



Parish Matters

Newsletter of Douglas Union with Frankfield

July & August 2021

The Rector writes.....

We have had to do some very different things in the light of the pandemic, and since March 2020 all sorts of changes have been forced upon us. However, we must continue to remember that, despite considerable progress in recent months, these are still exceptional times. We don't want necessary practices now (such as avoiding handshakes and hugs) to become established and by default be the norm into the future. This is particularly true when it comes to our liturgy and worship.

In this issue I want to reflect on our service of **Holy Communion** and the very necessary, but temporary changes we have had to make. The Eucharist is the supreme act of worship. When we celebrate it, we remember the explicit command of our Lord to his friends in the Upper Room as recorded in Scripture. Since the Reformation, it has been the case that members of the Church of Ireland receive in both kinds, i.e., the bread and the wine. There is also the long and cherished place of the common cup in our Anglican Eucharistic practice. Since March of last year, while both bread and wine have been consecrated, only the presiding priest receives from the cup. In our church this is highly unusual, but not unprecedented at times of contagion. Recently the Church of



Ireland House of Bishops issued interim advice affirming that 'the goal of the church remains the restoration to use of the common cup, as soon as public health considerations allow for this.' In other words, our current practice is a temporary necessity.

Also, since the outbreak of the pandemic, I have adopted the practice of consecrating eucharistic wafers rather than white bread. My concern was initially motivated by issues of public health. A sealed box of wafers kept in the church seemed preferable to bread being prepared and brought to church from a domestic setting, no matter how clean and hygienic. I was probably being overly cautious at the time when we were receiving mixed messaging from different sources about the transmissibility of the virus on different surfaces. However, I had also other practical considerations in mind. Wafers are more easily distributed safely without the priest having to place small pieces of bread in the recipients' hand and so risk cross contamination. This change was also motivated by a desire to recapture something of the Last Supper

when unleavened bread would have been shared with those in attendance. The eucharistic wafers are, by definition, unleavened bread. Overall, from the conversations I have had, people appreciate this change and understand the reasons for it. Perhaps we will return to using bread on occasion once the common cup is resumed. Thoughtful and prayerful consultation and consideration will be given to this question at the appropriate time.

Finally, the physical sharing of the sign of peace at communion services has been suspended for the time being. While this has never been compulsory, the rubric at the bottom of page 207 of the *Book of Common Prayer* reminds us that 'it is appropriate that the congregation share with one another a sign of peace.' For the time being we will continue to share peace without shaking hands. In time we may revert to what was done before when the public health experts and the House of Bishops so advise.

While we are not through this pandemic yet, we are heading in the right direction. Positive strides have been made in recent months. However, not everyone is vaccinated, and many of our younger parishioners must wait a few more weeks. So, it is important that we still look out for one another and follow all the correct procedures in church and in our daily life. **No one is safe from this virus until everyone is safe.** At a global level this also is true. We live in an affluent country in the West. There are many millions who are not so fortunate, who share cramped and unsanitary living conditions and who will never receive a vaccination because of the accident of their birth in a country with little or no resources to buy and distribute vaccines. This inequality should be of great concern to us all. If you can, please donate to charities and health programmes that are working hard in the developing world, to provide vaccinations for people who will not get them unless we help.

This issue of *Parish Matters* covers the months of July and August. We have all had a very long and challenging winter and spring. Our mental health has suffered as a result. **Summer is a time for holidays.** I hope that you will be able to avail of some down time in the coming weeks to recharge the batteries. While this issue of foreign travel for non-essential purposes is still 'up in the air' if you pardon the pun, I hope wherever you take a holiday, you will benefit from it.

I end by wishing all parishioners and readers of this newsletter a very restful summer and hope you will find this prayer I have written helpful.

Lord you reminded your disciples of the need for times of rest and refreshment from the stresses and strains of the day. We thank you for every opportunity to travel, to rest and to enjoy new experiences. Watch over our journeys. May our time away be one of warmth and love, so that we return refreshed in body, mind and spirit to continue in your service. Amen.

Yours in Christ,

Adrian.

Appreciation

A special word of thanks to those who have kept prayers for those in need going every day throughout the pandemic – you know who you are. Every day in our parish people pray for others, quietly in their own homes, offering this act of service just as they have been doing for years. Many parishioners could testify to the support they have found in this prayer in the past. God is faithful, hears our prayers and answers as he knows is best. If you are in need of prayer, do ask one of the clergy to pass on your request to those in the Prayer Chain who are especially committed to continuing intercessory prayer in the future – all will be treated in the strictest confidence.

'More things are wrought by prayer than this world dreams of.'

Rev. Hazel Minion



Cycle Against Suicide is an awareness charity (CHY 20687) that makes a valuable contribution to the public education of mental health by changing the narrative surrounding suicide. When an individual is vulnerable enough to consider taking their own life, silence is read as indifference. With hundreds of people dying by suicide

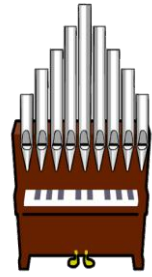
in Ireland each year and research indicating that thousands more contemplate it, we all have a role to play to collectively address the challenges that suicide presents. In a bid to save more lives, Cycle Against Suicide through its programmes, sets out to change culture and create a society that openly talks about suicide to allow people to speak up and seek help.

