

# The Newsletter

March 2022

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**Rector:**

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***Vera Bennett celebrated her 90th birthday on February 16th***

*(Photo kindly provided by Niall Bennett)*

## Clonenagh Group of Parishes

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

# The Rector Writes

## Ash Wednesday 2022

Ash Wednesday is the first day of the forty days of Lent, a six-week period dedicated to prayer and reflection reminding us of Jesus' forty days in the desert, and is a time of preparation for the momentous celebration of Our Saviour's Resurrection on Easter Day. The late Roman Catholic cleric Henri Nouwen once described Lent as "A time to re-focus and to re-enter a place of truth. It is here where we find our true identity."

Our Group celebration of Holy Communion on Ash Wednesday is a wonderful way to begin our parish services for Lent because we are embarking on a season which calls us into self-examination as well as into deeper contemplation about the mystery and grace of God's mercy. The ancient practice of Ash Wednesday — sackcloth, ashes and prayerful penitence — reminds us that we are all mere imperfect, mortal, human beings. It helps us to pause and look at our lives: to remember what we are made of, to remember where we are going, and it encourages us to fully immerse ourselves in Christ.

~Rev'd Victor

### Requiescant In Pace

We extend our most sincere condolences to:

Sam and David Chambers (Lacca) on the death on February 2nd of their sister **Sandra Guedes (née Chambers)**, late of Streatham, London and formally of Whitefields, Killanure, Co. Laois, who died peacefully in London after a short illness. Deeply missed by her husband Paulo and dear daughter Rachel.

Betty Harvey (Roskelton) on the death of her brother **Francis (Frank) Gowing**, late of Boleylittle, Fontstown, Athy, who died peacefully on February 10th in the care of the staff at Cloverlodge Nursing Home, Athy. Sadly missed by his loving wife Louisa and daughter Muriel.

Ray and Roger Shore (Lacca) on the death on February 22nd of their grandmother **Evelyn Shore (née Cole)**, Old Knockmay, Togher, Portlaoise, in her 104th year. Predeceased by her husband John and son Robin, and sadly missed by her loving son Gordon, brother Alan, 6 grandchildren, great-grandchildren, extended family, relatives, and friends. Evelyn's Funeral Service was held on Thursday 24th in St Peter's Church, Portlaoise.

*May they rest in peace and rise in glory*

## Parish Notes

### Lenten Services

Will take place on Wednesday evenings at **8pm** during the weeks of Lent, commencing with Holy Communion on Ash Wednesday at 8pm in **St Peter's Church, Mountrath**. Our services of Evening Prayer will begin the following Wednesday in **St Matthew's Church, Roskelton** on 9th March. The other dates for your diaries are: 16th March (**Annatrim**), 23rd March (**Borris-in-Ossory**), 30th March (**Lacca**), 6th April (**Mountrath**) and our Lenten services for 2022 conclude with a celebration of Holy Communion celebrated by Bishop Michael Burrows on 13th April at 11pm in **Seir Kieran**. This will be Bishop Michael's final service as Bishop of Cashel, Ferns and Ossory.

### Easter General Vestries

Our Easter General Vestries for the Clonenagh Group of Parishes will take place on:

8pm Tuesday 26th April **Clonenagh** (Parochial Hall, Mountrath)

8pm Wednesday 27th April **Borris-in-Ossory & Seir Kieran** (St. Mark's Church, Borris)

8pm Thursday 28th April **Offerlane** (Annatrim Church).

Please do try to attend if you are able. It is important that you remember to send apologies to the relevant Honorary Secretary if you can't be there.

### **Society Of Catholic Priests Pilgrimage To Clonenagh**

The Society of Catholic Priests (SCP) is a growing society of women and men serving as priests, deacons, and consecrated religious throughout the world-wide Anglican Communion which draws its membership from Anglicans who consider themselves a part of the Anglo-Catholic tradition of Anglicanism. Founded by Church of England clergy in 1994, the Society's Chapter Rector for the Irish Province of Dublin is Norman Gamble, the retired Rector of Malahide in north county Dublin. The Provincial Episcopal Visitor is our very own Bishop Michael Burrows. The Society's visit to Clonenagh on Thursday 3rd March is a wonderful occasion for the parish, and will take the form of a pilgrim walk beginning at noon, with bible reflections and prayer, and concludes with a celebration of Holy Communion in St Peter's Church, Mountrath, with clergy from across Ireland. Everyone is welcome to attend the Holy Communion at 4pm, or be a part of the pilgrim walk.

### **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 will return at the 10.30am first Sunday of the month celebration of Holy Communion in February. All school age children are welcome!

### **Thursday Bible Club**

Thursday Bible Club continues on the following dates: 10 March, 24 March, 7 April. Each Thursday at 6.30pm. New children are still welcome. Contact Mervyn Tomb at 0860575462 for more information.

The **2022 World Day of Prayer Service** will be held in St. Peter's Church Mountrath on Friday 1st April at 8.00pm.

### **CIYD Youth Forum 2022**

The Church of Ireland Youth Department is organising a Youth Forum, scheduled to be held on Saturday 9th April 2022. If you're a teenager and require any additional information, or you know a teen that might interested in attending the Forum please let the Rector know or contact Emma Purser directly on: [purser@tcd.ie](mailto:purser@tcd.ie) or 085 162 3725.

