

The Newsletter

July/August 2023

Rector:

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Common Bird's-foot-trefoil

Scientific Name: *Lotus corniculatus*

Irish Name: *Crobh éin*

(Image sourced from Microsoft Creative Commons)

Clonenagh Group of Parishes

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

The Rector Writes

Summertime Psalms

In the winter we often find ourselves running with our heads covered from one field to another, or from one house to the next, trying to avoid the lashing rain or snowfall. In the summer, for those of us who aren't outdoors people by nature, we try to get outside; and why not? The days are longer. Gone is the bitter cold and the temperatures are higher. The grass and trees beckon us with their rich shades of green. It is another world from January or February. And it is Christ's world, Christ's summer. For as the Psalmist tells us: "It was you who set all the boundaries of the earth; you made both summer and winter." (Ps. 74:17). So, we must ask, what is God saying in the summer? What is summer saying about God? Psalm 19:1-2 answers: "The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands. Day after day they pour forth speech; night after night they reveal knowledge."

The summer is showing the *glory of God*: the new angle of the rising sun; the new night-time order of summer constellations; the creation of leaves out of hard brown limbs; the pushing up of flowers; the snow-buried grass turning into soft carpets; the return of robins and the swallows; the unfrozen lakes mirroring the clouds; even, if I may say, the mice that know to leave the house, and the ants that come into the house. All these things and a thousand more, if we have eyes to see, are telling the glory of God, and declaring the work of his hands. Blessed be the Lord!

Loving God, Creator of all times and places, we thank you for the gift of summertime, the days of light and warmth. Thank you for the beauty that surrounds us everywhere we look: the multi-coloured flowers, the deep blue of the sky, the tranquil surface of lakes, the laughter of children at play, people strolling in parks, families gathered around picnic tables and the more time to spend with family and friends. As we open our eyes and ears to the landscape of nature and people, open our hearts to receive all as gift. Give us that insight to see you as the Divine Artist. Help us to realize and appreciate that you are labouring to keep all in existence. Warm our souls with the awareness of your presence. Let all the gifts we enjoy this summer deepen our awareness of your love so that we may share this with others and enjoy a summertime of re-creation. Amen.

~Rev'd Victor

Requiescant In Pace

We extend our sincere condolences to:

The family and friends of the late **Victor Allen** (Roskelton). Victor had sadly been ill for some time and was hospitalised in Portlaoise, and later Tullamore, where he died on 4th June.

Bridie Abraham (Borris-in-Ossory) on the death of her beloved husband, **Eric Abraham**. Eric died on 6th May suddenly, and unexpectedly, in St James's Hospital, Dublin. His funeral service took place in Lacca Church.

May they rest in peace, and rise in glory.

Parish Notes

Wedding Joy!

We hold in our prayers **Dale Cooper** (Annatrim) and his bride-to-be **Emma Kelly**, who will be married in Annatrim Church on 21st July. We wish the couple a long and very happy life together – God bless you both!

Annatrim Church Renovations

Annatrim Church is expected to reopen to public worship on Sunday 9th July, please keep an eye on the Parish WhatsApp group for further information. Thank you for your patience while these essential renovation works continue.

Fellowship Service

The Fellowship Service takes place in Lacca Church on the second Thursday of every month at 8pm. All welcome.

Clononagh Parish Golf Classic

Clononagh Parish Fundraising Committee would like to say a huge “Thank you” to all who supported our Golf Classic which was held on Friday 26th May and made a great success. Thank you to all sponsors and all who entered teams, those who donated raffle prizes, and anyone who contributed in any way. A big thank you to Elizabeth who looked after the prizes and the ladies who checked cards on the night. We have no final figure yet as there are donations still coming. Congratulations to all who won prizes on the day.

Home Communion

Please contact the Rector if you or a loved one would like to be added to the list or would simply just like a visit and a chat.

