

# The Newsletter

November 2021

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***Photos from Lacca Harvest Festival***

*(Kindly provided by Moira Harvey)*

## Clonenagh Group of Parishes

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

# The Rector Writes

## November—The Month Of Remembrance

“Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that. Hate multiplies hate, violence multiplies violence, and toughness multiplies toughness in a descending spiral of destruction... The chain reaction of evil - hate begetting hate, wars producing more wars - must be broken, or we shall be plunged into the dark abyss of annihilation.”

~Martin Luther King Jr.

### House Of Bishops Guidance On Lifting Of Coronavirus Restrictions

In response to queries put by the Archbishop of Armagh & the Archbishop of Dublin to the Government of Ireland on behalf of the House of Bishops, the following, interim, response has been received this (Thursday 21st) morning from the Department of An Taoiseach:

*“Further to the Government announcement on Tuesday regarding Covid -19 restrictions the current venue capacity of 50% for Places of Worship will change from Friday 22nd October when: “religious services and weddings can proceed without capacity limits but with all other protective measures remaining in place.”*

This is a very positive measure, however it is imperative that all other Covid-19 protective measures remain in place in order to protect all members of our communities/congregations. Premises should be well ventilated, hand sanitiser should be provided, and face masks should be worn. Congregations should be encouraged to spread out as much as possible when attending Places of Worship and those experiencing any Covid-19 symptoms should be discouraged from attending.

This does not clarify all matters and, in particular, does not address issues such as congregational singing. What it does hold out is the promise of a revised edition of the HSE Covid-19 Guidance for Places of Worship and, as a result, it would be prudent to await the detail set out in that document when it arrives and to make no significant changes in the meantime, not least against the backdrop of the menacing trajectory of the pandemic.

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## Parish Notes

### Fellowship Service

The fellowship service in Lacca Church takes place on the second Thursday of the month at 8pm. All welcome.

### Lacca Church Sunday School

The Sunday School in Lacca has returned at the 10.30am first Sunday of the month celebration of Holy Communion. All school age children are welcome!

### Thursday Bible Club

Restarted on 7th October, and continues alternate Thursdays from 6.30-7.45pm for all those attending National School. A registration and consent form is available from Mervyn, or by clicking the QR code in October's Parish Newsletter. As restrictions continue to ease, we will be able to do crafts, games, quizzes, Bible stories, Bible verses, singing, as well as prizes. For more information contact Mervyn at 086 057 5462.

### Poppy Appeal 2021

Lionel has placed poppies and collection baskets in all six of our churches. Please lend a helping hand to military veterans and their dependants by supporting the annual Poppy Appeal.

### Confirmation 2021

Our eleven young Candidates were Confirmed by bishop Michael Burrows on Sunday 17th October in two ceremonies to facilitate social distancing, one at 6pm the other at 7.30pm, in St Peter's Church, Mountrath. We wish the eleven young men and women every good wish and blessing for the future, and we pray that the Holy Spirit may guide and inspire them at every step of life's journey.

### Confirmation 2022

It's hard to believe that we now turn our thoughts to the young men and women of the parish who would like to go forward for Confirmation next year — the date has still to be decided upon by Bishop Michael. Please let

the Rector know in due course if your son or daughter would like to be Confirmed in 2022.

### Harvest 2021

A very sincere thanks to everyone who pulled out all the stops to ensure that our celebrations of the Harvest services in our churches went ahead. The music, decorations, preaching, singing and tidying, all combined beautifully to lift our hearts and our spirits after these long months of anxiety, loneliness, grief and stress due to Covid-19.

### Date For Your Diary 2021

Sunday 14th November, Remembrance Sunday

Sunday 21st November 4pm, Gideon Service, Lacca, led by Mr Sam Harper

### Home Communions

Our Home Communions take place generally on the first Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday of the month. November's first Tuesday and Thursday Home Holy Communions will take place on the second Tues-

day and Thursday respectively as the Rector will unavoidably have prior engagements those days. Please do contact the Rector if you or a loved one would like to be added to the list.

**Leprosy Mission boxes** should be returned to Olga Telford by **December 10th** so that the money can reach the charity before Christmas.

**Camross Community Group** launched their fundraising Programme on Saturday the 23rd of October. The money raised will go towards the completion of the Sports field, the surrounding walkway and the New Community building. €65000 is required to complete the projects and as part of the fundraising the committee will be approaching households and businesses in the locality to donate €100 towards the completion of this work. Leaflets with further information will be distributed in the locality in the coming week

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## Clonenagh National School News

Life is busier than ever in Clonenagh NS! This is the first year that we have a **Student Council**. Following some very interesting and persuasive election speeches, Emily was voted as the Student Council President alongside Amy as the Vice President. The Student Council provides an opportunity for our pupils to engage in a structured partnership with the staff, Parents' Association and the Board of Management. Currently, they are preparing some fun Halloween activities for the pupils during break times on Friday 22nd October. As principal, I have been very impressed with the Council's work ethic!

Here in school, it is **Maths Week**. Mr Noonan has organised lots of fun activities for each classroom and the children are having great fun. We have even been watching Maths TV!

Once again, we have missed our **Annual Clonenagh Harvest Thanksgiving** service. Check out our Facebook page for some photos of our Harvest displays.

