

April Services 2011						
<b>First Sunday (3<sup>rd</sup>)</b>	1 Samuel 16: 1-13 Psalm 23 Ephesians 5: 8-14 John 9: 1-41	<b>Roskelton</b> 9.30am Morning Prayer	<b>Seir Kieran</b> 9.30am Morning Prayer	<b>Lacca</b> 10.30am Holy Communion	<b>Borris-in-Ossory</b> 11.00am Morning Prayer	<b>Mountrath</b> 11.30am Holy Communion
<b>Second Sunday (10<sup>th</sup>)</b>	Ezekiel: 37: 1-14 Psalm 130 Romans 8: 6-11 John 11: 1-45	<b>Seir Kieran</b> 9.30am Holy Communion		<b>Annatrim</b> 11.00am Holy Communion		<b>Mountrath</b> 11.30am Morning Prayer
<b>Palm Sunday (17<sup>th</sup>)</b>	Isaiah 50: 4-9a Psalm 118: 1-2, 19-29 Philippians 2: 5-11 Matthew 21: 1-11	<b>Roskelton</b> 9.30am Holy Communion	<b>Lacca</b> 10.30am Morning Prayer	<b>Borris-in-Ossory</b> 11.00am Holy Communion	<b>Mountrath</b> 11.30am Morning Prayer	<b>Seir Kieran</b> 7.00pm Evening Prayer
<b>Monday in Holy Week (18<sup>th</sup>)</b>		<b>Seir Kieran</b> 11.00am Holy Communion with the Bishop		<b>Roskelton</b> 8.00pm Compline		
<b>Tuesday in Holy Week (19<sup>th</sup>)</b>		<b>Annatrim</b> 8.00pm Late Evening Office				
<b>Wednesday in Holy Week (20<sup>th</sup>)</b>		<b>Borris-in-Ossory</b> 8.00pm Evening Prayer				
<b>Mundy Thursday (21<sup>st</sup>)</b>		<b>Mountrath</b> 8.00pm Holy Communion				
<b>Good Friday (22<sup>nd</sup>)</b>		<b>Roskelton</b> 10.00am Walking with the Cross	<b>Mountrath</b> 2.00pm The Last Hour	<b>Lacca</b> 8.00pm Readings and Hymns for Good Friday		
<b>Easter Eve (23<sup>rd</sup>)</b>		<b>Annatrim</b> 9.00pm Easter Vigil and First Communion of Easter Day				
<b>Easter Day (24<sup>th</sup>)</b>	Acts 10: 34-43 Psalm 118: 1-2, 14-24 Colossians 3: 1-4 John 20: 1-18	<b>Seir Kieran</b> 5.45am Lighting of the Easter Fire	<b>Borris-in-Ossory</b> 8.00am Holy Communion	<b>Roskelton</b> 9.30am Holy Communion	<b>Lacca</b> 10.30am Holy Communion	<b>Mountrath</b> 11.30am Holy Communion

## Parish Diary - April

March 28th.....Mothers' Union & Young Wives Lady's Day Service (8.00pm)  
 March 29th.....Mothers' Union Ossory Area Meeting, Johnston Hall (8.00pm)  
 March 30th.....Lent Service, Lacca (8.00pm)  
 1st Friday.....G.F.S. meeting, Parochial Hall (7.15pm)  
 6th Wednesday.....Go For Life Lunch, Castlecomer  
 15th Friday.....G.F.S. meeting, Parochial Hall (7.15pm)  
**20th Wednesday...Closing date for May 2011 Newsletter items!**  
 May 18th.....M.U. & Y.W. Diocesan Festival Service, Mountrath (7.30pm)  
 May 22nd.....G.F.S. Diocesan Service & Prizегiving, Kilkenny (3.00pm)



## Clonenagh Group of Parishes - April 2011

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

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

**Diocesan Reader:**  
Mabel Peavoy,  
Clonenagh Rectory,  
Shannon Road,  
Mountrath.  
Phone: 057-8732331

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

### From the Rector:

**Diocesan celebration of Easter:** We have an excellent booklet produced by our diocese to mark Holy Week and Easter. The bishop is particularly anxious that every parish be represented at our diocesan cathedral in Kilkenny at the vigil service on Easter Eve. We shall be having our own Easter vigil service at Annatrim on Easter Eve at 9 pm, but anyone who would like a much grander occasion with cathedral music might consider going along to Saint Canice's Cathedral.

