



Parish Matters

Newsletter of Douglas Union with Frankfield

April, 2023

The Curate writes.....

March has come in 'like a lion' with the cold weather we experienced at the beginning of the month. As the saying goes, it seems to be 'out like a lamb' bringing warm, wet, spring weather. It is surprising how a little bit of warmth and sunshine brightens the day. With the warmer weather those who have felt shut in will be able to get out more and as told by one person, 'You may even see me in Church!'. Let's hope so. Covid has still left many worried about close contact with others but soon it will be a thing of the past and we can get on with our lives and, with God's blessing, enjoy both the weather and living in community once more.

Prayer and worship are important parts of our lives as Christians. Not only do we have Sunday services, a service the first Wednesday of every month, and every Wednesday in Holy Week in St. Luke's Church, Douglas at 11:00am, but we also have a prayer group to pray for us. As Rev. Hazel reminded us before she retired, there are prayer boxes in every church. Anyone needing prayers or knows of anyone, with their permission, may drop their names into the box. Another opportunity, especially for those who cannot get out to church, is the Zoom service led by Dr Kieran Hogan the first Thursday of every month. It is again a wonderful chance where all are welcome to listen to the prayers of others and, if you wish, to offer your own prayers during a short worship service. Kieran can be contacted at dochogan@mac.com.

Easter services are listed at the end of Parish Matters. This year, I have spread them out to the different churches to enable everyone to attend. That does not mean you can only go to the service in the church you normally attend. Everyone is invited to all services, and I would encourage you to take time out from your busy schedules to spend some time with Christ. Compline services will include poetry and learning about others. The Easter Vigil, I have found out, is new to this parish but celebrated in our surrounding Church of Ireland parishes. It is a beautiful service. After lighting the Paschal Candle from the fire, we enter the church in darkness. Then, from the Candle everyone's candle is lit and we go from darkness to light as we sing the Exsultet, the high praise to Christ, and enter into the First Holy Communion of Easter.

Wishing you all a happy and blessed Easter.

Jean

St. Michael's School Notes

We have been very busy at St Michael's in the last few weeks. Mr Seán Hegarty has completed 5 weeks of Teaching Practice in our Chestnut Room and he has just begun an additional 5 weeks of Teaching Practice in our Rowan Room. Our Chestnut Room and Rowan Room have completed their Tri Heroes training, with thanks to Trevor Mahony and Triathlon Ireland. The Chestnut Room have begun athletics training through Cork Sports Partnership and will take part in an Athletics Meet in May. Beth Harte-Barry, Sophie Gartland, Ben Foley and Marc Romero have represented us excellently in the Munster Tennis Schools' Competition in Carrigaline this week.



All of our classes really enjoyed our Easter Olympics, run by our PA. Amy Minihane did an amazing job of planning the activities and even managed to get some teachers to join in! We are looking forward to our Easter Service on Friday 31st of March. We are really proud of all of the preparations that our pupils have made for this. We hope that all of our pupils, parents and staff have a wonderful Easter Break!

St Luke's School Notes



Bhíomar ar mhuin na muice agus ag tnúth go mór le Seachtain na Gaeilge agus Lá le Pádraig i Mi na Márta! As the term continues to fly along, we have been enjoying all things Irish over the past couple of weeks- Céilí dancing, tráth na gceist, biongó ,and of course the story of St Patrick told so wonderfully by 2nd Class in our school assembly. Our infant classes enjoyed a drama production of 'An Cochaillín Dearg' also. A huge thank you to our Parents association for organising a Patrick's Day Disco on Friday March 10th. Well done also to our terrific bakers in 6th Class who held a 'Díolochán cáca' and raised €429.

Literacy also got a substantial look-in over the past number of weeks, with a variety of activities taking place around World Book Day. Our junior infants did lots of reading with their 6th Class buddies, while pupils of all classes put their creative skills to good use, designing posters to promote use of our school library. Our Parents association also organised a book sale in the Canon Packham Hall.

We also recently enjoyed a beautiful assembly from first class, who told us the story of The Lost Sheep and how important each and every person and animal is. Pupils from 3rd to 6th attended an excellent Maths workshop in the Canon Packham hall, developing lateral thinking and problem-solving skills. Our senior infants were on their best behaviour during a visit from Garda Tony and Garda Shane recently, while 6th Class listened to Garda Aoife about Internet Safety .

Our school hockey teams have been busy over the past few weeks, taking part in the Schools Hockey Tournament on Saturday March 11th. Pupils from 4th, 5th and 6th took part and as always showed excellent skill, sportsmanship and determination. Well done to all; We look forward to plenty of sunny days and outdoor activities in the Summer term!

Sunday School continues to be held once a month in St. Luke's, Douglas. New volunteers to assist would be most welcome. My thanks to those who are providing such a wonderful opportunity for our young people in the parish. The next Sunday School will take place on April 23rd. Children of school going age welcome, younger children welcome too but must be accompanied by an adult. Collection from the Canon Packham Hall after church. Consent forms to be filled in by an adult, found at back of the church or ask any of the Sunday school helpers.

Parish Book Club

The Douglas Union of Parishes' Book Club will be meeting again on Tuesday, 11th April from 11am to 12.30pm in the Parish Hall beside St Mary's Church, Marmullane (Passage West). New members welcome! If interested, please text Sharon Kerr on 086 8327653 or Saskia O'Neill on 086 3439124 for further details



Parish Prayer Chain

The Parish Prayer Chain exists to pray for anyone in the parish who is in times of difficulty, sickness, or other challenge. You can send in a request for prayer if you are seriously ill or in some other difficulty by putting a note in one of the prayer boxes at the back of each church, or by a message to Rev. Jean.

