

The Newsletter

March 2021

Rector:

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Seir Kieran following resurfacing of the driveway and carpark

(Image kindly provided by William Whitten)

Clonenagh Group of Parishes

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

The Rector Writes

St. Patrick's Breastplate

I arise today
Through the strength of heaven;
Light of the sun,
Splendor of fire,
Speed of lightning,
Swiftmess of the wind,
Depth of the sea,
Stability of the earth,
Firmness of the rock.

I arise today
Through God's strength to pilot me;
God's might to uphold me,
God's wisdom to guide me,
God's eye to look before me,
God's ear to hear me,
God's word to speak for me,
God's hand to guard me,
God's way to lie before me,
God's shield to protect me,
God's hosts to save me
Afar and anear,
Alone or in a multitude.

Christ shield me today
Against wounding
Christ with me,
Christ before me,
Christ behind me,
Christ in me,
Christ beneath me,
Christ above me,
Christ on my right,
Christ on my left,
Christ when I lie down,
Christ when I sit down,
Christ in the heart of everyone
who thinks of me,
Christ in the mouth of everyone
who speaks of me,
Christ in the eye that sees me,
Christ in the ear that hears me.

I arise today
Through the mighty strength
Of the Lord of creation.

Like St. Patrick, who was originally kept captive as a slave and eventually gained his freedom, inspiring so many, let us seek to alleviate the suffering of the forgotten, the broken hearts of the bereaved, the sadness of the lonely, and the desolation of the depressed; by carrying them in our hearts and remembering them daily in our prayers: that the Lord Jesus may take them by the hand and lead them and all in our community to wholeness and healing, guiding us safely out of this pandemic. Amen.

~Rev. Victor

Parish Notes

Holy Week & Easter Services

Coronavirus Restrictions Permitting

Holy Week:

Evening Prayer for Holy Week will take place at 8pm in St Matthew's Church, Roskelton (Monday March 29th), Annatrim Church (Tuesday 30th) and St Mark's Church, Borris-in-Ossory (Wednesday 31st). On Maundy Thursday night (April 1st) there will be a celebration of Holy Communion of The Lord's Supper in St Peter's Church, Mountrath at 8pm.

Good Friday:

3pm Ante-Communion, St. Peter's Church, Mountrath
8pm Hymns & Readings, Lacca Church

Easter Eve:

5.30pm First Eucharist of Easter, Seir Kieran
7pm Eucharist of Easter Eve, St Mark's Church, Borris-in-Ossory

8pm The Easter Vigil, Annatrim Church

Easter Day:

9am Holy Communion I, St Matthew's Church, Roskelton
10.15am Family Celebration of Holy Communion, Lacca Church
11.30am Holy Communion of Easter Day, St Peter's Church, Mountrath

Easter General Vestries

Notice has been received from the Diocese that our Easter General Vestries must take place in the normal timeframe this year. This means that if restrictions are not lifted on Monday 5th April and we cannot meet in person, we will have to hold these meetings online. That being the case, I will consult with the Honorary Secretaries and further information will be given in the April Newsletter. Offerlane: Tuesday 12th April, Annatrim Church

Requiescant In Pace

We extend our most sincere condolences to:

Clonagh National School Vice-Principal Karen O'Mahony on the death in January of her dear grandmother **Mary Jane Mahony (née Mallon)** late of Boley, Abbeyleix, Co. Laois and Walsh Island, Co. Offaly.

Eric Condell (Annatrim) on the death of his dear uncle, **James Frederick (Freddy) Condell**, late of Clontarf, Dublin, who died in his 100th year.

Sheila and Debbie Oxley (Mountrath) on the death of their dear sister and aunt, **Iris Mohan (née Cole)**, late of Campclone, Ballyfin, who died unexpectedly in her 90th year on Sunday 31st January 2021 in England. Iris worked in Shaws in Mountmellick and Monasterevin before going to England, where she married Barry Mohan in 1954 and lived in Devon. She will be sadly missed by family and friends in England and Ireland.

Betty Harvey (Roskelton) on the death of her beloved husband **William Mervyn Harvey**. Mervyn was a lifelong parishioner of St Matthew's, Roskelton, and gave many, many years of dedicated and valuable service to the Clonagh Group of Parishes as a member of the Vestry and in numerous other capacities. He will be deeply missed.

