

# Newsletter



## Clonenagh Group of Parishes - September 2011

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

### Rector:

The Rev'd Ian Poulton,  
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September Services 2011						
<b>First Sunday (4<sup>th</sup>)</b>	Exodus 12: 1-14 Psalm 149 Romans 13: 8-14 Matthew 18: 15-20	<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 (11<sup>th</sup>)</b>	Exodus 14: 19-31 Psalm 114 Romans 14: 1-12 Matthew 18: 21-35	<b>Seir Kieran</b> 9.30am Holy Communion		<b>Annatrim</b> 11.00am Holy Communion		<b>Mountrath</b> 11.30am Morning Prayer
<b>Third Sunday (18<sup>th</sup>)</b>	Exodus 16: 2-15 Psalm 105: 1-6, 37-45 Philippians 1: 21-30 Matthew 20: 1-16	<b>Roskelton</b> 9.30am Holy Communion	<b>Lacca</b> 10.30am Morning Prayer	<b>Mountrath</b> 11.30am Holy Communion	<b>Borris-in-Ossory</b> 4.00pm Harvest Festival	<b>Seir Kieran</b> 7.00pm Harvest Festival
<b>Fourth Sunday (25<sup>th</sup>)</b>	Exodus 17: 1-7 Psalm 78: 1-4, 12-16 Philippians 2: 1-13 Matthew 21: 23-32	<b>Seir Kieran</b> 9.30am Morning Prayer		<b>Annatrim</b> 11.00am Morning Prayer		<b>Mountrath</b> 11.30am Morning Prayer

## Parish Diary - September

### 21st Wednesday...Closing date for October 2011 Newsletter items!

Parent & Toddler Group 10am every Tuesday during school term in the Parochial Hall

**Items for inclusion in the October 2011 Newsletter need to be with the editor by WEDNESDAY September 21st AT THE LATEST, so that the Newsletter can be assembled, printed, and distributed in time for the 4th Sunday, September 25th.**

**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

This Newsletter and many older editions can be downloaded directly from [www.clonenagh.com](http://www.clonenagh.com)

### From the Rector:

**Canon's duties:** Ian Poulton is on duty at the morning and evening services in Saint Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin from Sunday, 28th August until Friday, 2nd September (a duty that comes around only once every 28 weeks!), but will have his phone with him and anyone wishing to contact him should phone the Rectory or the mobile number as usual.

**Summer visitors:** We have been pleased to welcome Iain Jameson and Anthony Kelly as visitors to our parishes during the summer. Iain has spent three months at the Rectory and will be ordained as a deacon on Sunday, 4th September to serve his internship in Saint Michael's parish on Belfast's Shankill Road, an experience that will be very different from the gentle countryside of Laois and Offaly. At the end of his internship, he will be appointed as curate somewhere and will be ordained priest. Iain is preaching in the parishes

for the final time at the midweek service at Borris-in-Ossory on Wednesday, 31st August. Do go along and support him.

The Reverend Anthony Kelly joined us for three weeks. An experienced priest, Anthony has previously ministered in the Roman Catholic tradition and came to our parishes for an experience of rural ministry in the Church of Ireland.

The Rectory will be a quiet place now their presence has gone.

**Holy Baptism:** We had three baptisms in three different churches on three successive Sundays during July. On Sunday, 17th July, Tara Garrett, daughter of Peter and Jude Garrett was baptised at Saint Mark's Church, Borris-in-Ossory; on Sunday, 24th July Oisin Birney, son of Robert and Eleanor Birney, was baptised at Saint Peter's Church, Mountrath; and on Sunday 31st July, Nicole Hargroves, daughter of Joe and Yvonne Hargroves, was baptised at Saint Jude's Church, Annatrim.

**Funeral:** The death occurred on 8th August of Herbert Gill, Castletown. Born on 18th October 1927, Herbert was the youngest of the six children of Herbert and Isabella Gill of Castletown, Fortel, Birr, where he lived until he moved to Castletown, Portlaoise in 1971. Herbert married Gladys Cooper from the Pike of Rushall, on 12th October 1955 in St. Brigid's Church, Stillorgan and they went on to have four children: Isobel (Delahunt), Wilbert, Gwyn (Cooper), and Lesley (Robinson), and fourteen grandchildren.

A man who threw himself wholeheartedly in church and community life, Herbert was involved down through the years in the Birr and District Motor Club, Birr Vintage Week, the National Farmers' Association, the Civil Defence, and his parishes of St. Brendan's, Birr and St. Peter's, Mountrath, where he served as church warden, select vestry member and synod's man in addition to running the wheel of fortune for many years at church fetes and bazaars. He also read the epistle in church on a regular basis for many years.

Herbert was a man of many and varied interests who endeared himself to all who knew

him with his friendly, outgoing and obliging nature. The high esteem in which he was held was evident by the very large attendance at his funeral service in St. Peter's Church, Mountrath. His ashes were interred in the adjoining churchyard following cremation in Newland's Cross crematorium.

**Famine collection:** Collections for famine relief in Africa were held in each church at the end of July and beginning of August. Bishops' Appeal have channelled funds through Christian Aid to ensure they reach the most needy. At a time when the most outspoken person from among the Irish aid agencies was declaring on RTE radio that no-one could get aid into Somalia, Christian Aid were getting funds to a German Lutheran agency that was at the very heart of the crisis. If anyone was away over the summer and would still like a chance to respond, donations can be given to our group treasurer, Mrs Florence Peavoy, or sent directly to Bishops' Appeal, Church of Ireland House, Rathmines, Dublin 6.

**Institution:** We extend a warm welcome, and good wishes for the future, to Dr Stanley Monkhouse who will be instituted as Rector of our neighbouring parish of Portlaoise on Sunday, 28th August.

**Harvest Festival:** The Harvest Festival season begins this year at the west of our parishes on Sunday, 18th September. We welcome as our speaker Lydia Monds, newly appointed education adviser to the Church of Ireland Bishops' Appeal. Lydia is a young and lively speaker and we hope for large congregations at both services. We shall be at Saint Mark's Church in Borris-in-Ossory at 4 pm and then at Seir Kieran at 7 pm. Lydia will talk on different subjects at each service, so hopefully people will make an effort to be present at both occasions.

**Rector away:** Having taken two weeks holiday in July, the Rector is taking the balance of his annual leave from Monday, 19th to Friday, 30th September. Dr Stanley Monkhouse in Portlaoise has kindly agreed to provide emergency cover.

**Clonenagh National School:** We remember our parish school in our prayers as it begins a new

academic year. The past year ended well with the school holding its sports day and end of year service on 23rd June and then holding its fete on Sunday, 26th June. Pupil numbers have grown over the past two years and we begin the year with around 64 pupils on our roll.

**Congregations:** Our congregations during the summer have been encouraging, even with people away we managed an aggregate of 128 on 7th August. However, 128 people still only represents about one-third of our parish; churchgoing is a discipline which we should take with the seriousness we apply to other important areas of our life.

*~Ian Poulton*

### Parish Notes

**Mountrath Parent & Toddler Group** will recommence on Tuesday, 6th September 2011 from 10.00 am to 12.00 noon and every Tuesday during School Term at The Parochial Hall, Mountrath. The Group welcomes new parents and children aged from birth to pre-school. The Group continues to be a great social outlet for parents and children providing a wide variety of toys for all ages, music, arts/crafts and refreshments.