

The Newsletter

October 2017

Pastoral Care:

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Diocesan Reader:

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The Social Evening and Barbeque at Lacca on the 9th September was enjoyed by over 80 people

Clonenagh Group of Parishes

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

Bishop Michael Burrows' letter to the Clonenagh Group of Parishes as read to church congregations on Sunday 17th September

Dear Friends of Clonenagh Group,

Matters have rapidly moved on since last I wrote to you, and you will have heard the news of the resignation of the rector. While it does not take effect until October 31, in practice he will not be returning. He is already in England at the home of his parents and plans to remain there. Like me, you will be saddened and indeed mystified by all of this.

However, what is essentially private must remain private. A combination of family and other circumstances has led Canon Poulton to decide that it was best for him to conclude his ministry in the Church of Ireland. He has written quite publicly in the Diocesan Magazine and elsewhere of some of the personal difficulties he has faced in recent times. I had earnestly hoped he might step back from the decision he has now made, but clearly that was not to be.

I truly hope that you will recall Ian's ministry, not through the misty lens of his sudden departure, but rather with a fuller appreciation of all the great good he has done among you. He has been in so many ways the ideal pastor.... Diligent, imaginative and greatly admired. The parish has achieved splendid things under his guidance. Yet I realise just how shocking news of his sudden departure will be for those who were particularly supported by his pastoral care.

We can but thank God for all that he gave us, and pray for him as he faces a future in a very different context. We remember his family and especially his wife Katharine. She will continue to serve as dean of Ossory and her ministry is much appreciated across the diocese.

In November I will proceed to make the necessary arrangements to fill the vacant incumbency. In the meantime archdeacon Orr is doing all he can to maintain continuity of pastoral care. As amid our confusion we look to the future, I am confident that someone will before long be raised up for the task of ministry in this vibrant parish with rich potential.

I know you will leave church today with heavy hearts and with some confusion. The loss to ministry among us of so fine a priest is an indication of how fragile we all are as human beings, how quickly our circumstances can change. The clergy, as Ian himself has written, are as fragile and vulnerable as anybody else. In our frailty and sadness, we can but entrust ourselves to the tender mercy of God, who always understands us even when we fail to understand ourselves.

With affection and with prayer,
Michael Cashel Ferns and Ossory
September 17, 2017

Parish Notes

Fundraising Committee Meeting will be held in the Parochial Hall on Monday October 2nd at 8pm, to finalize the Golf Classic and make plans for future fundraising.

The annual **Diocesan Synod** of Cashel, Ferns and Ossory Diocese meets on Wednesday 18th October, when our parishes will be represented by our five synod members: Mr Joe Peavoy, Mrs Emily Jackson, Mrs Jean Treacy, Mr Ivan Jestin, and Mrs Joyce Wharton.

Thursday Bible Club has now started. Activities include games, crafts, Bible stories, and lively Bible songs. New children of National school age are welcome. The club will meet in the Parochial Hall, Mountrath, 6.30-7.45pm on the following dates:
5 & 19 October, 16 & 30 November, 14 December.

Lacca Harvest Thanksgiving service is on Sunday 15th October at 4pm, and will be followed by a cup of tea in the hall.

Girls Friendly Society resumed on Friday 15th when we welcomed back all the girls and welcomed new members. Girls need to be 4 years or older to join, and we meet fortnightly on Fridays in the Parochial Hall, 7.15 - 8.45pm.

Girls have the opportunity to participate in games, crafts, Bible Study, badge work and outings during the year. For further information call Jennifer 086-8185644 or any of the leaders.

Meeting dates: 13th October & 27th October.

Fellowship Group: Our Fellowship Group meets on the second Thursday of the month which is October 12th at 8pm followed by a cup of tea

The Social Evening and Barbeque at Laca Hall on the 9th September was enjoyed by over 80 people. It began with barbeque steak and freshly cooked Knocknagad spuds with all the trimmings with apple tart and cream and rice pudding for afters, all washed down by everyone's choice of drink

which they brought with them. All was followed by dancing in our lovely hall to fantastic music provided by Kieran Scott and Friend.

A great big "*Thank You*" to everyone who helped make our evening a great success from preparing, cooking, serving and bringing of food etc, etc.

A special "*Thank You*" to the younger folk for working tirelessly, fetching, carrying, setting tables, putting up gazebos, etc: Ava, Lucy, Jason, Jordan, Jacob, Cheola and Caoimhe, well done.

