

# The Newsletter

December 2024

**Rector:**

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***The Roskelton Bicentennial Holly Tree is thriving!***

## Clonenagh Group of Parishes

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

# The Rector Writes

Light looked down and saw darkness: "I will go there", said light.  
Peace looked down and saw war: "I will go there", said peace.  
Love looked down and saw hatred: "I will go there", said love.  
So he, the Lord of light, the Prince of peace, the King of love,  
Came down and crept in beside us.

(Rev'd John Bell)

## Advent & Christmas Services 2024

- Sunday 1st: Holy Communion with Carols, **Mountrath**, 11.30am  
Saturday 8th: Holy Communion with Carols, **Seir Kieran**, 9.30am  
Holy Communion with Carols, **Annatrim**, 11.00am  
Sunday 15th: Morning Prayer with Carols, **Roskelton**, 9.30am  
Holy Communion with Carols, **Borris-in-Ossory**, 11.00am  
Carol Service, **Lacca**, 4.00pm (followed by reception)  
Saturday 21st: Service of Seven Lessons & Carols, **Mountrath**, 7.00pm  
Tuesday 24th Christmas Eve:  
Holy Communion, **Seir Kieran**, 6.00pm  
Holy Communion, **Borris-in-Ossory**, 8.00pm  
Holy Communion, **Lacca**, 9.30pm  
Wednesday 25th Christmas Day:  
Holy Communion, **Roskelton**, 9.00am  
Holy Communion, **Annatrim**, 10.15am  
Holy Communion, **Mountrath**, 11.30am  
Sunday 29th: United Group Family Holy Communion, **Mountrath**, 11.00am  
All welcome!

### PLEASE NOTE:

There will be no Saturday evening 7.00pm Celebration of Holy Communion in **Seir Kieran** on Saturday 21st December, and there is no Family Service in **Lacca Church** on Sunday 22nd December. These services will return as normal beginning in January for 2025.

### Parish Reader

If you feel you have a calling to the ministry of Parish Reader, or would simply like to explore things further, please contact me.

~Canon Victor

### Requiescant In Pace

We express our deepest sympathies to the family and friends of the late **June Thompson**, Shrahane, Camross, who died recently

...and to **Abe Moynan** (Borris-in-Ossory) on the death of his sister **Vera Sheppard (née Moynan)**, formerly of Borris-in-Ossory.

*May they rest in peace, and rise in glory*

**Items for the January 2025 Newsletter need to be with the editor by Wednesday December 18th AT THE LATEST, so that the Newsletter can be assembled in time for the Fourth Sunday, December 22nd.**

**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@clononagh.com](mailto:newsletter@clononagh.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.clononagh.com](http://www.clononagh.com)

# Parish Notes

## Baby Joy!

Congratulations to proud parents David & Tara Jackson on the recent birth of their second son, Baby Rían.

## Mothers' Union

Our next Mothers' Union meeting will be in the Parochial Hall Mountrath at 8pm on Monday 25th November. Pam Wallace will demonstrate some Christmas themed floral arrangements. Friends and Parishioners are very welcome.

## Confirmation 2025

If your son or daughter is interested in being Confirmed in the new year, please do let the Rector know in due course. So far five young parishioners have indicated their desire to be Confirmed in St. Peter's Church, Mountrath on Sunday 25th May, 2025.

## Fellowship Service

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

## Over 60s Free Course In Climate Action

A Chairde, would you like to join an enjoyable, interesting and engaging free course in Climate Action for the over-60s? The course is on every Thursday morning from 10.15am for 2 hours, at the Parish Centre, Portlaoise and it will begin next Thursday 21 November.

Lisa Doyle, Climate Action Officer, Laois County Council. 086 203 3269

## Home Communion

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.



*Congratulations to Amanda Dunne who has graduated from the Doctor of Clinical Psychology programme in UCC. She is now officially Dr. Amanda Dunne Clinical Psychologist (BSc Hons, M.Sc, DClIn Psych).*

*(Image kindly provided by Sylvia Stotesbury)*

# Clonenagh National School News

Many thanks for all your recent support at the **Bake Sale**. We raised €840!

Clonenagh National School is delighted to announce the return of the **Annual Tractor Run** on Saturday 28th December 2024 in Coolrain Village at the foot of the Slieve Bloom mountains. As with previous years, the Tractor Run will take place along with the 6km Family Fun Run/Walk and the Monster Auction. The event promises to be an exciting day out for all the family, with music and refreshments in Hogan's Pub throughout the day.