UDYC returns with three very exciting **Summer events!** Our action-packed and fun-filled Summer programme will be a superb opportunity to join old friends, make new friends, enjoy amazing adventure and activities and awesome opportunities to learn more about God in the middle of the Summer holidays. Please see the booking form for all information about our Summer events: www.tinyurl.com/udyc2023

Summer Madness

Friday 30th June – Tuesday 4th July 2023
Portglenone Monastery Estate, Portglenone, Ballymena, Co. Antrim
14 plus year olds

Final date for bookings: Friday 23rd June

Senior Summer Camp

Sunday 23rd July – Friday 28th July 2023
Gurteen Agricultural College, Ballingarry, Roscrea, Co. Tipperary
Secondary School Upwards

Final date for bookings: Friday 14th July

Junior Summer Camp

Sunday 13th August – Friday 18th August 2023

Densmore Lodge, Ovoca Manor, Avoca, Co. Wicklow

10- 13 year olds

Final date for bookings: Friday 4th August

SPECIAL FAMILY DISCOUNT*- €20 discount off every booking, if making more than one booking from the same family during summer 2023.

Financial Assistance Options also available to support families.

Free Return Transport to/from each event from numerous locations

For further information & for details in relation to financial assistance in confidence please contact Valerie at 085/2832487/ udyc.info@gmail.com or Edward at 087/2907553/edhardy70@gmail.com.

We hope to see you there!

Parish Diary

July

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

7th-14th.....Diocesan Summer Camps

13th Thursday.....Lacca Fellowship Service

August

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

10th Thursday.....Lacca Fellowship Service

23rd Wednesday.....Closing date for September 2023 Newsletter

Services & Readings

July

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| Sunday 2nd <i>The Fourth Sunday after Trinity</i> | <i>Genesis 22: 1-14 Psalm 13 Romans 6: 12-23 Matthew 10: 40-42</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 9th <i>The Fifth Sunday after Trinity</i> | <i>Genesis 24: 34-38, 42-49, 58-67 Psalm 45: 10-17 Romans 7: 15-25a Matthew 11: 16-19, 25-30</i> | Seir Kieran 9.30am Holy Communion | | Annatrim 11.00am Holy Communion | Mountrath 11.30am Morning Prayer | |
| Sunday 16th <i>The Sixth Sunday after Trinity</i> | <i>Genesis 25: 19-34 Psalm 119: 105-112 Romans 8: 1-11 Matthew 13: 1-9, 18-23</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 22nd/23rd <i>The Seventh Sunday after Trinity</i> | <i>Genesis 28: 10-19a Psalm 139: 1-11, 23-24 Romans 8: 12-25 Matthew 13: 24-30, 36-43</i> | Seir Kieran Saturday 7.00pm Holy Communion | Lacca Sunday 10.30am Family Service | Annatrim Sunday 11.00am Morning Prayer | | Mountrath Sunday 11.30am Holy Communion |
| Sunday 30th <i>The Eighth Sunday after Trinity</i> | <i>Genesis 29: 15-28 Psalm 128 Romans 8: 26-39 Matthew 13: 31-33, 44-52</i> | Mountrath 11.00am Holy Communion | | | | |

August

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| Sunday 6th <i>The Ninth Sunday after Trinity</i> | <i>Genesis 32: 22-31 Psalm 17: 1-7, 16 Romans 9: 1-5 Matthew 14: 13-21</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 13th <i>The Tenth Sunday after Trinity</i> | <i>Genesis 37: 1-4, 12-28 Psalm 105: 1-6, 16-22, 45b Romans 10: 5-15 Matthew 14: 22-33</i> | Seir Kieran 9.30am Holy Communion | | Annatrim 11.00am Holy Communion | Mountrath 11.30am Morning Prayer | |
| Sunday 20th <i>The Eleventh Sunday after Trinity</i> | <i>Genesis 45: 1-15 Psalm 133 Romans 11: 1-2a, 29-32 Matthew 15: 10-28</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 26th/27th <i>The Twelfth Sunday after Trinity</i> | <i>Exodus 1: 8 - 2: 10 Psalm 124 Romans 12: 1-8 Matthew 16: 13-20</i> | Seir Kieran Saturday 7.00pm Holy Communion | Lacca Sunday 10.30am Family Service | Annatrim Sunday 11.00am Morning Prayer | | Mountrath Sunday 11.30am Holy Communion |

Items for the September 2023 Newsletter need to be with the editor by Wednesday 23rd August **AT THE LATEST**, so that the Newsletter can be assembled in time for the Fourth Sunday, August 27th.

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