

The Newsletter

September 2022

Rector:

*Rev'd Victor Fitzpatrick,
Clonenagh Rectory,
Portlaoise Road,
Mountrath.*

Phone: 057-8732146 /086-3974035

Diocesan Reader:

*Mabel Peavoy,
Shannon Road,
Mountrath.*

Phone:057-8732331

Parish office: clonenagh@ossory.anglican.org



***One Million Euro / 25th Anniversary Hospice Run
commemorative plaque as presented to Rev'd Victor
by Laois Vintage Ltd***

(Photo kindly provided by Rev'd Victor)

Clonenagh Group of Parishes

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

The Rector Writes

The Name of The Lord

“Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain; for the Lord will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain.” Exodus 20:7, KJV.

There was a moment when Moses had the nerve to ask God what his name is. God was gracious enough to answer, and the name he gave is recorded in the original Hebrew as YHWH (the Tetragrammaton, from the Greek for “four letters”). Over time we have added an “a” and an “e” in order to get the more pronounceable YaHWeH, because the English language uses vowels, whereas Hebrew / Aramaic do not.

Long understood by scholars to mean He-Who-Is, from the Hebrew verb “To be”, now many scholars and Rabbis have noted that the four letters of the Tetragrammaton, YHWH, actually represent breathing sounds, or aspirated consonants. When pronounced without intervening vowels, it actually sounds like breathing. Thus: YH (inhale): WH (exhale).

As such a baby’s first cry, their first breath, speaks the name of God. A deep sigh calls His name – or a groan or gasp that is too heavy for mere words. Even an atheist would speak His name, unaware that their very breath is giving constant acknowledgment to God. Likewise, a person leaves this earth with their last breath, when God’s name is no longer filling their lungs.

In sadness, we breathe heavy sighs.

In joy, our lungs feel almost like they will burst.

In fear we hold our breath and have to be told to breathe slowly to help us calm down.

When we’re about to do something hard, we take a deep breath to find our courage.

Thus, when I can’t utter anything else, is my cry calling out His name? Yes! Being alive means we speak His name constantly. So, is it heard the loudest when I’m the quietest? When I think about it, breathing is giving Him praise. Even in the hardest moments! This is so beautiful and fills me with emotion every time I grasp the thought. God chose to give himself a name that we can’t help but speak every moment we’re alive.

All of us, always, everywhere, waking, sleeping, breathing, with the name of God on our lips. Amen.

(redacted by the Rector from a paper by Donald L. Mills)

~Rev’d Victor

Parish Notes

We Welcome In Holy Baptism

We welcome with great joy **Emie Jane Peavoy** to the Christian family. Emie was born on St Valentine's Day in 2021, and it was wonderful to welcome her family and friends all the way from Western Australia back to St Peter's Church in Mountrath for the ceremony on 22nd July. We send our best wishes to her mum and dad, Jessica & Gordon, as they return to Australia. God bless you all!

Wedding Joy!

It was a tremendous day weather-wise and a wonderfully jubilant occasion for the community in Lacca as we gathered to celebrate the wedding of **Alice Sheeran & Jason McDowell** on Saturday 2nd July. The couple were blessed with the weather and the joy and support of their friends and families as they were joined in holy matrimony. We pray God's blessing upon Mr. & Mrs. McDowell as they journey forth as husband and wife. God bless you both!



Alice & Jason celebrate their marriage with their parents

(Photo kindly provided by Rev'd Victor)

Fellowship Service

The Fellowship Service takes place in Lacca Church on Thursday 15th September at 8pm. All welcome.

Dates For Your Diaries: Harvest 2022

Saturday 24th September 7pm – Seir Kieran

Sunday 2nd October 7pm – Roskelton

Sunday 9th October 7pm – Borris-in-Ossory

Sunday 16th October 4pm – Lacca

Sunday 23rd October 11am – Annatrim

Sunday 30th October 11am – Mountrath

Home Communions

Our Home Communions take place during the first and second weeks of the month. Please do contact the Rector if you or a loved one would like to be added to the list.