11.00am: Registration for the Family Fun Run/Walk in Hogan's Pub, Coolrain  
(€10 for adults, €5 for secondary school students, free for primary school students)

11.30am: Family Fun Run/Walk starts

1.30pm: Registration for the Tractor Run in Hogan's Pub, Coolrain

2.30pm: Tractors leave Coolrain Village

8.30pm: Monster Auction in Hogan's Pub - many impressive lots will be auctioned on the night!

If you would like to make a contribution, this QR code can be used to send a donation to the school through Revolut:



# Services & Readings

<b>December</b>						
<b>Sunday 1<sup>st</sup></b> <i>The First Sunday of Advent</i>	<i>Jeremiah 33: 14-16 Psalm 25: 1-9 1 Thessalonians 3: 9-13 Luke 21: 25-36</i>	<b>Roskelton</b> 9.30am <i>Holy Communion</i>	<b>Seir Kieran</b> 9.30am <i>Morning Prayer</i>	<b>Lacca</b> 10.30am <i>Holy Communion</i>	<b>Borris-in-Ossory</b> 11.00am <i>Morning Prayer</i>	<b>Mountrath</b> 11.30am <i>Holy Communion with Carols</i>
<b>Sunday 8<sup>th</sup></b> <i>The Second Sunday of Advent</i>	<i>Malachi 3: 1-4 Canticle: Benedictus Philippians 1: 3-11 Luke 3: 1-6</i>	<b>Seir Kieran</b> 9.30am <i>Holy Communion with Carols</i>		<b>Annatrim</b> 11.00am <i>Holy Communion with Carols</i>		<b>Mountrath</b> 11.30am <i>Morning Prayer</i>
<b>Sunday 15<sup>th</sup></b> <i>The Third Sunday of Advent</i>	<i>Zephaniah 3: 14-20 Canticle: Song of Isaiah Philippians 4: 4-7 Luke 3: 7-18</i>	<b>Roskelton</b> 9.30am <i>Morning Prayer with Carols</i>	<b>Seir Kieran</b> 9.30am <i>Morning Prayer</i>	<b>Borris-in-Ossory</b> 11.00am <i>Holy Communion with Carols</i>	<b>Mountrath</b> 11.30am <i>Morning Prayer</i>	<b>Lacca</b> 4.00pm <i>Carol Service</i>
<b>Saturday 21<sup>st</sup></b>		<b>Mountrath</b> 7.00pm <i>Service of Seven Lessons &amp; Carols</i>				
<b>Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup></b> <i>The Fourth Sunday of Advent</i>	<i>Micah 5: 2-5a Canticle: Magnificat Hebrews 10: 5-10 Luke 1: 39-45</i>	<b>Annatrim</b> 11.00am <i>Morning Prayer</i>		<b>Mountrath</b> 11.30am <i>Holy Communion</i>		
<b>Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup></b> <i>Christmas Eve</i>	<i>Isaiah 9: 2-7 Psalm 96 Titus 2: 11-14 Luke 2: 1-14</i>	<b>Seir Kieran</b> 6.00pm <i>Holy Communion</i>		<b>Borris-in-Ossory</b> 8.00pm <i>Holy Communion</i>	<b>Lacca</b> 9.30pm <i>Holy Communion</i>	
<b>Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup></b> <i>Christmas Day</i>	<i>Isaiah 9: 2-7 Psalm 96 Titus 2: 11-14 Luke 2: 1-14</i>	<b>Roskelton</b> 9.00am <i>Holy Communion</i>				
	<i>Isaiah 62: 6-12 Psalm 97 Titus 3: 4-7 Luke 2: 8-20</i>	<b>Annatrim</b> 10.15am <i>Holy Communion</i>				
	<i>Isaiah 52: 7-10 Psalm 98 Hebrews 1: 1-4 John 1: 1-14</i>	<b>Mountrath</b> 11.30am <i>Holy Communion</i>				
<b>Sunday 29<sup>th</sup></b> <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>	<b>Mountrath</b> 11.00am <i>United Group Family Holy Communion</i>				

## Parish Diary

### November

25th Monday.....Mothers' Union meeting

### December

**6th Friday.....Closing date for Diocesan Magazine Notes**

12th Thursday.....Lacca Fellowship Service

**18th Wednesday.....Closing date for January 2025 Newsletter**

28th Saturday.....Clononagh National School Annual Tractor Run