



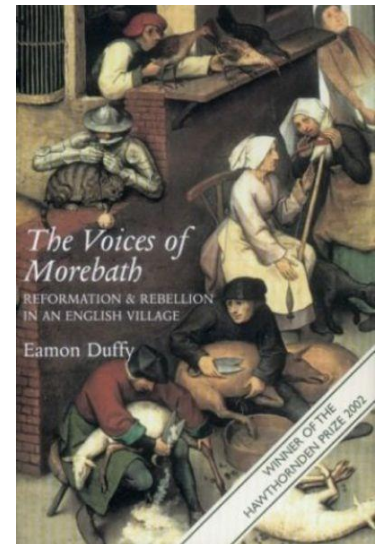
# Parish Matters

Newsletter of Douglas Union with Frankfield

November 2021

## The Rector writes.....

One of the books I have on my shelf is *The Voices of Morebath* by the celebrated historian Eamon Duffy. It tells the story of a remote and tiny sheep farming village where thirty-three families worked the difficult land on the southern edge of Exmoor in England. Between 1520 and 1574, through nearly all the drama of the English Reformation, Morebath's only priest, Christopher Trychay, kept the parish accounts on behalf of the churchwardens. Amazingly these survive to this day. In these accounts he includes vivid descriptions of parish meetings and the names and doings of his parishioners. Through his eyes we catch a glimpse of the life and pre-reformation piety of a sixteenth-century English village. He describes how West-Country families rebelled against the imposition of the Prayer Book of 1549 and how the church bells were confiscated and silenced. In this book, the author brings back to life the voices of those who lived in this little village over 450 years ago.



November is the month of remembrance in the Church. Remembrance is not preservation. When we preserve, we chisel names into marble or granite memorials, or we seal things up in special vaults where they are protected from the ravages of time. As someone who has an interest in history and archives, I agree that this has its place. But remembrance is different. It is about something dynamic and living, something which can be appreciated in different ways and change subtly over time. It can help us in the present to appreciate from where we have come.

This way of remembering is very important in the life of the Church. In this parish it will be emphasised in various ways this month. On Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> November, at the mid-week communion service, as we are in All Saintstide, during the intercessions we will list the names of all those in the parish who died since All Saints' Day (1<sup>st</sup> November) 2020. On Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> November, in common with many other churches in the Diocese, we will include in our services an act of commemoration that focuses on those from the parish who died since the Coronavirus pandemic started and who did not have the funeral they would otherwise have had if we had not all been so restricted. We have all come through a very difficult period, and it is important that those families, bereaved at the height of the pandemic, continue to be cared for and supported.

Finally on Remembrance Sunday (this year 14<sup>th</sup> November) we will be using the traditional language service of Holy Communion at all our services. As we remember past generations, it is a good time to use the form of Holy Communion that would have sprung instinctively from their lips. In a way, as we remember, we are also hearing the liturgy afresh as we worship the living God

today in our time. Just as Eamon Duffy in his book allowed us to hear the voices of the people of Morebath, so we may hear and give thanks for the past generations who have left us and perhaps also remember those who have encouraged us in our faith and walk with God.

Finally on a personal note, I would like to thank all those who were in contact with me recently to sympathise on the death of my father. I appreciated all the phone messages, cards, emails and texts, as well as the conversations I have had with many of you in recent days. Your kindness and thoughtfulness is a great source of comfort.

Yours in Christ,

*Adrian.*

**St Luke's School** We were delighted to welcome Archdeacon Wilkinson to two outdoor assemblies since we returned to school in September. It is wonderful to be able to get together as a whole school once again.

Our energetic Parents Association organised a Coffee to Go, Cake Sale and Clothes Drive recently and raised over €1,000 for school funds. Thank you very much to all involved.



The pupils in St Luke's were delighted to return to many of their after-school sporting activities. They are now enjoying tennis, hockey, swimming, and soccer again.

Bricks4kidz were very popular visitors to our school recently. Age-appropriate workshops were organised for all our classes in which the children were involved in planning and designing all sorts of space themed projects...we have many budding engineers in the making!