Laois Annual Vintage Road Run 25th Anniversary

The Annual Laois Vintage Hospice Road Run returned to the roads on Saturday 13th August after a gap of two years due to the Covid-19 virus. The enthusiasts and the crowds who gathered to watch were blessed with some very fine weather, and the Run was as always, a terrific day out for families, enthusiasts and visitors.

This year was a very special year for the Run as it is now celebrating it's 25th Anniversary, and what better way to mark the 25th than with the fantastic news that to date Laois Vintage has raised €966,598 for Laois Hospice, and will definitely achieve the target of €1 million.

The Rector extends his sincere gratitude to Tom Treacy for presenting him with a delightful plaque commemorating the One Million Euro / 25th Anniversary Hospice Run.

Every good wish and blessing to Laois Vintage Ltd. and its dedicated members for another twenty-five years!

~Rev. Victor

Thursday Bible Club

We are looking forward to Thursday Bible Club restarting in the Parochial Hall on 15 September. 6.30-7.45pm. There will be Bible stories, games, quizzes, crafts and lots of fun. New children are always welcome. Parents should pre-register their children in at the following link, or use this QR code. ➡

[https://
form.jotform.com/202526397463359](https://form.jotform.com/202526397463359)

Holy Land of Israel Tour 2023

This is your invitation to shake off all the feelings left from such a long period of 'Lock Down' and what better way to do it than join us for another exciting trip to Israel?

The Rev'd William Bennett is hosting a tour of the Holy Land of Israel beginning on Saturday 25th March, returning to Ireland on Monday 3rd April 2023. On this trip you will walk in the footsteps of Jesus, sail on the Sea of Galilee, swim on the Dead Sea and explore amazing archaeological, historical and biblical sites.

The Tour includes such delightful highlights as Herod the Great's Caesarea Maritima, Mount Carmel, Galilee, Tiberias, Capernaum, the Jordan River, Jerusalem and the Western Wall of the Temple, as well as much else besides. You will be guided by a top-class professional guide to stay in very good hotels and enjoy amazing cuisine to suit all tastes.

All this as we explore and learn more about the Scriptures and develop lasting memories. Further information can be obtained from The Rev'd William Bennett at

bennettwilliam1@gmail.com or 087 948 0317. Booking forms are available from the Rector. Cost €2,300 pps ex-Dublin with Turkish Airlines.



Heritage Week Marked At Seir Kieran

On Friday 19th August for Heritage Week, renowned author and historian Professor Muiris Ó Súilleabháin led 'Discovering Seir Kieran', a tour and archaeological talk focusing on the unique history of one of the Midlands' most treasured early monastic archaeological monuments.

Commencing from our parish church at the national monument of Seir Kieran, the tour was then followed by a series of short 'ted-talks' in Clareen Community Hall on research undertaken in the last year - which was supported by Offaly

County Council, the Heritage Council and the Irish Heritage School; this research includes geophysical surveys by Dr Ger Dowling and a graveyard study by Stephen O' Callaghan.

The event also summarised the progress of recent conservation works at the site, funded through the Community Monuments Fund of the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.

In all, over 60 people attended the event which drew visitors from the vicinity and much further afield.



Professor Muiris Ó Súilleabháin leads the 'Discovering Seir Kieran' tour

(Photo kindly provided by Rev'd Victor)

Wedding Anniversaries

Congratulations to **John and Valerie Handcock** who celebrated their 40th Wedding Anniversary in August; and to Sharon Handcock's parents, **Tom and Sylvia Cooke**, who celebrated their 60th Wedding Anniversary in August.



Tom and Sylvia Cooke with Iris and Henry Cooke. They had a double Wedding on 21st August 1962 where two sisters married two brothers!

(Photo kindly provided by Sharon Handcock)

Drinking from My Saucer

by John Paul Moore

I've never made a fortune and it's probably too late now.
But I don't worry about that much, I'm happy anyhow.

And as I go along life's way, I'm reaping better than I sowed.
I'm drinking from my saucer, 'Cause my cup has overflowed.

I don't have a lot of riches, and sometimes the going's tough.
But I've got loved ones around me, and that makes me rich enough.