### **Wicklow Barn Owl Group**

The Wicklow Barn Owl group is a collaboration between the National Parks and Wildlife Service, Birdwatch Ireland, Wicklow County Council Heritage Officer and the Wicklow Raptor Study group. We aim to increase the population of breeding barn owls in Wicklow through the provision of nest boxes, management advice to landowners and monitoring. We have a number of barn owl boxes and we are currently looking for suitable locations to install them. Locations will first need to be assessed for their suitability and priority will go to those at known or historic barn owl nest sites. If you would be interested in locating a Barn Owl Nest Box at your home or farm anywhere in Ireland please get in touch. Email: [wicklowbarnowlgroup@gmail.com](mailto:wicklowbarnowlgroup@gmail.com) Please provide the following information a). An eircode b). A mobile number c). An email address; and we will be in touch as soon as we can!

### **Confirmation 2022**

We have seven young Candidates for Confirmation in Lacca Church on Saturday 26th March at 11.30am. Classes commenced in January and run for 10 Wednesdays in Lacca Church Hall. The dates for your diaries are: March 2nd, 9th, 16th and ends March 23rd. All classes at 5pm in Lacca Parish Hall.

**Clonenagh Parish Fundraising Committee** are once again recommencing after lockdown with the Golf Classic on Friday May 20th in Mountrath Golf Club. More details next month.

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## **Clonenagh National School News**

We are so happy to finally be back at football training. Mountrath GAA have kindly given us use of their facilities which is so welcomed by us all at the school. The children especially enjoy the walk down!

We are close to the build being completed. It has caused a few minor disruptions to school life but I must praise our pupils, staff and parents for their patience and understanding with changes to our "traditional" routines. Thank you to you all.

*~Melissa Burnell*

# Services & Readings

## March

March						
<b>Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup></b> <i>Ash Wednesday</i>	<i>Isaiah 58:1-12 Psalm 51:17 2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10 Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21</i>	<b>Mountrath</b> 8.00pm Holy Communion				
<b>Sunday 6<sup>th</sup></b> <i>The First Sunday in Lent</i>	<i>Deuteronomy 26: 1-11 Psalm 91: 1-2, 9-16 Romans 10: 8b-13 Luke 4: 1-13</i>	<b>Roskelton</b> 9.30am Holy Communion	<b>Seir Kieran</b> 9.30am Morning Prayer	<b>Lacca</b> 10.30am Holy Communion	<b>Borris-in-Ossory</b> 11.00am Morning Prayer	<b>Mountrath</b> 11.30am Holy Communion
<b>Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup></b> <i>Lenten Service</i>	<i>Psalm 17 Luke 21: 34 - 22: 6</i>	<b>Roskelton</b> 8.00pm Evening Prayer				
<b>Sunday 13<sup>th</sup></b> <i>The Second Sunday in Lent</i>	<i>Genesis 15: 1-12, 17-18 Psalm 27 Philippians 3: 17 - 4: 1 Luke 13: 31-35</i>	<b>Seir Kieran</b> 9.30am Holy Communion		<b>Annatrim</b> 11.00am Holy Communion	<b>Mountrath</b> 11.30am Morning Prayer	
<b>Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup></b> <i>Lenten Service</i>	<i>Psalm 105: 1-15, (16-41.) 42 Luke 13: 22-31</i>	<b>Annatrim</b> 8.00pm Evening Prayer				
<b>Thursday 17<sup>th</sup></b> <i>Saint Patrick's Day</i>	<i>Tobit 13: 1b-7 Psalm 145: 1-13 2 Corinthians 4: 1-12 John 4: 31-38</i>	<b>Mountrath</b> 11.00am Holy Communion				
<b>Sunday 20<sup>th</sup></b> <i>The Third Sunday in Lent</i>	<i>Isaiah 55: 1-9 Psalm 63: 1-9 1 Corinthians 10: 1-13 Luke 13: 1-9</i>	<b>Roskelton</b> 9.30am Morning Prayer	<b>Seir Kieran</b> 9.30am Morning Prayer	<b>Lacca</b> 10.30am Service of the Word	<b>Borris-in-Ossory</b> 11.00am Holy Communion	<b>Mountrath</b> 11.30am Morning Prayer
<b>Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup></b> <i>Lenten Service</i>	<i>Psalm 39 Luke 13: 18-21</i>	<b>Borris-in-Ossory</b> 8.00pm Evening Prayer				
<b>Saturday/ Sunday 26<sup>th</sup>/27<sup>th</sup></b> <i>Mothering Sunday</i>	<i>1 Samuel 1: 20-28 Psalm 34: 11-20 Colossians 3: 12-17 Luke 2: 33-35</i>	<b>Seir Kieran</b> Saturday 7.00pm Holy Communion	<b>Lacca</b> Sunday 10.30am Family Service	<b>Annatrim</b> Sunday 11.00am Morning Prayer		<b>Mountrath</b> Sunday 11.30am Holy Communion
<b>Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup></b> <i>Lenten Service</i>	<i>Psalm 53 Luke 9: 10-17</i>	<b>Lacca</b> 8.00pm Evening Prayer				

## Parish Diary

### March

3rd Thursday.....SCP Visit To Clonenagh (page 3)  
 6th Sunday.....Lacca Sunday School (page 3)  
**6th Sunday.....Closing date for Diocesan Magazine Notes**  
 10th Thursday.....Lacca Fellowship Service (page 3)  
 10th Thursday.....Thursday Bible Club (page 3)  
**23rd Wednesday.....Closing date for March 2022 Newsletter**  
 24th Thursday.....Thursday Bible Club (page 3)  
 26th Saturday.....Confirmation Service (page 3)

Items for the April 2022 Newsletter need to be with the editor by Wednesday March 23rd **AT THE LATEST**, so that the Newsletter can be assembled in time for the Fourth Sunday, March 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](mailto:newsletter@clonenagh.com)**

Otherwise to- Ivor Clegg, Cloncourse, Mountrath, Co. Laois. 057-8621277/087-2522162

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