

Services for November 2008

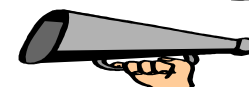
30th Advent Sunday Violet	<i>Isaiah 64:1-9 Psalm 80:1-8 & 18-20 1 Corinthians 1:3-9 St Mark 13:24-37</i>	Fifth Sunday United Service 11.a.m. Annatrim Eucharist Start of the Advent Journey for Mary and Joseph
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Services for December 2008

6th / 7th 2nd Sunday of Advent Purple	<i>Isaiah 40:1-11 Psalm 85:1-2 & 8-13 2 Peter 3:8-15a Mark 1:1-18</i>	Saturday 8p.m. Borris-in-Ossory Evening Prayer	Sunday 11a.m. Lacca Eucharist	Sunday 7.30p.m. Mountrath Advent Carol Service with the ICA Choir	
13th / 14th 3rd Sunday of Advent Purple	<i>Isaiah 61:1-4 & The Canticle Magnificat 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24 John 1:6-8 & 19-28</i>	Saturday 4p.m. Seir Kieran Evening Prayer and Baptism of Grace Esther Anne Wharton	Saturday 8p.m. Annatrim Eucharist	Sunday 10a.m. Mountrath Morning Prayer	Sunday 11.30a.m. Roskelton Morning Prayer and Baptism of Rebekah Elizabeth Clegg
20th / 21st 4th Sunday of Advent Purple	<i>2 Samuel 7:1-11 & 16 The Canticle Magnificat Romans 16:25-27 Luke 1:26-38</i>	Saturday 8p.m. Lacca Evening Prayer	Sunday 10a.m. Borris-in-Ossory Eucharist	Sunday 11.30 Mountrath Children's Service Christmas Carols at the Jesse Tree	Sunday 7p.m. Seir Kieran Roman Catholic Church Interchurch Carol Service
Wednesday 24th Christmas Eve White	<i>Isaiah 9:2-7 Psalm 96 Titus 2:11-14 Luke 2:1-20</i>	7p.m. Seir Kieran Eucharist	9p.m. Borris-in-Ossory Eucharist	11.30p.m. Mountrath Eucharist	
Thursday 25th Christmas Day White		8.30a.m. Lacca Eucharist	10a.m. Annatrim Eucharist	11.30 Roskelton Eucharist	
Sunday 28th 1st Sunday of Christmas White	<i>Service of Nine Lessons and Carols</i>	11a.m. Mountrath Service of Nine Lessons and Carols			
Wednesday 31st New Year's Eve White	<i>Job 23:10-14 Psalm 65 Revelation 22:13-14 Luke 4:18-19</i>	11p.m. Borris-in-Ossory New Year's Eve Eucharist			
Thursday 1st January 2009 New Years Day Naming and Circumcision of Jesus White	<i>Numbers 6:22-27 Psalm 8 Galatians 4:4-7 Luke 2:15-21</i>	10a.m. Lacca Eucharist		11.30a.m. Mountrath Eucharist	

Morning/Evening Prayer: All three readings are read by a lector or lectors
 None of the MP/EP readings finish with the words "This is the Word of the Lord."
Eucharist: The Old Testament and Epistle are read by a lector or lectors.

Newsletter



Clonenagh Group of Parishes - December 2008

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

Rector:

*The Rev'd Stella Jones,
Clonenagh Rectory,
Portlaoise Road,
Mountrath.
Phone: 057-8732146*

Diocesan Reader:

*Mabel Peavoy,
Shannon Road,
Mountrath.
Phone: 057-8732331*

Parish Archivist:

*Vicky Knowles,
Clonin School,
Mountrath.
Phone: 057-8732846*

clonenagh@ossory.anglican.org

Rector's Notes

Happy Christmas to all my parishioners and friends. I wish you all God's blessing for this holy time, as well as for the year to come.

Select Vestry Meetings

Clonenagh
 Parochial Hall Tuesday 2nd Dec 8.30p.m.
Offerlane
 Lacca Church Thursday 4th Dec 8.30p.m.
Borris-in-Ossory
 St Mark's Church Friday 5th Dec at 8.30p.m.
Seir Kieran
 Seir Kieran Tuesday 9th Dec at 8.30p.m.

Advent Carol Service

We are very privileged to have the ICA choir joining us for our Advent Carol Service in St Peter's Church, Mountrath. This service takes place on Sunday the 7th of December at 7.30p.m. Mulled wine and mince pies will be served in the parish hall after the service.

