

The Newsletter

December 2021

Rector:

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The freshly repainted Annatrim Church door

(Photo kindly provided by Rev'd Victor)

Clonenagh Group of Parishes

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

The Rector Writes

Start A New Christmas Tradition

Beginning on 1st December, why not encourage your children to read St Luke's Gospel one chapter a night. There are twenty-four chapters in St Luke's Gospel which means that by Christmas Eve your son or daughter will have read the entire account of Christ's life and mission, beginning with his joyful birth in the City of David, Bethlehem, right up to his sorrowful yet ultimately triumphant death on the Cross. It will give your child a wonderful start to Christmas morning, and enable them to appreciate whom we celebrate and why. You might even enjoy reading along with them yourselves. Start a whole new family Christmas tradition!

~Rev'd Victor

December - New beginnings

In the restful stillness of midwinter,
there is a time to dream, a time to look inwards
and to connect with others.
A time for reflection and deep gratitude to the Lord:
a time to let go of fear,
and face the new year
with hope in the light of Christ.
(Based on a open by Yvonne Coomber)

Requiescant In Pace

We extend our most sincere condolences to:

Rosemary Holmes (Annatrim) on the recent death of her uncle **Richard (Dick) Treacy**, Cloneen, Crettyard, Carlow, peacefully, at Waterford University Hospital.

Phyllis, Lionel, and Robin Foot (Roskelton) on the death of their sister-in-law/aunt **Jean Foot (née Knott)** after a short illness. Sadly missed by her husband Desmond, daughter Melanie, sons Neil and Clive, (predeceased by her son Trevor), son in-law, daughters in-law, grandchildren, friends and carers.

Phyllis, Lionel, and Robin also recently lost their brother-in-law/uncle **Desmond (Des) Foot**, (Jean's husband), just a matter of days after Jean's death. His Service of Thanksgiving took place at St Moling's Chapel, Borris House, on Wednesday 24th November, followed by burial at St Matthew's Church, Roskelton.

Susan Bennett (Lacca) on the recent death of her brother **William (Billy) Benn**, late of Roscrea. Billy is survived by his wife Frances, daughter Avril, sons William, John, David and Jason, sisters Betty, Susan, Ena, Ida, and many friends.

May they rest in peace and rise in glory

Parish Notes

Wedding Joy

We send our very best wishes to **Maura Harte & Craig Telford** and remember them in our prayers, who as we go to press are preparing to get married in St Brigid's Church, Portumna, Co. Galway, on Friday 10th December, followed by a reception in Ashley Park House, Nenagh, Co. Tipperary. We pray God's blessing on the new couple and we wish them every happiness together!

Baby Joy

Congratulations to **Alan Peavoy & Laura Cooke** who are proud parents of a bouncing baby girl, a sister for **William**, and our very best wishes to her grandparents **Florence & Billy**.

Congratulations too to another set of grandparents -- **Olga & Des, and Iris**, on the early but safe and healthy arrival of a beautiful set of **twins** to **Donya & William Honner**. God bless you all!

Poppy Appeal 2021

Lionel placed poppies and collection baskets in all six of our churches, and we give thanks to those who lent a helping hand to our heroic Veterans and their descendants by supporting the annual Poppy Appeal.

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.

Confirmation 2022

We now turn our thoughts and prayers to the young men and women of the parish who would like to go forward for Confirmation next year — the date has been set as Saturday 26th March in the early afternoon (exact time yet to be confirmed) at Lacca Church. Please let the Rector know in due course if your son or daughter would like to be Confirmed in 2022. Classes will commence in January, and so far we have five young Candidates.

Lacca & Annatrim Church Door Repainting

A very sincere thank-you to Michael Elliott for his time, care, and attention to organising the repainting of doors of both Offerlane churches. They've come up beautifully and we wish Michael good health and every blessing at this time as he recovers from his successful hip surgery.

Home Communions

Our Home Communions usually take place on the first Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday of the month. 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.