May they rest in peace and rise in glory

Borris-in-Ossory & Seir Kieran: Thursday 14th April, Seir Kieran

Clonagh: Tuesday 19th April, Parochial Hall Mountrath

All meetings at 8.00pm. Please do try to attend if you are able. It is important that you remember to send apologies to the relevant Honorary Secretary if you can't be there.

Online Services

With the return to lockdown, Rev. Victor will record Sunday and weekday services and they will be available to view on his YouTube page at: www.youtube.com/c/prayspot for the period of lockdown, with services on the fourth Sunday of the month during lockdown broadcast online by Mervyn Tomb. Links to Mervyn's services will be made available via the WhatsApp group.

Fellowship Service

Coronavirus restrictions permitting, the fellowship service in Lacca Church takes place on the second Thursday of the month. All welcome.

Lacca Church Sunday School

Coronavirus restrictions permitting, the Sunday School in Lacca will be held during the 10.30am first Sunday of the month celebration of Holy Communion. All school age children are welcome.

Thursday Bible Club

Coronavirus restrictions permitting, the Thursday Bible Club will be held in the Parochial

Hall, Mountrath, on the second Thursday of the month from 6.30pm to 7.45pm. Please contact Mervyn for further information.

Confirmation 2021

If you have a son or daughter who would like to be Confirmed in 2021, or know of anyone who might be interested, please let the Rector know as soon as possible. So far six young people have expressed their desire to be Confirmed this year and Bishop Michael has indicated his hope that Confirmation ceremonies in the Diocese will be able to take place in late October, throughout November and into early December. Dates of Confirmation classes will be set as soon as there is some clarity regarding the actual date of the ceremony.

Home Communions

At time of going to press it looks increasingly likely that there will be no socially distanced home communions permitted in March, but hopefully they will be able to take place in the first two weeks of April, again Coronavirus restrictions permitting. Please contact the Rector if you or a loved one would like to be added to the list.

Clonagh National School

Enrolments for Clonagh National School for September 2021 are still open.

Please email clonaghns@gmail.com or telephone 0578732516 for an enrolment form.

Sunday & Feast Day Readings

March			
Sunday 7th	<i>The Third Sunday in Lent</i>	<i>Page 117 of The Word of the Lord (the blue book)</i>	<i>Exodus 20: 1-17 Psalm 19 1 Corinthians 1: 18-25 John 2: 13-22</i>
Sunday 14th	<i>Mothering Sunday (The Fourth Sunday in Lent)</i>	<i>Page 124</i>	<i>1 Samuel 1: 20-28 Psalm 127: 1-4 2 Corinthians 1: 3-7 Luke 2: 33-35</i>
Wednesday 17th	<i>Saint Patrick's Day (Bilingual Service)</i>	<i>Page 475</i>	<i>Tobit 13:1b-7 Psalm 145:1-13 2 Corinthians 4:1-12 John 4:31-38</i>
Sunday 21st	<i>The Fifth Sunday in Lent</i>	<i>Page 133</i>	<i>Jeremiah 31: 31-34 Psalm 51: 1-13 Hebrews 5: 5-10 John 12: 20-33</i>
Sunday 28th	<i>Palm Sunday (The Sixth Sunday in Lent)</i>	<i>Page 137</i>	<i>Liturgy of the Palms Mark 11: 1-11 Liturgy of the Passion</i>

Parish Diary

March

- 6th Saturday**.....Closing date for Diocesan Magazine Notes
7th Sunday.....Lacca Sunday School (page 3)
9th Thursday.....Fellowship Service (page 3)
9th Thursday.....Thursday Bible Club (page 3)
24th Wednesday.....Closing date for April 2021 Newsletter

IMPORTANT NOTICE!

Given the uncertainty in regard to Covid-19 lockdown restrictions, all of the dates and times provided in this Newsletter are **PROVISIONAL** and are liable to change or cancellation. The Parish will make every effort to communicate any changes as quickly and as widely as possible, but PLEASE consult with the Rector, the Church Wardens, or any member of the Select Vestry or event organisers before attempting to attend any Service or Parish event.

Items for the April 2021 Newsletter need to be with the editor by Wednesday March 24th AT THE LATEST, so that the Newsletter can be assembled in time for the Fourth Sunday, March 28th.

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@clonenagh.com

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

To receive the Newsletter by post, please forward stamped addressed envelopes to this address.

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