

March Sunday Services 2011

First Sunday (6th)	<i>Exodus 24: 12-18</i> <i>Psalm 2</i> <i>2 Peter 1: 16-21</i> <i>Matthew 17: 1-9</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 Holy Communion
Second Sunday (13th)	<i>Genesis 2: 15-17, 3: 1-7</i> <i>Psalm 32</i> <i>Romans 5: 12-19</i> <i>Matthew 4: 1-11</i>	Seir Kieran 9.30am Holy Communion		Annatrim 11.00am Holy Communion		Mountrath 11.30am Morning Prayer
Third Sunday (20th)	<i>Genesis 12: 1-4a</i> <i>Psalm 121</i> <i>Romans 4: 1-5, 13-17</i> <i>John 3: 1-17</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 (27th)	<i>Exodus 17: 1-7</i> <i>Psalm 95</i> <i>Romans 5: 1-11</i> <i>John 4: 5-42</i>	Seir Kieran 9.30am Morning Prayer		Annatrim 11.00am Morning Prayer		Mountrath 11.30am Holy Communion

Parish Diary - March

February 28th.....Mothers' Union & Young Wives, Parochial Hall (8.00pm)
 2nd Wednesday.....Midweek Service, Borris-in-Ossory
 3rd Thursday.....World Day of Prayer Service, Mountrath (10.30am)
 4th Friday.....World Day of Prayer Service, Mountrath (8.00pm)
 5th Saturday.....Seir Kieran Patronal Service (4:00pm)
 9th Wednesday.....Lent Service - Ash Wednesday, Mountrath (8.00pm)
 15th Tuesday.....Clonenagh Select Vestry Meeting (8.00pm)
 16th Wednesday.....Lent Service, Annatrim (8.00pm)
 17th Thursday.....St. Patrick's Day Communion Service, Mountrath (8.00pm)
 23rd Wednesday.....Lent Service, Borris-in-Ossory (8.00pm)
23rd Wednesday...Closing date for April 2011 Newsletter items!
 25th Friday.....Borris-in-Ossory ICA Anniversary Service (8.00pm)
 28th Monday.....Mothers' Union & Young Wives Lady's Day Service (8.00pm)
 29th Tuesday.....Mothers' Union Ossory Area Meeting, Johnston Hall (8.00pm)
 30th Wednesday.....Lent Service, Lacca (8.00pm)
 April 6th.....Go For Life Lunch, Castlecomer

Items for inclusion in the April 2011 Newsletter need to be with the editor by **WEDNESDAY March 23rd AT THE LATEST**, so that the Newsletter can be assembled, printed, and distributed in time for the **4th Sunday, March 27th**.

PLEASE make a reasonable effort to make your item as ready for publication as possible, particularly with regard to punctuation, paragraphs, spelling, and the **NON**-use of contractions and 'text-speak'. Most importantly, please ensure that you spell names correctly.

Ideally, items should be submitted by e-mail to- newsletter@clonenagh.com

Otherwise to- Ivor Clegg, Cloncourse, Mountrath, Co. Laois. 057-8621277/087-2522162

Newsletter

Clonenagh Group of Parishes - March 2011

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

Rector:
The Rev'd Ian Poulton,
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Portlaoise Road,
Mountrath.
Phone: 057-8732146

Diocesan Reader:
Mabel Peavoy,
Shannon Road,
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Parish Archivist:
Vicky Knowles,
Clonin School,
Mountrath.
Phone: 057-8732846

From the Rector:

Midweek services: Thank you to everyone who has supported our midweek services through the winter months. Our final midweek service in Borris in Ossory before we begin our travels around the group during the season of Lent is on Wednesday, 2nd March, when we shall be looking at the subject of 'Love'.

World Day of Prayer: The 2011 World Day of Prayer is on Friday, 4th March. This year we are holding two services at Saint Peter's Church in Mountrath to mark the occasion. At 10.30 am on Thursday, 3rd March, Clonenagh National School will gather to celebrate the children's liturgy, which is included with the material for the day, and at 8 pm on Friday, 4th March, we shall be holding the traditional inter-denominational service. Everyone is, of course welcome at either (or indeed both!), of the services.

Saint Kieran's Day: Seir Kieran will celebrate its patronal festival on Saturday, 5th March at 4 pm. It is an im-

portant anniversary this year, it being the 900th anniversary of the seat of the diocese being moved from our parish. Our worship will be a celebration of past, present and also the future, as we welcome into Christ's church, through the sacrament of Holy Baptism, the youngest member of our parish.

