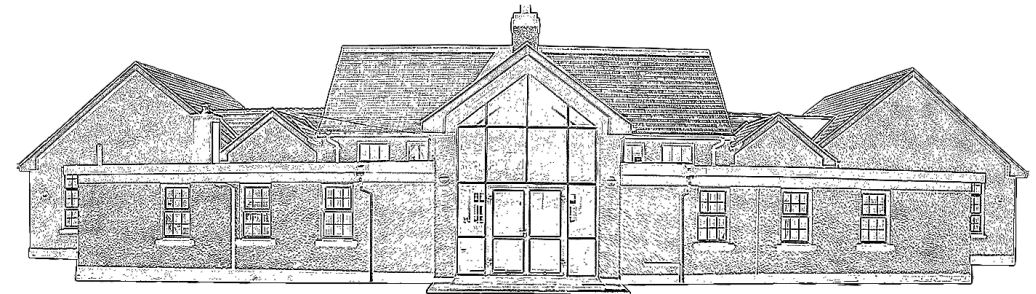
Willie Treacy (Pike of Rushall) 0502-35116

Billy Shaw (Clareen) 087-2738926

Cecil Wellwood (Abbeyleix) 0502-33307



Clonenagh National School News-



The Clonenagh School Fundraising Committee wish to thank everyone who sold sheets and supported the Car Logo Quiz.

- PRIZE WINNERS-**
- 1st- Sarah Talbot, Ballycolla
 - 2nd- Lena Roe, Ballyfin
 - 3rd- Alan Young, Wicklow
 - 4th- Myra Carter, Ballyroan
 - 5th- Velma Jackson, Mountrath
- TOP SELLER-** The Hayes family
- SELLERS RAFFLE-** Laetitia Wrest

G.F.S. Raffle

Many thanks to all who supported our Christmas raffle.

Congratulations to all the winners:

- Hamper - Ray Phelan, Aghaboe;
- Christmas Cake - Myra Carter, Ballyroan;
- Fuel voucher - Nigel Bradley, Abbeyleix;
- Giant Santa - Sarah Osborne, Mountrath;
- Cafetiere - Ben Chadwick, Cloughjordan;
- Fruit hamper - Anne Whitford, Portlaoise;
- Tin of Sweets - Newman family, Mountrath;
- in of Biscuits - Pat Mortimer, Mountrath.

Hope you all have a lovely Christmas and Best Wishes for 2006.