The conditions are that this is done in confidence and only with the knowledge and consent of the person being prayed for. Only first names or pseudonyms are used. Prayers will continue every day for a month; please update us if there is a continuing problem.

Baptism: It will be a pleasure to baptise Hannah and Joseph Kurien on Sunday, 19th April, at the 11:15 service in St. Michael's Church, Blackrock. It is wonderful to have new people join our parish and we warmly welcome their parents Libby and Thomas Kurien.

Easter Vestry Meetings: Members of the Douglas Union of Parishes are urged to attend the annual Easter Vestry on Tuesday, April 18th at 7:30 in the main room of Canon Packham Hall. This is the year of the tri-annual elections, so please come and have your say. Frankfield's Easter Vestry will be held on Thursday, April 20th following the 7:30 Holy Communion service led by The Very Reverend Dr Nigel Dunne.

Douglas Choir is looking for junior choir members to join their choir. Please contact Veronica Tadman for more details at vakaveronica@gmail.com. Choirs are such an important part of our church worship.



Anam Cara Cork, the organisation that supports bereaved parents, is holding it's monthly Parent Evening for bereaved parents on Wednesday 5th April at 7:15pm in the Clayton Hotel, Silver Springs, Cork City. This event is free and open to all bereaved parents regardless of the age your child died, the circumstances of their death, or whether their death was recent or not. We also offer an online service. For more info call 01 4045378

Confirmation The Bishop's Confirmation morning was a big hit in our parish. The confirmands were remarking how informative it was and discussing the various things they enjoyed about the day. The Bishop's prayer beads were very much in view and were worn with pride during our Confirmation Class. All are looking forward to meeting the Bishop again at their Confirmation on Sunday, 30th April in St. Luke's Church, Douglas at the 11:15 service.



A note for the diary:



A **Coffee Morning** will be held at St Mary's Church Hall Marmullane on Saturday 13th May from 10 am- 12 midday. Plants, Raffle and Cakes. Entry €4 includes tea/ coffee and scone. In aid of Parish Funds

Please note that Rev. Jean will be away from the parish on holidays from Monday, May 15th to Thursday the 25th May. On Sunday, 28th May there will be a **special service for the institution of Rev. Dr. William Olhausen** as Rector in St. Luke's Church, Douglas at 5pm. There will be only one other service that day which will take place in St. Michael's Blackrock at 8.30pm.

Frogs and Crows

I feel like the 'covid frog',
Or perhaps it's the city smog,
But whenever I sing,
The sounds that I bring
Are not ones that you'd want to log! (or blog!)

Perhaps you could say that I 'crow',
Like a bird without water in snow,
'Crow' (Croke) Park is where I should be!
Or squawking with gulls at the sea!

Now I used to sing like a lark,
But on birdseed I'll have to embark,
'Cos when I sing low,
And I'm not an alto,
The right note is a 'stab in the dark'.

Lemon I'm told I should drink,
To get my voice back 'on sync'
But my 'bellows' won't blow,
And my lungs are no go,
Should I continue to 'twitter', do you think?!

By Ida Lee
March 2023

Church Services – April, 2023



Sunday 2nd April	8.30	Holy Communion	Blackrock
<i>Psalm Sunday</i>	9.45	Morning Prayer	Passage
Violet	10.00	Holy Communion	Frankfield
	11.30	Holy Communion	Douglas
	11.30	Morning Prayer	Blackrock
Monday 3rd April	7.30pm	Compline	Blackrock
Tuesday 4th April	7.30pm	Compline	Passage West
Wednesday 5th April	11.00	Holy Communion	Douglas
	7.30pm	Compline	Frankfield
Thursday 6th April	7.30pm	Holy Communion	Douglas
Good Friday 7th April	2.00pm	Reading of the Passion	Frankfield
Saturday 8th April	9.00pm	Easter Vigil	Douglas
Sunday 9th April	8.30	Holy Communion	Blackrock
<i>Easter Sunday</i>	9.30	Holy Communion	Passage
Violet	10.00	Holy Communion	Frankfield
	11.30	Holy Communion	Douglas
	11.30	Holy Communion	Blackrock
Sunday 16th April	8.30	Holy Communion	Blackrock
<i>2nd Sun of Easter</i>	9.45	Morning Prayer	Passage
Violet	10.00	Holy Communion	Frankfield
	11.15	Morning Prayer	Douglas
	11.30	Holy Communion	Blackrock
Sunday 23rd April	8.30	Holy Communion	Blackrock
<i>3rd Sun of Easter</i>	9.45	Holy Communion	Passage
White	10.00	Morning Prayer	Frankfield
	11.15	Holy Communion	Douglas
	11.30	Morning Prayer	Blackrock
Sunday 30th April	8.30	Holy Communion	Blackrock
<i>4th Sun of Easter</i>	11.15	Confirmation	Douglas
White			

Parish Contacts:

Rev. Jean Carney Tel: 2298810 E-mail: carneynormajean@gmail.com

Parish Office Tel: 4369578. E-mail: douglasofficecork@gmail.com (*Friday mornings only*)

Parish Website: www.douglas.cork.anglican.org Follow us on Twitter: @DouglasUnion