Seventeen members and friends of **Mountrath Mothers' Union** travelled to the National Concert Hall, Dublin on September 9th to the "Big Sing" to celebrate 130 years of Mother's Union. A most enjoyable and uplifting day was had by all.

Our branch hold their opening service of the new year in St. Peter's Church, Mountrath on Monday 23rd October at 8pm, followed by a meeting and a cuppa in the rectory.

WORRY

Some say, that the person who isn't a worrier isn't aware of what is happening. There may be some truth in that but equally, constant worrying saps all the joy from your life.

There is an old tale that goes like this;

There are two days in every week about which we should not worry. One of these days is **Yesterday** with all its mistakes, its cares, its pains, its faults and its blunders. We cannot undo a single thing we did yesterday. We cannot erase a single word we said. It's gone – so let it go.

The other day we shouldn't worry about is **Tomorrow**, with its list of possible adversities, its burdens, even its mythical promises. The sun will rise tomorrow, either in splendour or behind a massive cloud, but it will rise. Until it does we have no real stake in Tomorrow because it is yet unborn and we may not be here to see it.

That leaves us only one day to worry about –

Today.

Usually we can cope one day at a time.

Another way to consider the true value of "Worry" might go as follows;

There are only really two things to worry about, whether you are well or whether you are sick. If you are well then there's nothing to worry about. If you are sick there are only two things to worry about, whether you will get better or whether you won't. If you get better then you have nothing to worry about. If you are going to die then you have only two things to worry about, whether you will go to Heaven or whether you won't go to Heaven. If you go to Heaven then you have nothing to worry about. If you don't go to Heaven then you'll meet so many friends there you'll feel very much at home. So don't worry.

Emily Dunne
Counselling & Psychotherapy
Dip, B.A, B.A (Hons), M.A, A.P.C.P.

Services & Readings

October						
First Sunday 1 st	Exodus 17: 1-7 Psalm 78 Philippians 2: 1-13 Matthew 21: 23-32	Seir Kieran 9.30am Morning Prayer	Roskelton 9.30am Morning Prayer	Lacca 10.30am Holy Communion	Mountrath 10.45am Holy Communion	Borris-in-Ossory 11.00am Morning Prayer
Second Sunday 8 th	Exodus 20: 1-4, 7-9, 12-20 Psalm 19 Philippians 3: 4b-14 Matthew 21: 33-46	Annatrim 11.00am Harvest Thanksgiving			Mountrath 11.30am Morning Prayer	
Third Sunday 15 th	Exodus 32: 1-14 Psalm 106: 1-6, 19-23 Philippians 4: 1-9 Matthew 22: 1-14	Seir Kieran 9.30am Morning Prayer	Roskelton 9.30am Holy Communion	Borris-in-Ossory 11.00am Holy Communion	Mountrath 11.30am Morning Prayer	Lacca 4.00pm Harvest Thanksgiving
Saturday/ Fourth Sunday 21 st /22 nd	Exodus 33: 12-23 Psalm 99 1 Thessalonians 1: 1-10 Matthew 22: 15-22	Seir Kieran Saturday 8.00pm Evening Prayer	Lacca Sunday 10.30am Family Service	Annatrim Sunday 11.00am Morning Prayer	Mountrath Sunday 11.30am Harvest Thanksgiving	
Fifth Sunday 29 th	Deuteronomy 34: 1-12 Psalm 90: 1-6, 13-17 1 Thessalonians 2: 1-8 Matthew 22: 34-46	Borris-in-Ossory 10.30am United Service of the Word				
PLEASE NOTE: This timetable is PROVISIONAL and is subject to change Check on www.clonenagh.com for the most up to date information						

Parish Diary

October

- 2nd Monday..... Fundraising Committee Meeting (page 2)
 5th Thursday..... Thursday Bible Club (page 2)
 12th Thursday..... Fellowship Meeting (page 3)
 13th Friday..... GFS Meeting (page 3)
 18th Wednesday..... Diocesan Synod (page 2)
18th Wednesday... Closing date for November 2017 Newsletter
 19th Thursday..... Thursday Bible Club (page 2)
 23rd Monday..... Mothers' Union Meeting (page 3)
 27th Friday..... GFS Meeting (page 3)

Items for the November 2017 Newsletter need to be with the editor by **WEDNESDAY October 19th AT THE LATEST**, so that the Newsletter can be assembled in time for the **Fourth Sunday, October 22nd**.

PLEASE make your item as ready for publication as possible, and most importantly, please ensure that names are spelled 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

This Newsletter and many older editions can be downloaded directly from

www.clonenagh.com