Interchurch Carol Service in Clareen

At 7p.m. on Sunday the 21st of December, we will be joining our brothers and sisters in the Roman Catholic Church in Seir Kieran for an interchurch carol service. This is a wonderful way of worshipping together. I hope to see many of you from all six churches with us that evening. All are welcome, so do come and bring the family with you.

Congratulations to:

Stanley Lalor and Tara Ryan, who were married in St Peter's Church in Portlaoise on the 10th of October;
 and to **Gail Cooper and Colm Clear** who were married in Annatrim Church in Coolrain on Thursday the 23rd of October.

Holy Baptism

This month we look forward to two baptisms. **Grace Esther Anne**, the daughter of **Linda and Davie Wharton** will be baptised in Seir Kieran in Clareen, Co. Offaly at 4p.m. on the 13th of December and the very next day, **Rebekah Elizabeth**, daughter of **Caroline and Robert Clegg**, will be baptised in St Matthew's Church in Roskelton at the 11.30 service.

Our Sympathy and Condolences

to the **Bennett Family** of Mountrath and Moher West on the death of **Cyril**. Cyril's funeral and burial was in Annatrim, on Wednesday the 29th of October. Also to the **Kühnle Family** of Coolrain, on the death of **Benedict**, whose funeral took place in Annatrim Church on Tuesday the 11th of November. Benny was buried in Camross.

May they both rest in peace.

Harvest Collections

Thank you to those who so generously gave to the Bishop's Appeal during our Harvest services. It is a very important part of our Christian ministry, to give to those from whom we can expect no return. The total collected was €784.68. Thank you to all those who dug deep in their pockets!

Parish Outreach

The English classes cum Pastoral Care sessions are still taking place each week in the parochial hall on Wednesdays at 8p.m. My grateful thanks to **Vicky Wallace** and **Emily Jackson** for coming week after week and helping by preparing tea and biscuits. Without Vicky and Emily, these sessions would not work as well as they do. If any of the rest of you have any spare time on Wednes-

day nights, we could do with some more help. A parish is not a parish if it only looks after itself. Reaching out to those on the margins, is a way for all of us to be Christ to those who are new among us, and that is what Christ asked us to do. So come on, please do come and give of your time and friendship and you don't have to be from the Mountrath area to help. It would be wonderful if people from all six churches could help in this. The more volunteers, obviously the less often people have to take part. I look forward to seeing more people arrive on Wednesday nights. 8p.m. in the Parochial Hall in Mountrath .

Second Month of Asking.....

1. The rector could do with some help in getting a **Youth Meeting** going, for parishioners between the ages of 12 and 18. In the interests of the youth concerned, it is necessary for there to be several leaders working together. It would be good if there was a mixture of ages helping with this, so young or older, male and female, please give it a thought and if you can and would like to help in this initiative, please ring the rectory so's we can get this up and going. Thank you!

2. Nobody has yet rung the rectory to offer the help we asked for in last month's newsletter. We are looking for male volunteers to come and help move furniture in the parochial hall before and after functions. The ladies of the parish often find themselves having to move tables in and out of the shed for various functions, quite apart from the preparing, hosting and cleaning up afterwards. It would be lovely if there were some gentlemen around, who would offer to help carry the tables at times like this. Please ring the rectory and leave your name and phone number, if you are willing and able to help out in this way. Thank you!

Weekday Readings for December

- 1 **Feast of St Andrew** Sirach 14:20-27; P 47 & 48; John 12:20-32
- 2 Micah 4:6-13; P 50; Revelation 18:1-10
- 3 Micah 5:1-5a; P 28 & 76; John 1:35-42
- 4 Hosea 6:1-6:1; P 60 & 82; Matthew 7:21-27
- 5 Jeremiah 1:4-2:10; P 40; Matthew 9:27-31
- 6 Ezekiel 36:24-28; P 9; Matthew 9:35-10:8