**Lent services:** Our Lent services continue on Wednesday evenings until Holy Week; we shall be in Roskelton on 6th April; and on 13th April, in Seir Kieran. We are using the Lent course from Churches Together in Britain and Ireland which this year has the theme, 'The Unreconciled'. We began with a congregation of 34 in Mountrath, which was followed by congregations of 31 in both Annatrim and Borris in Ossory. It has been very encouraging to have had over 30 at each of the services.

**Holy Week:** This Holy Week we follow 'The Jesus Story: The Life of Christ told in Twenty Monologues.' The monologues were written for use in our church - they traced the story of Jesus from his birth to his resurrection. Recorded for radio by amateur actors, they were broadcast Sunday by Sunday on Downtown Radio in Northern Ireland, until Holy Week was reached when a monologue for each day went out during the breakfast show each morning. We are going to use them on five successive evenings, and we need volunteers for each part!

**Palm Sunday 8pm Seir Kieran:** The Shepherds, The Magi, Mary and Herod Monday 8pm Roskelton: Simeon, Anna, John the Baptist and Andrew Tuesday 8 pm Annatrim: The Woman at the Well, Matthew, Martha and Lazarus Wednesday 8pm Borris in Ossory: Judas, Pilate, Peter and Claudia Procula Maundy Thursday 8pm Mountrath: The Centurion, Joseph of Arimathea, Mary Magdalene and John

Our **services on Good Friday** begin at 10am when we walk with the Cross from Roskelton to The Hollow. At 2pm we keep the Last Hour in Mountrath, a service of bible reading, hymns and quietness. On Good Friday at 8pm we gather in Lacca for a dramatised reading of the Passion story with all 'The Old Rugged Cross', 'Nearer, my God, to thee', etc.

Our **celebration of the resurrection** of our Lord Jesus Christ begins on Saturday, 23rd April, Easter Eve at 9pm when we have the Easter Vigil and the First Communion of Easter Day. We will decorate a cross with flowers, acknowledging life coming from death. Easter morning begins early with the dawn service at 5.45am when we shall light the Easter Fire at Seir Kieran. The services continue at 8am with Holy Communion at Borris in Ossory and then Holy Communion at 9.30 at Roskelton, 10.30 at Lacca and 11.30 at Mountrath.

**World Day of Prayer:** The World Day of Prayer was observed over two days, with our National School holding its service on Thursday, 3rd March and the traditional service being held on 4th March. The booklets for the service instruct that the text may not

be changed, but this year we were presented with a Gospel reading that seemed to cut out the story of the miracle that inspired the theme, as though the miraculous did not fit into the service.

**Saint Kieran's Day:** We welcomed more than 60 people to our Saint Kieran's Day patronal festival service at Seir Kieran in which we welcomed Joshua Wharton into the fellowship of Christ's Church through the sacrament of holy baptism. The congregation included Dr Celeste Ray, an anthropologist from the University of the South in the United States, who is on sabbatical leave and was visiting Ireland to visit holy wells. Dr Ray hopes to produce a feature for National Geographic magazine on the holy wells, so we hope Saint Kieran's Well will be included.

#### **Funerals:**

3rd March 2011 at Saint Jude's Church, Annatrim, **Valerie Harvey** of Camross. A native of Wicklow, where her father died when she was eighteen months old, Valerie grew up on the family farm where her mother had to run the farm raise the four children. Meeting Sid and getting married in 1976, Valerie enjoyed 35 years of happily married life, living in Camross for much that time. Proud of her children and grand children, and an enthusiastic member of the local community, Valerie was great organiser, dancer and loved music. Suffering poor health in recent years, Valerie still sought to live a full and active life, enjoying outings and holidays in Wicklow. Valerie's mother, Florrie was confined to a nursing home in recent years and Valerie was a diligent visitor. A jolly character, good natured and with a will of her own; Valerie was a deeply spiritual person who found great solace in her faith in her closing days.

