



Clonenagh Group of Parishes - June 2010

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

Rector:
The Rev'd Ian Poulton,
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PROVISIONAL Service Schedule for Clonenagh Group of Parishes					
Date	Time and Place of Service				
1 st Sunday of the month	Roskelton 9.30a.m.	Seir Kieran 9.30a.m.	Annatrim /Lacca 10.30a.m.	Borris-in-Ossory 11.00a.m.	Mountrath 11.30a.m.
2 nd Sunday of the month	Seir Kieran 9.30a.m.		Annatrim /Lacca 10.30a.m.	Borris-in-Ossory 11.00a.m.	Mountrath 11.30a.m.
3 rd Sunday of the month	Roskelton 9.30a.m.	Seir Kieran 9.30a.m.	Annatrim /Lacca 10.30a.m.	Borris-in-Ossory 11.00a.m.	Mountrath 11.30a.m.
4 th Sunday of the month	Seir Kieran 9.30a.m.		Annatrim /Lacca 10.30a.m.	Borris-in-Ossory 11.00a.m.	Mountrath 11.30a.m.

Parish Diary - June

18th Friday.....Parish Supper Dance, Mountrath Golf Club (10pm-1am)
23rd Wednesday..Closing date for July/August 2010 Newsletter items!
 24th Thursday.....Clonenagh N.S. closes (12.00pm)

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

Items for inclusion in the July/August 2010 Newsletter need to be with the editor by **WEDNESDAY June 23rd AT THE LATEST**, so that the Newsletter can be assembled, printed, and distributed in time for the **4th Sunday, June 27th**.
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

From the Rector:

I would like to say a very sincere 'thank you' to everyone who has made me so welcome in the parish. It was back on 22nd February that I first came to Mountrath to meet with the nominators, Joe Peavoy, Sylvia Stotesbury, Ivan Jestin and William Whitten, and had a great day, and have enjoyed all the moments since.

The institution service on 18th May was a great occasion, those who travelled from Dublin expressed thanks for the great welcome they received and I would want to express a personal word of thanks to all who were responsible for the evening, both at the church and in providing the bountiful supper at the hall afterwards.

Living in two places is going to present challenges, but it is my intention to be present and working in the parish for two parts of each day - either morning and afternoon or afternoon and evening. I am planning to put a 'call divert' on the telephone at the Rectory so if I am not at the Rectory, the call will divert to my mobile. Should you wish to phone the mobile directly, the number is 087 240 5753.

Growing up in a community in Somerset in England that was more rural than most of the parish - it was three miles to the nearest bus stop - I know rural communities are places where news travels quickly; please if you hear word of someone ill, or someone in hospital, or of a bereavement in a family, do let me know.

On Sundays, my desire is that we would have regular worship at a regular time; this is important to the faithful, but is also important if we are to have an outreach to wider society: how will people come through our church doors if those doors are closed?

Meeting with the churchwardens from the parishes, we discussed possible patterns of worship. My current intention is that on the first and third Sundays of the month, I will take Roskelton at 9.30, Annatrim/Lacca at 10.30 and Mountrath at 11.30 and a lay reader will take Seir Kieran at 9.30 and Borris in Ossory at 11.00. On the second and fourth Sundays, I will take Seir Kieran at 9.30 and Borris in Ossory at 11.00 and a lay reader will take Annatrim/Lacca at 10.30 and Mountrath at 11.30. It all seemed very tidy

until I realized that if Annatrim and Lacca had services on alternate Sundays and I was there on alternate Sundays, I would always be in the same church. We will have to look at how we work out the pattern of services.

Archdeacon Leslie Stevenson, preaching at the institution service, talked about the need for the church to be the servant of the people if it is to command respect in a world that has given up on listening to the church. My hope is that I come among you as one who serves. Rectors come and Rectors go, it is the people who remain; the church belongs to the people and a wise Rector knows to listen and not to order. The parish will become what people want it to be.

