

The Newsletter

February 2019

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“Come - Everything is Ready”

by Rezka Arnuš

Artwork created for the Women's World Day of Prayer 2019

Clonenagh Group of Parishes

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

The Rector Writes

First of February – St. Brigid's Day

The feast of St. Brigid on 1st February is a celebration of the wonderful springing back of the earth from its winter sleep. It is the season when we celebrate new beginnings and new life on earth. The sod is turned, the day lengthens, seeds are sown, and sails are hoisted. Many of the stories about Brigid tell of her milking the cows, churning the milk, making butter, shepherding her flocks of sheep, helping with the harvest and even brewing the ale. Brigid, in keeping with her Celtic traditions, was wonderfully attuned to the seasons and cycles of nature. She valued the elements of nature: earth, air, fire and water.

~Rev. Victor

Parish Notes

Requiescat In Pace

We remember in our prayers **John Abbott**, formerly of The Pike, now Castlecomer, whose brother **Joe** died in the early hours of 5 January in Brookhaven Nursing Home in Ballyragget. Joe suffered a very debilitating stroke approximately nine years ago which left him immobile and unable to speak. Despite this disability, many parishioners kindly continued to visit Joe in Brookhaven, keeping him up to date with farming and parish news. Joe was laid to rest in Annatrim cemetery following his funeral service in the church there.

May he rest in peace and rise in glory

Rector's Course Days: The Rector will be undertaking a Team Leadership course in St. Luke's Pastoral Education Centre, Northridge, Co. Cork, beginning Wednesday 27 February and running for five full Wednesdays before Easter. This will necessitate changes to the Home Communion rota in March, but the Rector will be in touch with those on the list to reschedule. It also means that with the exception of Ash Wednesday, our parish Lenten services will take place on Tuesday evenings for March and April.

Route 66 Easter Gifts: Copies of Route 66 books were made available at the Diocesan Synod, with a view to rectors asking churchwardens in each of their churches to sell the books before Christmas, if possible. The book is a good, interesting read and also ideal for personal reflection. It would make an ideal Easter gift! Our books are still available for purchase – at a very reasonable €5 each – if interested they're on sale at St. Peter's Church.

Confirmation 2019: If you have a son or daughter who would like to be confirmed in 2019 please contact the Rector. So far we have around six young people who have expressed an interest in being Confirmed this coming May. Classes begin at 3pm on Sunday 3 March in St. Peter's Church, Mountrath. The confirmation service itself will take place in Annatrim Church on Sunday 12 May 2019.

Ash Wednesday at Seir Kieran: Our Lenten services begin on Ash Wednesday 6 March with a special service for St. Ciarán's Day and Ash Wednesday, which will be combined into one euc-

menical service at Seir Kieran. Bishop Michael Burrows will be joining us for the service which is pencilled in for 8pm, though the time may be subject to change.

We Welcome in Holy Baptism: Aimee Sarah Kingsley will be welcomed into the Church at her baptismal service on Sunday 10 February at Annatrim Church, which will form part of the regular Sunday celebration of holy communion. Our congratulations and best wishes to her mum Sonja and her dad Jonathan.

Women's World Day of Prayer Service written by the women of Slovenia, on Thursday 28th February 2019 in St Peter's Church Mountrath at 8pm. This year's theme is: "*Come - everything is ready!*"

Offerlane Select Vestry Meeting: The Select Vestry of Offerlane will meet on Tuesday 5 February at 8pm in Annatrim Church. Philip Bennett, a Consultant Engineer and Surveyor, will be present for the first part of the meeting to assist us with his advice. Please do attend the meeting if you are available.

Mothers Union meeting will be held on Monday night January 28th at 8pm in the home of Mrs Jean Treacy. Guest speaker is Mrs Rachael Treacy. All are welcome.

Congratulations to Laura Cooke and Alan Peavoy on the birth of a baby boy, born on January 23rd. Congratulations too to proud grandparents Billy & Florence Peavoy.