Lent services: Lent begins extraordinarily late this year, with Ash Wednesday being on Wednesday, 9th March. Our Lent services will move around the six churches in our group. On Wednesday, we will be in Mountrath at 8pm; then, on 16th March, in Annatrim; on 23rd March, in Borris in Ossory; on 30th March, in Lacca; on 6th April, in Roskelton; and on 13th April, in Seir Kieran. We shall be using the Lent Course provided by Churches Together in Britain and Ireland, which this year has the theme, 'The Unreconciled'. If anyone would like to look at the course, it is available on the internet at: www.ctbi.org.uk/520

Why you should come to our Lent services: Our series of Lent services looks at reconciliation and is based on

Lent course produced by Churches Together in Britain and Ireland. It aims to uncover some of the things that are never talked about, "where deep divisions are covered over by smiling faces and doing the right thing" and where "Some of those cracks and divisions never get healed and so families, communities and even nations, never flourish or prosper properly as God wants them to." The series asks such questions as: How do we bring about reconciliation? Who is responsible for bringing about world peace? Who should feed the hungry? What happens when attempts at reconciliation fail? How do we cope with failure? We reflect on our journey on what God has done for us in the crucifixion, death and resurrection of His Son, Jesus Christ. Because, in 2011, we are celebrating the 400th anniversary of the King James Version of the Bible, each resource will also have a special emphasis on how Scripture helps us to understand the plight of unreconciled people and our hope in Jesus Christ.

Saint Patrick's Day: The national saint's day will be marked by Holy Communion in Mountrath at 8 pm on Thursday, 17th March. If we could muster a congregation of 20 or so, we could sing some hymns - do come along.

ICA Anniversary Service: Borris in Ossory branch of the ICA celebrates its 50th anniversary this year. To mark the occasion, there will be a service at Saint Mark's Church on the

Feast of The Annunciation, Friday, 25th March at 8 pm. All ICA members and friends will be very welcome at the service.

Mothers' Union Service: Our Mothers' Union branch holds its annual Annunciation service on Monday, 28th March at 8 pm in Mountrath

Baptisms: We welcomed two new members into the fellowship of Christ's Church at baptism services in February. Harry Shore was baptized at Lacca Church on Sunday, 6th February and Charlie Peavoy was baptized at Annatrim Church on Sunday, 13th February..

Acknowledgement: Donations in lieu of flowers to Saint Peter's Church restoration fund in memory of Mrs Phyllis Telford of Mountrath have passed the €2,000 mark. Our sincere thanks to all who contributed to the fund. Phyllis loved the church and would have been touched by all who remembered her with such affection

Group service: Just 26 people turned up for the group service at Lacca on 30th January – this was a pathetic attendance, (and an embarrassment when there was a visiting preacher). Is there any good reason for continuing to have group services? If not, we will use the pattern of the first and third Sundays when it comes to a fifth Sunday.

Vestry meetings: There will be a meeting of the Select Vestry of Clonenagh Parish on Tuesday, 15th March at 8pm. We need also to have meetings of the select vestries of Of-ferlane, Borris in Ossory and Seir Kieran to formally revise the registers of the members of the general vestry.

Thank you: The Rector would like to thank the Abbeyleix clergy for looking after the parish while he spent a week in Austria contemplating sermons while skiing down the sides of mountains.

Appointment: The Rector was elected to be one of the canons of Saint Patrick's Cathedral in Dublin by a meeting of the chapter there on 11th February; being a canon of Saint Patrick's means spending two weeks a year on duty there at the Sunday and the twice daily services.

The canons in medieval times received the rents from church owned lands around Dublin – the Rector succeeds Dean Leslie Forrest in the canonry of Tassaggard, the area around the modern Saggart in west Dublin. The practice of receiving rents ceased a long, long time ago!

A year on: 1st March marks the first anniversary of the Board of Nomination's appointment of the new Rector; he would like to thank parishioners for their tolerance and patience with him in the year since that date.

~Ian Poulton

Parish Notes

Fundraising: This is just a gentle reminder to say our next fundraising event is our Golf Classic on May 27th in Mountrath Golf Club.

Mothers' Union & Young Wives will meet on Monday 28th February at 8pm in the Parochial Hall, when Ms Alison Holmes, Chartered Physiotherapist, will speak about the importance of exercise in our lives. The branch are delighted to have Alison come along and hope that all MEMBERS will come along to an excellent and talented speaker. Mrs Margaret Jestin, Mrs Laura Fairbrother & Mrs Sandra Condell will be in charge of the supper. The next meeting will be the Lady's Day service on Monday 28th March at 8pm in St. Peter's Church, Mountrath.

Ossory Area Meeting will be held in Johnston Hall on Tuesday 29th March at 8pm when the speaker, Mrs Lily Nolan from Teagasc will speak about 'Farm Safety'. Please encourage as many as possible to attend this meeting as it is open to everyone involved in farming. A donation of a cake per car please towards the supper.

Go for Life lunch will be held on April 6th in Castlecomer. Please mark this date in diaries as all (over 60) are welcome to attend.