**Confirmation 2022** On 13<sup>th</sup> October, a meeting for the parents of secondary school pupils who have indicated that they wish to be confirmed next year, was held. There are 21 candidates now who will be attending classes on Zoom with the Rector. When the public health restrictions lift further, the final part of the preparation programme may be delivered in person. We are delighted that a few members of this group have already linked up with some of the Diocesan Youth Council activities.

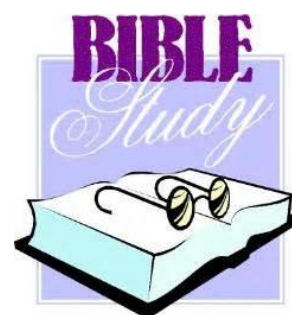
Early next year another group will be prepared for Confirmation, this time made up predominantly with those who are in 6<sup>th</sup> class in primary school. A meeting for these parents will be held early in January. It is likely that this group will be similar in size. It all points to a very big group to be confirmed in 2022 to catch up with the pandemic backlog.

**Douglas Union Select Vestry** On Thursday 11 November we plan to hold the first in person select vestry meeting since the start of the covid pandemic. It will take place under the usual social distancing and face covering rules for indoor meetings. The venue will be St Luke's Church

and the Secretary of the Vestry will be in contact with all members to give them full details in advance.

**Children's Bags in St Luke's Church.** Unfortunately, as covid infection rates remain high, and indeed are increasing for children, the Sunday School in Douglas will remain closed for the time being. It is ill advised to mix children who would not normally be together in such a setting. However, this does not preclude children coming to church with their families. Children are always welcome in church and for many years we have provided special activity bags containing toys and other items for them to play with and use during the service. Last month these were repackaged with new items. A word of thanks to Emily O'Donoghue for providing these new children's bags for St Luke's Church. They are to be found in the seat beside the font. If you have small children with you, please feel free to take a bag for the service and return it afterwards, so that it, and all the contents, can be safely used by another child the following week.

**Parish Bible Study Group.** In the near future we hope to resume our parish Bible Study Group on Zoom. Several parishioners have kindly agreed to assist the clergy in leading these evening studies. I had hoped to have these up and running by now but due to other demands on my time, there has been a delay. For now, if you are interested in being a member of this fortnightly evening study group, please let me know. It would be a great help to know the level of interest and the availability and willingness of parishioners to be involved. Details of the sessions and the meeting invitation will be sent via email to those who request it. (A. Wilkinson)



### **Holy Trinity Church, Frankfield Restoration Project**



Holy Trinity Church, Frankfield

As most parishioners are now aware major repairs are well underway to tackle long term damp problems in a number of walls and part of the roof. The weather has been unkind and delayed the works so the scaffolding may well be in place till after Christmas.

The original cost was €92,000 including vat and plus engineer's fees. We had made some provision for additional works which has softened the cost of the extra work. The new cost is €100,00 plus fees.

Holy Trinity has had a small nest egg for some years and this will now pay for some of the repairs. We are fortunate that Cork City Council recognises the architectural heritage of the church and subject to satisfactory completion of the works we will receive a small grant towards our costs.

In addition we have applied to two Trusts in the Representative Church Body in Dublin and are hopeful they also will give some grant aid. Due to demands on the RCB we have been advised their support will not be significant.

We are fortunate that two parishioners have already come forward with generous support. Further donations are very welcome and these can be made to either Archdeacon Wilkinson or to Roger Flack the treasurer. In 2022 we will need to organise fundraising activities and plans are already being made.

## ECO CONGREGATION NOTES

On the 31st October COP 26 will open in Glasgow in Scotland. COP stands for the Conference of Parties for the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change. The last COP was held in Paris in 2015, COP 27 will be in China.



Since the Paris Agreement, which was hailed as a success, out of 192 countries that signed up to the promise to keep global temperatures at 1.5C above pre-industrial levels only one country is on target to achieve their emissions goal and that is Gambia, West Africa. We in Ireland have increased our emissions and are on track to contribute to a global warming of 2.7C.