The Way Of The World

by Edgar Albert Guest

It's all in the way that you look at the world,
It's all in the way that you do things,
With laughter or sorrow your lips may be curled,
But it's all in the way that you view things.
Yes, it's all in the way that you journey along
That makes life a plague or a pleasure,
The mind is the fountain of wailing or song
And a man is the judge of the measure.

It's all in the way that you look at your woe
And not in the woe that is sent you;
You may bear it with courage and smile as you go,
Or frown and let it discontent you.
For care is a creature that's born of the mind,
And gloom is a cloud we can scatter,
The thorn of the rose if we seek we can find,
But the thorn of the rose doesn't matter.

We can make our own sunshine and make our own mirth,
We can add to our trouble by moping;
We can make a grim graveyard of this glad old earth
By giving up loving and hoping.
For it's all in the way that we look at the world,
Yes, it's all in the way that we view things,
With sorrow or laughter our lips may be curled
For it's all in the way that we do things.

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

Services & Readings

January						
Thursday 31st <small>St. Brigid's Day Service</small>	<i>Hosea 6: 1-4</i> <i>Psalm 134</i> <i>1 John 1: 1-4</i> <i>John 10: 7-16</i>	Mountrath 8.00pm				
February						
Sunday 3rd <small>Presentation of Christ in the Temple</small>	<i>Malachi 3: 1-5</i> <i>Psalm 24</i> <i>Hebrews 2: 14-18</i> <i>Luke 2: 22-40</i>	Roskelton 9.30am <small>Holy Communion</small>	Seir Kieran 9.30am <small>Morning Prayer</small>	Lacca 10.30am <small>Holy Communion</small>	Borris-in-Ossory 11.00am <small>Morning Prayer</small>	Mountrath 11.30am <small>Holy Communion</small>
Sunday 10th <small>4th Sunday before Lent</small>	<i>Isaiah 6: 1-8, 9-13</i> <i>Psalm 138</i> <i>1 Corinthians 15: 1-11</i> <i>Luke 5: 1-11</i>	Seir Kieran 9.30am <small>Holy Communion</small>		Annatrim 11.00am <small>Holy Communion with Baptism</small>	Mountrath 11.30am <small>Morning Prayer</small>	
Saturday/ Sunday 16th/17th <small>3rd Sunday before Lent</small>	<i>Jeremiah 17: 5-10</i> <i>Psalm 1</i> <i>1 Corinthians 15: 12-20</i> <i>Luke 6: 17-26</i>	Seir Kieran <small>Saturday</small> 8.00pm <small>Evening Prayer</small>	Roskelton <small>Sunday</small> 9.30am <small>Morning Prayer</small>	Borris-in-Ossory <small>Sunday</small> 11.00am <small>Holy Communion</small>	Mountrath <small>Sunday</small> 11.30am <small>Morning Prayer</small>	Lacca <small>Sunday</small> 4.00pm <small>Service of the Word</small>
Saturday/ Sunday 23rd/24th <small>2nd Sunday before Lent</small>	<i>Genesis 45: 3-11, 15</i> <i>Psalm 37</i> <i>1 Corinthians 15: 35-38, 42-50</i> <i>Luke 6: 27-38</i>	Seir Kieran <small>Saturday</small> 8.00pm <small>Holy Communion</small>	Lacca <small>Sunday</small> 10.30am <small>Family Service</small>	Annatrim <small>Sunday</small> 11.00am <small>Morning Prayer</small>	Mountrath <small>Sunday</small> 11.30am <small>Holy Communion</small>	

Parish Diary

January

28th Monday.....Mothers' Union meeting (*page 3*)

February

3rd Sunday.....Lacca Sunday School

5th Tuesday.....Offerlane Select Vestry Meeting (*page 3*)

6th Wednesday.....Closing date for Diocesan Magazine Notes

14th Thursday.....Lacca Fellowship Service

20th Wednesday.....Closing date for March 2019 Newsletter

28th Thursday.....Women's World Day of Prayer Service (*page 3*)

Items for the March 2019 Newsletter need to be with the editor by WEDNESDAY February 20th AT THE LATEST, so that the Newsletter can be assembled in time for the Fourth Sunday, February 24th.

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

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