

The Newsletter

October 2024

Rector:

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Everyone is finishing off the harvest...

(Image sourced from Microsoft Creative Commons)

Clonenagh Group of Parishes

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

The Rector Writes

The late American Trappist monk Thomas Merton once said, “It is essential to experience all the times and moods of one good place.” The Harvest season is an opportunity for us to once again come to know the uniqueness of our particular churches in the Clonenagh Group of Parishes. We come and gather to worship a Harvesttime primarily to give our thanks and praises to God, but to share our story as Christians in this time and place, and to encounter the presence of God.

At every celebration of Holy Communion we open the Prayer Book and we affirm that “The Lord is here. His Spirit is with us” – a central conviction of Christian faith. The Incarnation is the truth of God known in one place and time so that God can also be known in each place and time. God continues to dwell amongst us: to ‘pitch a tent’ with us, to ‘tabernacle’ amongst us (John 1:14, NIV). John makes a connection here with the Jewish Harvest Festival of Tabernacles (sukkot). The Jewish feast marks the gathering in of the harvest and also focuses on the Exodus of God’s people from Egypt. The tabernacle (sukkah) refers to a small delicate structure that evokes both the temporary dwellings of farmers in the fields during harvest and the ‘tents’ in which the people of God lived on their long journey to the promised land.

During the festival of sukot Jewish people build a temporary tabernacle and spend time in it as a stark meditation on these two elements, Harvest and Exodus, remembering that in vulnerability and fragility both of journey and of growth, we are called to deeper dependence on God. This Harvesttime we might share with our Jewish brothers and sisters in their meditation and give thanks for the place God now has called us to be.

~Canon Victor

Parish Reader

Do you see yourself as a Parish Reader? Parish Readers are people of all ages and from all walks of life who have a calling to assist in leading public worship and provides tremendous assistance to the Rector in his ministry by serving their parishes in this way. The role usually involves the reading of the liturgy (Morning and Evening Prayer, a Service of the Word, or other non-eucharistic service), bible readings, prayers and assisting at Holy Communion. Parish Readers may assist in any or all of the ways which I have outlined here and on a regular or occasional basis depending on how they are needed by the Rector. While the role is normally restricted to involvement in public worship its significance cannot be under-estimated in its support for clergy leading the service. Parish Readers would usually undergo a short training course of several weeks duration, before being approved to exercise this ministry. The prospective candidate must also have the support of their Rector before applying. The approval granted for a Reader will normally last for 3 years and cease on the appointment of a new Rector. If you feel you have a calling to the ministry of Parish Reader, or would simply like to explore things further, please contact the Rector.

Requiescant In Pace

We express our deepest sympathies to **Sydney Harvey (Lacca)**, and his daughter **Charlene**, on the death of his son-in-law Simon's mother **Veronica (Vera) Bailey**, late of Gorey, Co. Wexford and Oakfield Nursing Home, Courtown, who died on Monday 2nd September.

May she rest in peace, and rise in glory

Parish Notes

Lacca Harvest Service

...will take place on Sunday 20 October at 4pm in Lacca Church. Our guest preacher is The Rev'd Des Davidson from Donegal, with a reception to follow in the Parish Centre.

Home Communions

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

Fellowship Service

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

Mothers' Union News

The Opening of the Year celebration of Holy Communion will take place on Monday evening, 30th September, at 8pm in St. Peter's Church, Mountrath. The service will be followed by a short meeting and refreshments in the Parochial Hall.

Badminton Club

If anyone is interested in playing Badminton for fun or competitive leagues, you are more than welcome to attend training on Tuesday & Thursday evenings every week in Mountrath Community School Hall. We would love to see new faces coming back to Badminton, and it's a great game for your well-being. Juvenile 7pm – 8pm, €4 pp fee. Adults 8pm – 10pm, €5 pp fee.



Alexander James Beard with his parents Scott and Emma, and Canon Victor, following his baptism in St. Mark's Church, Borris-in-Ossory

(Image kindly provided by Susan Jestin)

Sunday Services & Readings

October						
Sunday 6th <i>The Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity</i>	<i>Job 1: 1; 2: 1-10 Psalm 26 Hebrews 1: 1-4; 2: 5-12 Mark 10: 2-16</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 13th <i>The Twentieth Sunday after Trinity</i>	<i>Job 23: 1-9, 16-17 Psalm 22: 1-15 Hebrews 4: 12-16 Mark 10: 17-31</i>	Seir Kieran 9.30am <small>Holy Communion</small>		Annatrim 11.00am <small>Holy Communion</small>	Mountrath 11.30am <small>Morning Prayer</small>	
Sunday 20th <i>The Twenty-First Sunday after Trinity</i>	<i>Job 38: 1-7 Psalm 104: 1-10 Hebrews 5: 1-10 Mark 10: 35-45</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 Harvest Service <small>Holy Communion</small>
Saturday/ Sunday 26th/27th <i>The Fifth Sunday before Advent</i>	<i>Job 42: 1-6, 10-17 Psalm 34: 1-8 Hebrews 7: 23-28 Mark 10: 46-52</i>	Seir Kieran Saturday 7.00pm <small>Holy Communion</small>	Lacca Sunday 10.30am <small>Family Service</small>	Annatrim Sunday 11.00am <small>Morning Prayer</small>		Mountrath Sunday 11.30am <small>Holy Communion</small>

Parish Diary

September

30th Monday.....Mothers' Union Service & Meeting

October

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

10th Thursday.....Lacca Fellowship Service

23rd Wednesday.....Closing date for October 2024 Newsletter

Items for the November 2024 Newsletter need to be with the editor by Wednesday October 23rd AT THE LATEST, so that the Newsletter can be assembled in time for the Fourth Sunday, October 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@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