Carol Services / Christmas Services 2021

Sunday 5th:

HC with Carols, Mountrath, 11.30am

Saturday 12th:

HC with Carols, Seir Kieran, 9.30am

HC with Carols, Annatrim, 11.00am

Sunday 19th:

MP with Carols, Roskelton, 9.30am

HC with Carols, Borris-in-Ossory, 11.00am

Service with Carols, Lacca, 4pm (followed by Mulled Wine reception)

Friday 24th: Christmas Eve

Holy Communion, Seir Kieran, 6.00pm

Holy Communion, Borris-in-Ossory, 8.00pm

Holy Communion, Lacca, 9.30pm

Saturday 25th: Christmas Day

Holy Communion, Roskelton, 9.00am

Holy Communion, Annatrim, 10.15am

Holy Communion, Mountrath, 11.30am

Sunday 26th: St Stephen's Day

Family Service, Lacca, 10.30am

Holy Communion, Mountrath, 11am



**Mr. & Mrs. Harvey cut their wedding cake.
Congratulations Sinéad & James!**

(Photo kindly provided by Moira Harvey)

Services & Readings

December						
Sunday 5th <i>The Second Sunday of Advent</i>	<i>Baruch 5: 1-9 Canticle: Benedictus Philippians 1: 3-11 Luke 3: 1-6</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 12th <i>The Third Sunday of Advent</i>	<i>Isaiah 10: 33-11: 9 Psalm 4 Revelation 1: 1-7 Matthew 5: 1-12</i>	Seir Kieran 9.30am <small>Holy Communion</small>		Annatrim 11.00am <small>Holy Communion</small>	Mountrath 11.30am <small>Morning Prayer</small>	
Sunday 19th <i>The Fourth Sunday of Advent</i>	<i>Micah 5: 2-5a Canticle: Magnificat Hebrews 10: 5-10 Luke 1: 39-45 (46-55)</i>	Roskelton 9.30am <small>Morning Prayer</small>	Seir Kieran 9.30am <small>Morning Prayer</small>	Borris-in-Ossory 11.00am <small>Holy Communion</small>	Mountrath 11.30am <small>Morning Prayer</small>	Lacca 4.00pm <small>Service Of the Word</small>
Friday 24th <i>Christmas Eve</i>	<i>2 Samuel 7: 1-5, 8-11, 16 Psalm 89: 2, 19-27 Acts 13: 16-26 Luke 1: 67-79</i>	Seir Kieran 6.00pm <small>Holy Communion</small>		Borris-in-Ossory 8.00pm <small>Holy Communion</small>	Lacca 9.30pm <small>Holy Communion</small>	
Saturday 25th <i>Christmas Day</i>	<i>Isaiah 9: 2-7 Psalm 96 Titus 2: 11-14 Luke 2: 1-14, (15-20)</i>	Roskelton 9.00am <small>Holy Communion</small>				
	<i>Isaiah 62: 6-12 Psalm 97 Titus 3: 4-7 Luke 2: (1-7), 8-20</i>	Annatrim 10.15am <small>Holy Communion</small>				
	<i>Isaiah 52: 7-10 Psalm 98 Hebrews 1: 1-4, (5-12) John 1: 1-14, (15-18)</i>	Mountrath 11.30am <small>Holy Communion</small>				
Sunday 26th <i>The First Sunday of Christmas</i>	<i>1 Samuel 2: 18-20, 26 Psalm 148 Colossians 3: 12-17 Luke 2: 41-52</i>	Lacca 10.30am <small>Family Service</small>		Mountrath 11.00am <small>Morning Prayer</small>		

Parish Diary

December

- 2nd Thursday.....Bible Club (*page 3*)
 5th Sunday.....Lacca Sunday School (*page 3*)
6th Monday.....Closing date for Diocesan Magazine Notes
 9th Thursday.....Lacca Fellowship Service (*page 3*)
 10th Friday.....Closing date for return of Leprosy Mission boxes (*page 3*)
 16th Thursday.....Bible Club (*page 3*)
22nd Wednesday.....Closing date for January 2022 Newsletter

Items for the January 2022 Newsletter need to be with the editor by Wednesday December 22nd AT THE LATEST, so that the Newsletter can be assembled in time for the Christmas Services.

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

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.clonagh.com