Community Buddy Training is organised on an ongoing basis . This training takes place over Zoom for 2 days. Their long term aim is to have a network of hundreds of Buddies that can talk and support an individual in need in their local community. Their Buddies will support the individual online while COVID restrictions apply and from there a blended version of online and face to face support will take place if everyone is comfortable. You can read more about the Community Buddy Programme here <https://www.cycleagainstsuitide.com/community-buddy/what-to-expect/> They are on a mission to train 200 community buddies before World Suicide Prevention Day on September 10th. To register for the Community Buddy please use the link. **Community Buddy – Club – Cycle Against Suicide**. This could be great training for anyone organising Mothers Union or BB/GFS etc, or who would have garda vetting through their job e.g. teachers, nurses etc.

If you have any questions, please feel free to get in touch with Barry Williams, Digital Campaigns and Fundraising Manager. Email: barry.williams@cycleagainstsuitide.com or phone 353 896118519

I would like to thank Adrian, Hazel and the parishioners of Holy Trinity, Frankfield for their token of appreciation for my services as organist in the church as part of a rota. I would like to thank the members of the choir for their support and camaraderie. I could reply on Ronnie to keep me on the "straight and narrow" as far as the music was concerned and if a hymn had a lot of verses Ronnie could be relied upon to whisper "last verse coming up"! Well, I have played my "last verse" in Frankfield but I can say that it was always a pleasure to play there.

Regards, *Edwin*



Marking the Centenary of the End of the War of Independence

The National Day of Commemoration in Ireland remembers all Irish soldiers who died in past wars or on UN peacekeeping missions. It is held on the Sunday nearest 11th

July every year with both a religious service and a military ceremony – you will probably have seen reports on TV in past years.



This year, 11th July falls on a Sunday, and is the centenary of the signing of the truce that ended the Irish War of Independence. That in turn led to the Treaty with Britain that December and the establishment of the Irish Free State. Being such a formational date in our history, we will, in common with many churches throughout the country, mark the centenary of the Truce with special

prayers for Ireland and for peace at all our services on Sunday 11th July.

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Parish Website: www.douglas.cork.anglican.org Facebook @douglasunionfrankfield

Follow us on Twitter: @DouglasUnion

CHURCH SERVICES – July 2021



Sunday 4 July	8.30	Holy Communion	Blackrock
5 th Sun. after Trinity	9.45	Service of the Word	Passage
Green	10.00	Service of the Word	Frankfield
	11.15	Service of the Word	Douglas
Wednesday 7 July	11.00	Holy Communion	Douglas
Sunday 11 July	8.30	Holy Communion	Blackrock
6 th Sun. after Trinity	9.45	Holy Communion	Passage
Green	10.00	Morning Prayer	Frankfield
	11.15	Holy Communion	Douglas
Wednesday 14 July	11.00	Holy Communion	Douglas
Sunday 18 July	8.30	Holy Communion	Blackrock
7 th after Trinity	9.45	Morning Prayer	Passage
Green	10.00	Holy Communion	Frankfield
	11.15	Morning Prayer	Douglas
Wednesday 21 July	11.00	Holy Communion	Douglas
Sunday 25 July	9.45	Holy Communion	Passage
St. James the Apostle	10.00	Morning Prayer	Frankfield
	11.15	Holy Communion	Douglas
	11.30	Morning Prayer	Blackrock
Wednesday 28 July	11.00	Holy Communion	Douglas

CHURCH SERVICES – August 2021



Sunday 1 August	8.30	Holy Communion	Blackrock
9 th Sun. after Trinity	9.45	Service of the Word	Passage
Green	10.00	Service of the Word	Frankfield
	11.15	Service of the Word	Douglas
Wednesday 4 August	11.00	Holy Communion	Douglas
Sunday 8 August	8.30	Holy Communion	Blackrock
10 th Sun. after Trinity	9.45	Morning Prayer	Passage
Green	10.00	Holy Communion	Frankfield
	11.15	Holy Communion	Douglas
Wednesday 11 August	11.00	Holy Communion	Douglas
Sunday 15 August	8.30	Holy Communion	Blackrock
11 th after Trinity	9.45	Holy Communion	Passage
Green	10.00	Morning Prayer	Frankfield
	11.15	Morning Prayer	Douglas
Wednesday 18 August	11.00	Holy Communion	Douglas
Sunday 22 August	8.30	Holy Communion	Blackrock
12 th after Trinity	9.45	Morning Prayer	Passage
Green	10.00	Holy Communion	Frankfield
	11.15	Holy Communion	Douglas
Wednesday 25 August	11.00	Holy Communion	Douglas
Sunday 29 August	9.45	Holy Communion	Passage
13 th after Trinity	10.00	Morning Prayer	Frankfield
Green	11.15	Morning Prayer	Douglas
	11.30	Holy Communion	Blackrock