7 Sunday Lectionary

- 8 Isaiah 26:7-15; P 144; Luke 5:17-26
- 9 Isaiah 4:2-6; P44; Matthew 18:12-14
- 10 Malachi 2:10-3:1; P 11 & 12; Matthew 11:28-30
- 11 Habakkuk 2:1-5; P42 & 43; Matthew 117-15
- 12 Habakkuk 3:2-6; P123 & 130; Matthew 11:16-19
- 13 Habakkuk 3:13-19 P 94; Matthew 17:9-13
- 14 **Sunday Lectionary**
- 15 1 Kings 18:1-18; P 28 & 76; Matthew 21:23-27
- 16 2 Kings 2:9-22; P 62 & 82; Matthew 21:28-32
- 17 Malachi 3:16-4:6; P 40; Luke 7:19-23
- 18 2 Samuel 6:1-11 P 50; Luke 7:24-30
- 192 Samuel 6:12-19; P70 & 75; John 5:33-36
- 20 Judges 13:2-24; P 113; Matthew 1:1-7 & 17
- 21 **Sunday Lectionary**
- 22 1 Samuel 1:1-18; P 115; Luke 1:5-25
- 23 1 Samuel 1:19-28, P 116:1-10; Luke 1:5-25
- 24 Ecclesiastes 3:1-8; P 45 & 46; James 1:17-18
- 25 **Christmas Lectionary**
- 26 **Feast of St Stephen** Jeremiah 26:12-15; P 119:161-16; Matthew 23:34-39
- 27 **Feast of S John** Exodus 33:12-23:1 P 117; John 2:1-11
- 28 **Feast of the Holy Innocents** Genesis 37:13-20; P 36 & 146; Matthew 18:1-10
- 29 Isaiah 49:5-15; P 20; Luke 2:22-35
- 30 Proverbs 9:1-12; P 45; Luke 2:36-40
- 31 1 Kings 3:5-14; P 132; John 1:1-18

~Rev'd Stella

Mothers' Union & Young Wives would like to sympathise with the families of the bereaved at this sad time. Best wishes and a speedy recovery to all who are sick both at home and in hospital at this time.

The MU Annual Auction will be held on Monday 1st December at 8pm in the Parochial Hall, Mountrath. A donation from the proceeds on the night will be made to charity

and your support would be appreciated. Items for Christmas presents etc will be available. ALL ARE WELCOME. Mrs Marina Clegg, & Mrs Mgt. Jestin are in charge of the supper on the night.

Membership subs are due and our treasurer would be grateful to receive them as soon as possible.

A Very Happy, Peaceful and Safe Christmas from all the members of Mountrath Mothers' Union & Young Wives.

Many thanks to everyone who give so generously to Susan Jestin in aid of her Great Ethiopian Run that takes place this Sunday 23rd November in aid of ORBIS Ireland.

Children's Book Fair will be held at Clonenagh National School Mountrath on Thursday 4th, Friday 5th, Monday 8th, and Tuesday 9th December from 2.00 pm to 4.00 pm each day. Great selection of children's books, all welcome.

G.F.S. continues on every second Friday; dates up to Christmas are as follows: Friday November 28 at 7pm Friday December 12th at 7pm

We welcome Avril Williams to our leadership team.

Leprosy Mission donations should be returned to Olga Telford by December 5th.

Surplus Pews For Sale

Pews from the transept of St Peter's Church are being sold to make way for the new side chapel in memory of Archdeacon Grey. If you would like to purchase one or more of these historic pews, please send your bid to the rector's glebeward Ken McDowell of "Redcastle, Mountrath, Co. Laois."

The bids will be opened at the meeting of Clonenagh Select Vestry on Tuesday 2nd of December and you will be notified as soon as possible if you are one of the lucky ones.

Laois Macra na Feirme are holding their inaugural **Christmas Ball** on December 6th in the Abbeyleix Manor Hotel. Dinner is at 7.30pm. Entertainment will be provided by MIMIC followed by a DJ. All raffle proceeds will go towards Mountmellick and Abbeyleix hospitals. Tickets are €45 and are available from Alison Holmes on 085-7140780.

All members, past and present, as well as friends and family are more than welcome to attend.

PLEASE NOTE!

The **January 2009 Newsletter** will be published for distribution on **Christmas Eve and Christmas Day**, so it's important that items are submitted in time, by Monday 22nd at the latest please.

Parish Diary - December

- November 29th.....Building Blocks Conference, Dublin
- November 29th.....G.F.S. (7.00pm)
- 1st Monday.....M.U.&Y.W. Annual Auction, Parochial Hall (8.00pm)
- 4th-9th.....Children's Book Fair, Clonenagh National School (2.00-4.00pm)
- 5th Friday.....Closing date for return of Leprosy Mission Donations
- 6th Saturday.....Laois Macra na Feirme Christmas Ball, Abbeyleix (7.30pm)
- 12th Friday.....G.F.S. (7.00pm)
- 22nd Monday.....Closing date for January 2009 Newsletter items!

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

Items for inclusion in the January 2009 Newsletter need to be with the editor by the Monday (**22nd December**) before Christmas Eve and Christmas Day (**24th-25th December**) **AT THE LATEST**, so that the Newsletter can be assembled, printed, and distributed in time for Christmas. **Ideally, items should be submitted by e-mail** to- newsletter@clonenagh.com Otherwise to- Ivor Clegg, Cloncourse, Mountrath, Co. Laois. 057-8621277 or 087-2522162 This Newsletter and many older editions can be downloaded directly from www.clonenagh.com