



Clonenagh Group of Parishes - January 2011

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

Rector:

The Rev'd Ian Poulton,
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Christmas Services 2010				
Christmas Eve (24th)	<i>Isaiah 9: 2-7 Psalm 96 Titus 2: 11-14 Luke 2: 1-20</i>	Seir Kieran 7.00pm Holy Communion	Borris-in-Ossory 8.15pm Holy Communion	Lacca 9.30pm Holy Communion
Christmas Day (25th)	<i>Isaiah 52:7-10 Psalm 98 Hebrews 1:1-4 John 1: 1-14</i>	Roskelton 9.30am Holy Communion	Annatrim 10.30am Holy Communion	Mountrath 11.30am Holy Communion
Saint Stephen's Day (26th)	<i>2 Chronicles 24: 20-22 Psalm 119: 161-168 Acts 7: 51-60 Matthew 10: 17-22</i>	Annatrim 10.30am Morning Prayer	Mountrath 11.30am Holy Communion	

January Services 2011						
First Sunday (2nd)	<i>Jeremiah 31: 7-14 Psalm 147: 12-20 Ephesians 1: 3-14 John 1:10-18</i>	Roskelton 9.30am Morning Prayer	Seir Kieran 9.30am Morning Prayer	Lacca 10.30am Holy Communion	Borris-in-Ossory 11.00am Morning Prayer	Mountrath 11.30am Covenant Service & Holy Communion
Second Sunday (9th)	<i>Isaiah 42: 1-9 Psalm 29 Acts 10: 34-43 Matthew 3: 13-17</i>	Seir Kieran 9.30am Holy Communion		Annatrim 11.00am Holy Communion	Mountrath 11.30am Morning Prayer	Mountrath 7.00pm Plough Sunday Service
Third Sunday (16th)	<i>Isaiah 49:1-7 Psalm 40:1-12 1 Corinthians 1: 1-9 John 1: 29-42</i>	Roskelton 9.30am Holy Communion	Seir Kieran 9.30am Morning Prayer	Lacca 10.30am Morning Prayer	Borris-in-Ossory 11.00am Holy Communion	Mountrath 11.30am Morning Prayer
Fourth Sunday (23rd)	<i>Isaiah 9: 1-4 Psalm 27: 1, 4-12 1 Corinthians 1: 10-18 Matthew 4: 12-23</i>	Seir Kieran 9.30am Morning Prayer		Annatrim 11.00am Morning Prayer	Mountrath 11.30am Holy Communion	
Fifth Sunday (30th)	<i>Micah 6: 1-8 Psalm 15 1 Corinthians 1: 18-31 Matthew 5: 1-12</i>	Mountrath 9.00am Holy Communion		Lacca 11.00am Group Service		

Parish Diary - January

19th Wednesday...Closing date for February 2011 Newsletter items!

24th Monday.....Mothers' Union & Young Wives, Parochial Hall (8.00pm)

From the Rector:

The Weather: The weather conditions these past weeks have made all of us keenly aware of how fragile our way of life is and how quickly our plans can be thrown into disarray. Thank you to everyone who has been a good neighbour to those around. We have been fortunate in having thus far to cancel only two Sunday services - Roskelton and Seir Kieran on 5th December. We pray for gentler temperatures in the New Year.

Holy Communion for all the Family: Our attempt to have a weekly service with teaching for younger people continues in the New Year with Family Communion services in January are at Lacca at 1030 on 2nd January, Annatrim at 1100 on 9th January, Roskelton at 0930 on 16th January and Mountrath at 1130 on 23rd January. Only one family has been at all four churches!

Covenant Service: We mark the beginning of the New Year with a covenant service (a tradition from the Methodist Church), in which we commit ourselves to the Lord for the coming year, at Mountrath Church on Sunday, 2nd January at 11:30.

Midweek Services: Our Wednesday evening services at Borris-in-Ossory resume on Wednesday, 5th January at 8 pm.

The Epiphany: There will be Holy Communion for the Feast of the Epiphany in Mountrath at 8 pm on Thursday, 6th January.

Plough Sunday: There is an old tradition of the Sunday after the Epiphany being observed as Plough Sunday, the day on which there were prayers for the farming year. (Plough Sunday took its name from Plough Monday, the day when people traditionally returned to work after the Epiphany). We will be having a service in Mountrath Church at 7 pm. All farmers are invited – bring along your neighbours.

Conversion of Saint Paul: There will be Holy Communion on the day remembers the Conversion of Saint Paul, Tuesday, 25th January at 8 pm in Mountrath Church

Western Front visit: Plans for the trip to the Western Front from Sunday, 5th June to Wednesday, 8th June are progressing. Deposits of €100 per person are payable. Please make cheques payable to 'In the Footsteps', the company who provide our guide and transport and who make all the arrangements, and give them to Ian Poulton to post on to the tour organiser.

Baptism: We welcomed into Christ's Church, through the sacrament of Holy Baptism, Dylan Oliver Clear at Annatrim Church on Sunday, 5th December.

Confirmation: Bishop Michael joined us for the rite of confirmation at Lacca Church on Sunday, 21st November, confirming eight candidates: Henry Allen, Katie Allen, Nathaniel Allen, Philippa Allen, Amylou Hayes, Katie Hayes, John Lalor and Robert Stanley.