Armed with our school speakers and microphone, we gathered in our playground for **assembly** last week with Reverend Victor. It was wonderful to be able to gather again as a school. Weather permitting, we will endeavour to assemble outdoors as much as possible each Thursday morning.

As you can see, the **school build** is coming along very nicely. We hope to be back in our office after the midterm break.

On Tuesday 2nd November, there will be a **Coffee Afternoon for the parents of Junior and Senior Infants**. This will be in the Parochial Hall from 2pm until 3pm, hosted by the Parents' Association.

~Melissa Burnell

Items for the December 2021 Newsletter need to be with the editor by Wednesday November 24th **AT THE LATEST**, so that the Newsletter can be assembled in time for the Fourth Sunday, November 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](mailto: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.

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

## Requiescant In Pace

We extend our most sincere condolences to:

The Danne, Graham and Noble families on the death of **Eric Graham** on 14th September, aged 92 years, in hospital in Dublin. Beloved husband of Ann, much loved father of Alan, June and the late Andrew, much loved Granddad of Reuben, Eli, Bronwyn and James. Sadly missed by brother Kenneth and sister Iris, extended family and his many good friends in Lacca.

Peg McKay (Mountrath) on the recent death of her sister **Katharine (Kitty) Goulding**, née Reid, on Tuesday 28th September. Kitty was herself predeceased by her beloved husband William. She will be sadly missed by her surviving sisters — Peg, Hetty & Lucy, as well as her many friends and the staff in Ealga Lodge, Shinrone, Co. Offaly.

The Alexander family on the recent death of **Michael Ryan**, Mountainy, Mountrath and late of Ballygeehan, Ballacolla, Co. Laois. Michael died 13th October 2021, (unexpectedly) at the Midlands Regional Hospital Portlaoise.

## Services & Readings

### November

<b>Sunday</b> <b>7<sup>th</sup></b> <i>The Third Sunday before Advent</i>	<i>Ruth 3: 1-5; 4: 13-17</i> <i>Psalm 127</i> <i>Hebrews 9: 24-28</i> <i>Mark 12: 38-44</i>	<b>Roskelton</b> 9.30am <small>Holy Communion</small>	<b>Seir Kieran</b> 9.30am <small>Morning Prayer</small>	<b>Lacca</b> 10.30am <small>Holy Communion</small>	<b>Borris-in-Ossory</b> 11.00am <small>Morning Prayer</small>	<b>Mountrath</b> 11.30am <small>Holy Communion</small>
<b>Sunday</b> <b>14<sup>th</sup></b> <i>Remembrance Sunday</i>	<i>Isaiah 10: 33-11: 9</i> <i>Psalm 4</i> <i>Revelation 1: 1-7</i> <i>Matthew 5: 1-12</i>	<b>Seir Kieran</b> 9.30am <small>Holy Communion</small>		<b>Annatrim</b> 11.00am <small>Holy Communion</small>	<b>Mountrath</b> 11.30am <small>Morning Prayer</small>	
<b>Tuesday</b> <b>18<sup>th</sup></b> <i>Saint Andrew</i>	<i>Deuteronomy 30:11-14</i> <i>Psalm 19</i> <i>Romans 10:9-18</i> <i>Matthew 4:18-22</i>	<b>Mountrath</b> 8.00pm <small>Holy Communion</small>				
<b>Sunday</b> <b>21<sup>st</sup></b> <i>The Kingship of Christ</i>	<i>2 Samuel 23: 1-7</i> <i>Psalm 132: 1-12, (13-18)</i> <i>Revelation 1: 4b-8</i> <i>John 18: 33-37</i>	<b>Roskelton</b> 9.30am <small>Morning Prayer</small>	<b>Seir Kieran</b> 9.30am <small>Morning Prayer</small>	<b>Borris-in-Ossory</b> 11.00am <small>Holy Communion</small>	<b>Mountrath</b> 11.30am <small>Morning Prayer</small>	<b>Lacca</b> 4.00pm <small>Service of the Word</small>
<b>Saturday/Sunday</b> <b>27<sup>th</sup>/28<sup>th</sup></b> <i>The First Sunday of Advent</i>	<i>Jeremiah 33: 14-16</i> <i>Psalm 25: 1-9</i> <i>1 Thessalonians 3: 9-13</i> <i>Luke 21: 25-36</i>	<b>Seir Kieran</b> Saturday 7.00pm <small>Holy Communion</small>	<b>Lacca</b> Sunday 10.30am <small>Family Service</small>	<b>Annatrim</b> Sunday 11.00am <small>Morning Prayer</small>		<b>Mountrath</b> Sunday 11.30am <small>Holy Communion</small>

## Parish Diary

### November

- 6th Saturday**.....Closing date for Diocesan Magazine Notes
- 2nd Tuesday.....Clonenagh N.S. Coffee Afternoon (*page 3*)
- 4th Thursday.....Bible Club (*page 2*)
- 7th Sunday.....Lacca Sunday School (*page 2*)
- 11th Thursday.....Lacca Fellowship Service (*page 2*)
- 18th Thursday.....Bible Club (*page 2*)
- 21st Sunday.....Gideon Service, Lacca (*page 3*)
- 24th Wednesday**.....Closing date for December 2021 Newsletter