Please pray for me in the years ahead as I do my best to be the sort of servant that Jesus expects me to be.

~Ian Poulton

Kenneth McDowell

The death of Ken McDowell of Redcastle on Friday, 30th April at the Mater Hospital in Dublin was a profound shock to all who knew and loved him.

A man with a great love for land and livestock, Ken had farmed since leaving school at the age of fourteen. Farming was a vocation for Ken, a calling, which meant the daily work of milking twice a day was not a burden, but a task in which he found fulfilment.

Ken's great love was for his family and his home, being with those

who were dearest to him, sitting around the table with Dorothy and his family. A recent photograph of Ken, sat in his usual chair beside the table, is a picture of contentment, a picture of someone happy in life.

A committed and practical Christian, Ken gave years of service to his church, as a parishioner as a vestry member, and as a warden; Ken was a man for doing things rather than talking about them.

Archdeacon John Murray, the Revd Stella Jones, and the Revd Cliff Jeffers officiated at Ken's funeral in Mountrath and he was laid to rest in the graveyard, at the foot of the grave of his father who was buried less than three years previously.

We extend our sympathy and prayers to Dorothy and the family in this time of great sadness. The cross on Ken's grave is inscribed 'Safe in the arms of Jesus' and we pray that faith may be a comfort and support to those bereaved by Ken's death.

Parish Notes

Our Sympathy and Condolences to Dorothy, Annie, and all the McDowell family on the recent sudden death of Ken; and to Thomas, Frederick, and all the McCutcheon family on Anna's recent death.

Best Wishes to Rosemary Holmes and Harry Fairbrother following their recent stays in hospital, and to all who are unwell at home, in hospital, or in nursing home.

Congratulations to Alfie and Sheila Oxley on the occasion of their 50th Anniversary.

The **Parish Supper Dance** will be held on Friday 18th June in Mountrath Golf Club. Music by Solitaire.

Tickets €15, will be available from any member of the fundraising committee. Raffle prizes would also be appreciated.

A good night is assured, so do come along and bring your friends.

Clonenagh National School

The Board of Management and staff extend their sincere sympathies to Thomas and Frederick and the McCutcheon family on Anna's recent passing.

Well done to 4th/5th/6th class pupils who entered a **Spikeball** tournament with 3 other schools. School teams came 3rd and 4th. This was organised by Transition Year students from Mountrath Community School.

Again, well done to 4th/5th/6th class pupils who entered a **Soccer Blitz** in Portlaoise. Both teams did very well with one team entering the final and coming runner up.

Fundraising continues with a backpack in Dunnes Stores Rathdowney on Friday 25th & Saturday 26th June. All support would be greatly appreciated. Please contact the school.

Ms. Coman finishes with us on Wednesday 23rd June as she takes up a new post in Rathdowney NS. The Board of Management and staff thank her for all the ways she has contributed to our school and

we wish her every success in the future.

School finishes on Thursday 24th June at 12 o'clock.

Mountrath GFS Notes

A warm welcome to Rev. Ian Poulton, we hope he will have many happy years in the parish.

On Sunday 16th May leaders, parents and girls attended the Diocesan service and prizegiving in St. Canice's Cathedral, Kilkenny. Congratulations and well done to all the girls who received certs for their Bible Study and Handcraft entries in Diocesan competitions and their badges. Special congratulations to Naomi Senior who received 1st Prize in the Diocese and 2nd place in All Ireland for her Handcraft entry and Highly Commended in the Diocese for her Bible Study (3-5yrs), to Ava Shirley who received Highly Commended in the Diocese for her Bible study and Handcraft Entries (5-7yrs), and to Rachel Honner who received Highly Commended in the Diocese for her Handcraft entry (7-11yrs).

Later this month the younger girls will be attending a Fun Day in Kilkenny and the older girls look forward to going bowling and for food.

If anyone is interested in purchasing a G.F.S. cookery book for €10, they are available from leaders. They are being sold as a fundraiser for G.F.S. World Council in Ireland in 2011.