Why is it so difficult to achieve this vital goal of 1.5C increase? One reason is that the wealth of nations is expressed in terms of monetary output as Gross Domestic Product or GDP. This method of measurement does not put a value on Nature because Nature does not earn money and so it is not part of GDP.

However the destruction of nature does have a monetary value eg. Illegal timber felling, overfishing the oceans and desertification of arable land, vast monoculture landscapes and many other examples. These practices destroy the very "crops" they exploit.

The COP 26 theme is "Restore the Planet". Three separate but connected issues will be addressed.

1. Air Pollution due to toxic emissions leading to Climate Change
2. Surface Pollution due to a lack of waste management
3. Biodiversity decline across the globe due to the 2 previous pollutants

Over 12 days of the conference these issues will be discussed at the international level. However, we also have to apply them to our own local level. A realistic approach to solving these serious problems is not by thinking how one earth can I make any difference to these huge problems? We can develop small and medium businesses that tackle a local issue specific to our area. Half of all global GDP is dependent on solving these crises at a local level. These are called Green type new businesses. They will expand where they are demanded and needed. When proved successful they will attract investment but positive Government regulation is very important as it reduces risk. People will invest when they can calculate risk. If you didn't see the Earthshot Prize on tv, look it up online. [Earthshot.org](http://Earthshot.org)

Five prize winners were selected by a panel of experts from a list of 15 nominees. All are small businesses tackling specific problems in areas such as growing new coral reefs to replace dead coral so repairing the biodiversity of the seas. Another one in Nigeria developed a cartridge of solar power that can be rented and returned for 50c per day. It provides light and electricity in homes and businesses cutting costs by 30% where it is dark by 6pm every day.

The prize winners all received £1 million each to expand and develop their projects from the Caribbean to Bangladesh and from Nigeria to Kenya. These wonderful developments give us all hope that we can make a difference, we just need imagination.

As Greta Thunberg says, "What we need more than hope is ACTION"

# Church Services – November 2021



<b>Friday 3rd November</b>	11.00	Holy Communion	Douglas
Green			
<b>Sunday 7th November</b>	8.30	Holy Communion	Blackrock
3rd Sun. before Advent	9.45	Holy Communion	Passage
Green	10.00	Morning Prayer	Frankfield
	11.15	Holy Communion	Douglas
	11.30	Morning Prayer	Blackrock
<b>Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> November</b>	11.00	Holy Communion	Douglas
<b>Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> November</b>	8.30	Holy Communion	Blackrock
2nd Sun. before Advent	9.45	Holy Communion	Passage
Green	10.00	Holy Communion	Frankfield
	11.15	Holy Communion	Douglas
<i>(Remembrance Sunday – All services Rite One -Traditional Language)</i>			
<b>Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> November</b>	11.00	Holy Communion	Douglas
<b>Sunday 21st November</b>	8.30	Holy Communion	Blackrock
The Kingship of Christ	9.45	Morning Prayer	Passage
Green	10.00	Holy Communion	Frankfield
	11.15	Morning Prayer	Douglas
	11.30	Holy Communion	Blackrock
<b>Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> November</b>	11.00	Holy Communion	Douglas
<b>Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> November</b>	8.30	Holy Communion	Blackrock
1 <sup>st</sup> Sun of Advent	9.45	Holy Communion	Passage
Violet	10.00	Morning Prayer	Frankfield
	11.15	Holy Communion	Douglas

Ven. Adrian Wilkinson, Tel: 4891539. E-mail: [adrianwilkinson3@gmail.com](mailto:adrianwilkinson3@gmail.com)

Rev. Hazel Minion, Tel: 4361924. E-mail: [hminion22@hotmail.com](mailto:hminion22@hotmail.com) (Only contact if above unavailable)

Parish Office Tel: 4369578. E-mail: [douglasofficecork@gmail.com](mailto:douglasofficecork@gmail.com)

Parish Website: [www.douglas.cork.anglican.org](http://www.douglas.cork.anglican.org) Facebook @douglasunionfrankfield

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