6th March 2011 at Saint Peter's Church, Mountrath, **Esther Elizabeth (Joy) Fairbrother** of Brookhaven Nursing Home, Ballyragget, formerly of Rossbawn,

Ballaghmore and Shanahoe. Joy had a great love for the farm on which she grew up and keen memories of days at Kyle School. Working briefly at Clarke's shop in Roscrea after leaving school, Joy was at her happiest when working with the cattle at home. Each animal had its own character for Joy, none were just numbers. Life at Ballaghmore brought Joy into daily contact with the natural world in which she took great delight. Failing health brought a move to Shanahoe in 2000, to be close to her brother Ian, then illness in late 2009 brought a long stay in hospital before the move to the nursing home. Though crippled with rheumatoid arthritis, Joy was always cheerful and grateful for all the kindnesses she received. Gently confident in her faith, Joy had a strong sense of God's grace.

**Installation:** Ian Poulton's installation as a canon of Saint Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin is at 3.15 pm on Sunday, 1st May (the Sunday after Easter). Anyone, who wishes to attend will, of course, be welcome, but the installation is a very brief affair and there are many more exciting things that might be done on a bank holiday Sunday afternoon!

**Laois CIYC Easter morning service:** The Bishop and members of the Laois Church of Ireland Youth Council are organising a Dawn Eucharist at 5.45 a.m. in the grounds of Stradbally Hall. All young people are welcome.

**Theological student:** Mr Ian Jameson, who will be ordained as a deacon in September to serve on the Shankill Road in Belfast, is coming to stay in the Rectory over the summer months. Ian arrives on 17th May and, along with his studies, will be spending time visiting in the parishes and assisting with Sunday worship. Do give him a warm welcome as he prepares for ordained ministry.

*-Ian Poulton*

#### **Parish Notes**

**Belated congratulations** to Vicky Knowles on the announcement of her **engagement** to Mr David Cuddy. Best wishes to them both.

**Fundraising:** Sadly, due to the on-going recession, the **Parish Golf Classic** scheduled for May 27th in Mountrath Golf Club has been cancelled. In its place however, a **Parish Social** will be held in Mountrath Golf Club on June 17th. More details closer to the date.

**Oisín Birney was born** on the 9th of February 2011 to proud parents Robert & Eleanor, a little brother for Cillian & Aoibheann.

**G.F.S.** girls have been busy over the past few months completing Bible Study and crafts for Diocesan competitions. Leaders attended a Council meeting in Carlow last week.

Our **Diocesan Service and Prize-giving** will be held in Kilkenny on Sunday 22nd May at 3.00pm. **G.F.S World Council** will be held in Ireland from 25th June-4th July. Each branch has to provide small Irish items e.g. celtic crosses, pencils, badges, tea towels etc to give to delegates attending from all over the world, donations welcome. If anyone has any unwanted toiletries e.g. shampoo, soaps that they received as presents we also have to supply items/baskets to put in delegates rooms in King's Hospital where event is being hosted. These can be given to any of the G.F.S. leaders.

If anyone is interested in helping with G.F.S next year or becoming a leader, we would greatly appreciate any offers. We meet fortnightly on Friday evenings between October and May. Further information from Jennifer 086 8185644.

**Mothers' Union & Young Wives** met on Monday 28th February when Ms Alison Holmes impressed the members with her talk on Physiotherapy and the importance of exercise. Many thanks to her for sharing her knowledge with us.

The annual **Lady's Day Service** to celebrate the Annunciation will be held on Monday night next 28th March at 8.00pm in St Peter's Church followed by a meeting in Parochial Hall. Mrs Ann Gee and Mrs Florence Peavoy will be in charge of the supper.

**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.

**Diocesan Festival Service** will be held in St. Peter's Church, Mountrath on Wednesday 18th May at 7.30pm. The Special Preacher is The Rt. Rev'd Ken Clarke, Bishop of Kilmore and Mothers' Union Chaplain.

**Items for inclusion in the May 2011 Newsletter need to be with the editor by WEDNESDAY April 20th AT THE LATEST, so that the Newsletter can be assembled, printed, and distributed in time for the 4th Sunday, April 24th.**

**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](mailto:newsletter@clonenagh.com)

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

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