Funeral: We bade a faithful farewell to Essie Moynan of Derrin, Borris-in-Ossory on Thursday, 25th November. A lifelong resident of Borris and lifelong member of Saint Mark's Church, Essie died suddenly at her home on Monday, 22nd November. A strong character with a deep personal faith, Essie had chosen the hymns for her funeral some years ago and the large congregations that gathered for the removal on the Wednesday evening and the funeral service on the Thursday joined in the singing of words that meant much to Essie. Essie had known tears, particularly in the sudden death of her husband Harold in 1997, but also enjoyed laughter and lived in confidence that there was a greater life to come. We were grateful that Fr Jackie Robinson found time to be with us at both the removal and the funeral.

Sympathy: We extend our sympathy to John and Louise Thompson of The Castle, Borris-in-Ossory on the death of Louise's mother Rose Broderick. Rose's funeral Mass was conducted by Father Jackie Robinson at Saint Canice's Church, Borris-in-Ossory on Wednesday, 16th December; the Rector was pleased to be asked to read the Gospel at the funeral.

Our sympathy goes also to Archdeacon John Murray on the loss of his mother, whose funeral took place in Comber, Co Down on Tuesday, 23rd November. It was good that representatives

of our parish were able to travel to the North to support the Murray family in their time of sadness. We remember also those in our local community coming to terms with the tragic deaths of loved ones.

Welcome: We are very pleased to welcome Fr Eamonn O'Gorman as parish priest of Seir Kieran. Fr Eamonn swapped parishes with Fr Peter Muldowney, coming up from Mooncoin to our northerly outpost of Ossory diocese as Fr Peter travelled southwards to be almost in Waterford. Fr Eamonn joined us for our carol service at Seir Kieran.

Rector away: I am away from Saturday, 29th January until Saturday, 5th February. Canon Patrick Harvey in Abbeyleix will take calls.

A happy and blessed new year to everyone.

-Ian Poulton

Parish Notes

Sustentation: Thanks to all who have paid their Sustentation, and a gentle reminder to anyone who hasn't! Please get it to Florence Peavoy as soon as possible.

Congratulations to Joanna and Rodger Shore on the birth of a baby boy.

Leprosy Mission boxes collection for 2010 was €110.91. Thanks to everybody who made a donation and it is much appreciated. We wish everybody a happy Christmas and a happy New Year.

Mothers' Union & Young Wives met on November 22nd for their annual Christmas Auction. It was a well attended night, and a donation was sent from the branch to a local charity. Many thanks to

all the members for making this a success in the current economic times.

The next meeting will be on January 24th (weather permitting) in the Parochial Hall at 8pm, to plan the forthcoming Festival Service in May 2011, and also completing the marking of the branch's 100th year. Mrs Annie Clegg, Mrs Jean Treacy and Mrs Kathleen Bennett will be in charge of the supper.

Wishing everyone a very Happy & Peaceful New Year.

Table Tennis: The past year was a most successful year for our club. Katie Hayes took the Irish U10 Girls title. Amylou continued her success with Leinster. Three more young starlets have made massive headway in a short space of time: Leanne Delaney, Jessie Hayes and Nadia Krawczun have blazed a trail at U10 throughout the country. All ranked in the top 8 in Ireland.

We currently lead the way at U10 and U12 in Leinster with a 3rd and 4th position at U14 and U17 Girls. We hope to increase our challenge at these levels with even greater numbers in 2011, as there are a number of new young juniors showing signs of making a breakthrough in the near future.

Upcoming events include trips to Dublin and Killarney in January, followed by events in Castlebar, Cork, Dublin, etc.

2010 also saw our senior and Junior teams do a clean sweep of the Ossory League, however this success was somewhat overshadowed by some discontent at our achievements which in

turn lead to us withdrawing all teams from the current Ossory league season.

We also had a successful season in Starball League, capturing Div 1 in the final game of the season.

In this 2010/2011 season we are in the premier div with trips to Moate, Athy, Kilcooley, Killermogh, Tullamore and Portlaoise (home and away).

Our latest signing is former Leinster and Irish player Darren Harrison who teamed up with Edgars and Ray for the recent game against league favourites Athy in which we were on the wrong end of a 2-8 scoreline.

In Div 1, Gary Mckay, Dave Scanlan and Jack Dempsey have teamed up for games against Portlaoise and Carlow so far with many more to be taken care of.

We also compete in Div 2 where a host of teams from across the midlands also compete.

On Monday night we recorded a 6-4 win over Carlow TTC, where Ronan Cahill, Adina Moise and Gabriella were in superb form.

We are taking a short break from the tables for a couple of weeks and Junior training resumes on Jan 12th.

Many thanks to all who supported our recent fundraising event which was in aid of 2 new tables. Competition winner was Grant Chadwick, RU Bernard Rice.

Finally, the Club would like to wish every one of you a very happy Christmas and good health and lots of work for 2011.

Items for inclusion in the February 2011 Newsletter need to be with the editor by **WEDNESDAY January 19th AT THE LATEST**, so that the Newsletter can be assembled, printed, and distributed in time for the **4th Sunday, January 23rd**. 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