I thank God for his blessings, and the mercies He's bestowed.
I'm drinking from my saucer, 'Cause my cup has overflowed.

I remember times when things went wrong, my faith wore somewhat thin.
But all at once the dark clouds broke, and the sun peeped through again.

So God, help me not to gripe about the tough rows that I've hoed.
I'm drinking from my saucer, 'Cause my cup has overflowed.

If God gives me strength and courage, when the way grows steep and rough.
I'll not ask for other blessings, I'm already blessed enough.

And may I never be too busy, to help others bear their loads.
Then I'll keep drinking from my saucer, 'Cause my cup has overflowed.



Lacca Parishioner Performs At Fleadh Cheoil

Fleadh Cheoil na hÉireann took place in Mullingar in early August, a true homecoming celebration for Mullingar as it's the town where Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann was founded in 1951.

This event is the world's largest annual celebration of Irish music, language, song and dance. It attracts in the region of 500,000 visitors to the host town. That first Fleadh Cheoil in 1951 attracted only a few hundred patrons - a small but enthusiastic crowd.

Within five years, however, this annual gathering had grown to become a great National Festival attended by traditional musicians, singers, and dancers from all parts of Ireland and overseas.

It was with great joy that Lacca Parishioner Robert Harvey took to the stage to perform at another fleadh. Well done Robert!

Clonenagh National School News

The **Clonenagh National School Summer Fete**, which had been rescheduled to take place on 11th September 2022, has unfortunately had to be cancelled due to ongoing works in the school grounds.

The annual event which is usually held in the grounds of the school in Mountrath will not take place until Summer 2023.

Instead, the school looks forward to hosting a Halloween Bake Sale in October 2022, a cooking demonstration with celebrity chef, Edward Hayden, in November 2022 and also the Annual Tractor Run in Coolrain village on 28th December 2022.

The school thanks everyone for their ongoing support!

Services & Readings

September						
Sunday 4th <i>The Twelfth Sunday after Trinity</i>	<i>Jeremiah 18: 1-11 Psalm 139: 1-5, 12-18 Philemon 1-21 Luke 14: 25-33</i>	Roskelton 9.30am Holy Communion	Seir Kieran 9.30am Morning Prayer	Lacca 10.30am Holy Communion	Borris-in-Ossory 11.00am Morning Prayer	Mountrath 11.30am Holy Communion
Sunday 11th <i>The Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity</i>	<i>Jeremiah 4: 11-12, 22-28 Psalm 14 1 Timothy 1: 12-17 Luke 15: 1-10</i>	Seir Kieran 9.30am Holy Communion		Annatrim 11.00am Holy Communion	Mountrath 11.30am Morning Prayer	
Sunday 18th <i>The Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity</i>	<i>Jeremiah 8: 18 - 9: 1 Psalm 79: 1-9 1 Timothy 2: 1-7 Luke 16: 1-13</i>	Roskelton 9.30am Morning Prayer	Seir Kieran 9.30am Morning Prayer	Lacca 10.30am Service of the Word	Borris-in-Ossory 11.00am Holy Communion	Mountrath 11.30am Morning Prayer
Saturday/ Sunday 24th/25th <i>The Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity</i>	<i>Jeremiah 32: 1-3a, 6-15 Psalm 91: 1-6, 14-16 1 Timothy 6: 6-19 Luke 16: 19-31</i>	Seir Kieran Saturday 7.00pm Harvest Service	Lacca Sunday 10.30am Family Service	Annatrim Sunday 11.00am Morning Prayer		Mountrath Sunday 11.30am Holy Communion

Parish Diary

September

- 6th Tuesday**.....Closing date for Diocesan Magazine Notes
15th Thursday.....Thursday Bible Club
15th Thursday.....Lacca Fellowship Service
21st Wednesday.....Closing date for October 2022 Newsletter

Items for the October 2022 Newsletter need to be with the editor by Wednesday September 21st AT THE LATEST, so that the Newsletter can be assembled in time for the Fourth Sunday, September 25th.

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.

This Newsletter and many older editions can be downloaded directly from www.clonenagh.com