

# The Newsletter

May 2022

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***The new Seir Kieran  
Grounds Maintenance Crew!***

*(Photo kindly provided by Rev'd Victor)*

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## Clonenagh Group of Parishes

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

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# The Rector Writes

## May Day

May Day means many things to different people. For some in Europe, it is a time for dancing the maypole and other rituals that date to ancient times. May 1 was the first day of summer and it marked the break for farmers between the end of planting and the growth of the crop. It was a time to celebrate the fertility of the land and to pray for this year's harvest. When societies became Christian, May was dedicated to Mary, Jesus' mother.

Long before that time, May 1 had also become established as an international day for workers and a symbol of the struggle for just wages and conditions. In the USSR, it was an occasion for the Soviet government to showcase the latest missiles and weaponry. As Communist governments spread across Europe and Asia after the Second World War, persecution of religious believers intensified. Christians now gave May Day a new meaning by focusing on the husband of Mary, St Joseph, instead of the Communist obsession with militarism.

Interestingly, "Mayday" is the call sign of planes and ships in distress. It has nothing to do with months or seasons and is instead an abbreviation of the French phrase m'aider (help me). Given May Day's long-held association with Communism and the trampling of human rights beneath its grubby iron fist, along with the horrific recent events in Ukraine following Russia's invasion, perhaps it is timely for Christians to take back May Day from the godless, unjust regimes which sadly still blight our world.

Let us call out to the Lord, "Help us!", and let May Day shine as a day of prayer for our God-given human rights to be respected and cherished the world over. May God's Kingdom come. Amen.

*~Rev'd Victor*

### CAFOD (Catholic Agency for Overseas Development)

#### Prayer For Ukraine

Loving God,  
We pray for the people of Ukraine,  
for all those suffering or afraid,  
that you will be close to them and protect them.  
We pray for world leaders,  
for compassion, strength and wisdom to guide their choices.  
We pray for the world  
that in this moment of crisis,  
we may reach out in solidarity  
to our brothers and sisters in need.  
May we walk in your ways  
so that peace and justice  
become a reality for the people of Ukraine  
and for all the world.  
Amen.

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## Parish Notes

### We welcome in Holy Baptism

Baby **Ayla Sarah** will be baptised in St Matthew's Church, Roskelton, on Saturday 4th June. Congratulations to proud parents Orlaith and Robin and we keep Baby Ayla in our prayers as she begins her journey as a member of the Christian family.

### Thursday Bible Club

Is now on summer recess. See you again in the autumn!

### 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 continues at the 10.30am first Sunday of the month celebration of Holy Communion. All school age children are welcome!

### 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. Please note that there will be no Home Communions during the month of May.

### GFS

The next GFS meeting is on Friday 29th April, in the Parochial Hall, Mountrath. 7:15 to 8:45pm.

**Clonenagh Parish Fundraising Committee** are once again recommencing after lockdown with the Golf Classic on Friday May 20th in Mountrath Golf Club. If you are interested in sponsoring a hole or entering a team (non-golfers are most welcome too!) please contact Mrs. Mabel Peavoy on 086 2033720.

There will also be a raffle on the night so donations for this would be much appreciated. Parishioners are also welcome

on the night for the Prizegiving and the raffle which will take place around 9pm .

**Fund Raising Committee Meeting** to finalise arrangements on Tuesday May 10th at 8.30pm in the Parochial Hall.

**Camross Active Retirement** had their afternoon tea party last Sunday and a great day was had by all, many thanks to all the hostesses that took part.



## Clonenagh National School News

Clonenagh NS has been an extremely busy school over the last couple of weeks. Our football team reached the semi finals and we are so proud of their valiant efforts. It is wonderful to see our pupils being able to mix again!

Our Student Council organised a **Skipathon** before the Easter Holidays. It was a mighty success. To make it more memorable, we strolled down to the GAA grounds and we used their all-weather pitch. Children had been practising for weeks! Some children won Easter Eggs in recognition of incredible effort. These were funded by the Student Council.



Each year, we like to support various charities. This year, the children chose to support the **Irish Cancer Society**. Our school secretary, Shirley Bennett, passed away at the start of December. She had worked in Clonenagh NS for many many years and helped out with whatever was on. She adored school life, especially the football matches! Shirley got on so well with the children and always had time for a chat with them. She was especially welcoming to any new staff and would always help them to get settled in. She was so interested in the new build and its progression at all stages. Needless to say, she is greatly missed.

On Daffodil Day, in honour of Shirley, the pupils organised a non-uniform day and asked everyone to wear something yellow. Tremendous effort was put in and I'm delighted to say that over €600 was raised. Such kindness and generosity goes a long way and I'm delighted to see our pupils with these beautiful traits.

We are having a **DIY Day** on May 14th. If you would like to help out, please email me at [clonenaghns@gmail.com](mailto:clonenaghns@gmail.com) or phone 05787 32516. Thank you to all those who have already been in touch.

~Melissa Burnell

# Services & Readings

## May

May						
<b>Sunday 1<sup>st</sup></b> <i>The Third Sunday of Easter</i>	Acts 9: 1-6 Psalm 30 Revelation 5: 11-14 John 21: 1-19	<b>Roskelton</b> 9.30am Morning Prayer	<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>Sunday 8<sup>th</sup></b> <i>The Fourth Sunday of Easter</i>	Acts 9: 36-43 Psalm 23 Revelation 7: 9-17 John 10: 22-30	<b>Seir Kieran</b> 9.30am Holy Communion		<b>Annatrim</b> 11.00am Holy Communion	<b>Mountrath</b> 11.30am Morning Prayer	
<b>Sunday 15<sup>th</sup></b> <i>The Fifth Sunday of Easter</i>	Acts 11: 1-18 Psalm 148 Revelation 21: 1-6 John 13: 31-35	<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>Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup></b> <i>The Sixth Sunday of Easter: Rogation Sunday</i>	Acts 16: 9-15 Psalm 67 Revelation 21: 10, 22 - 22: 5 John 5: 1-9	<b>Lacca</b> 10.30am Family Service		<b>Annatrim</b> 11.00am Morning Prayer		<b>Mountrath</b> 11.30am Holy Communion
<b>Sunday 29<sup>th</sup></b> <i>The Seventh Sunday of Easter: Sunday after the Ascension Day</i>	Acts 16: 16-34 Psalm 97 Revelation 22: 12-14, 16-17, 20-21 John 17: 20-26	<b>Mountrath</b> 11.00am Holy Communion				

## Parish Diary

### May

1st Sunday.....Lacca Sunday School (page 3)  
**6th Friday.....Closing date for Diocesan Magazine Notes**  
 10th Tuesday.....Fundraising Committee Meeting (page 3)  
 12th Thursday.....Lacca Fellowship Service (page 2)  
 14th Saturday.....Clonenagh N.S. DIY Day (page 3)  
**18th Wednesday.....Closing date for May 2022 Newsletter**  
 20th Friday.....Clonenagh Parish Golf Classic (page 3)  
 29th Friday.....GFS meeting (page 3)



**GFS girls after their Easter Egg Hunt**

(Photo kindly provided by Jennifer Lalor)

Items for the June 2022 Newsletter need to be with the editor by Wednesday May 18th **AT THE LATEST**, so that the Newsletter can be assembled in time for the Fourth Sunday, May 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@clonenagh.com](mailto:newsletter@clonenagh.com)

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

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