



Parish Matters

Newsletter of Douglas Union with Frankfield

November 2023

The Rector writes...

November takes us from the celebration of All Saints' Day on November 1st to the final Sunday of the church's year when we celebrate the feast of Christ the King. Remembrance Sunday (12th November) "explores the theme of memory, both corporate and individual, as we confront issues of war and peace, loss and self-gift, memory and forgetting." (Common Worship, Times and Seasons). The Feast of Christ the King (26th November) marks the end of the church's year and returns us to the Advent theme of judgement – one that has been prominent in the Gospel readings in recent weeks.

Study week

This month I will be attending the annual meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature (SBL) (17-21 November). I have been attending SBL since 2008. This year it will take place in San Antonio, Texas – famous for being the site of the Alamo! People are also very friendly in San Antonio – which makes it much more enjoyable. SBL runs alongside the American Academy of Religion (AAR). Together about 10,000 people (mainly from universities and seminaries) gather to hear papers, network, and buy books! I am a member of the Scripture and Hermeneutics Seminar. ('Hermeneutics' is the discipline that deals with issues of interpretation and translation). This year we will be exploring the theme of memory in Scripture.

Baptisms

Congratulations to Harry and Alexandra Wolff, and Lillian Welch who were all baptised in St Michael's Church, Blackrock, on Sunday 22nd October.

Yours in Christ,

William

St. Luke's School Notes:



While the rain has continued to hinder some sporting activities recently, there has been no shortage of enthusiasm for activity at St Luke's.

Fridays became Green days during October, as we showed our support for our wonderful Irish Rugby team by donning our best green gear! Second and Third Class also managed to find a dry gap to visit the community park and take part in a 'Leave no Trace' workshop with Eoin McMahon, as part of the Douglas Tidy Towns Initiative. The pupils did some tree identification and learned about the key principles to keep in mind when camping or hiking. First and second class visited Douglas Library recently to listen to the wonderful story telling of Patrick Ryan to celebrate the Children's Book Festival. He asked many riddles also and armed the pupils with some tricky questions to test everyone at home! All



pupils recently enjoyed the Halloween Disco and our thanks to the Parents' Association for organising this. We welcomed some very special visitors to our assembly recently. Chris and Tony from the Irish Guide Dogs came to speak to us about the work of the Guide Dogs and to introduce us to Jack and Elfie, two of their guide dogs. They also collected a cheque for over €400, the proceeds of Student Council fundraising last term. We were also treated to a wonderful assembly by First Class this month; they clearly used the recent rain as inspiration to create a lovely assembly on the importance of water.



St. Michael's School Notes:

We have had a very busy October in St Michael's! Our Open Evening was on the 4th of October and we were delighted to show off our school to all of our prospective pupils. Our Rowan Room attended St Fin Barre's Cathedral for a Diocesan Schools Service on the 10th of October and afterwards walked to Cork Public Museum in Fitzgerald's Park. On the 13th of October our Rowan Room Choir sang beautifully at St Fin Barre's Cathedral at a talk given by the Archbishop of York. They were accompanied by Ms Campbell on the violin. For Space Week both the Chestnut Room and the Rowan Room visited Blackrock Castle Observatory for a workshop and tour. The Chestnut Room pupils were interviewed and filmed there by the RTE Childrens' News Programme, News2Day. We were incredibly proud of how well they presented themselves. Our Chestnut Room held a very successful Bake Sale to raise funds for their school tour. We want to send our very best wishes to Ms Willis, whose Maternity Leave begins at Mid Term Break. It is a very special time and we are looking forward to hearing about her new arrival. We are delighted to welcome Ms Rachel Pope to our school in November to cover Ms Willis's leave.

Walking Club will meet on Thursday 2nd November at Blackrock Castle (second carpark) weather permitting at 10.30am – 12 noon. All are welcome



Monthly Parish Prayer Group will meet on Zoom on Thursday 2nd November at 7.30pm. Please email douglasprayergroup@icloud.com if you would like the link.
Kieran Hogan

Anam Cara Cork, the organisation that supports bereaved parents, is holding its monthly Parent Evening for bereaved parents on Wednesday 1st November at 7:15pm in the Maryborough Hotel, Douglas, 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



The **Parish Book Club** will take place on Tuesday the 14th November, 11am-12.30 in Passage.

Sunday School continues to be held once a month in St. Luke's, Douglas. The next Sunday School will take place on November 19th. 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.

On Sunday 19th November, at a special Service at 7pm in St. Fin Barr's Cathedral, Bishop Paul Colton will celebrate **Lay Ministry in Cork, Cloyne and Ross**. On this occasion there will be licensing of two New Readers, commissioning five new Lay Local Ministers (pastoral), giving thanks for 20 years of the current Cork Diocesan Youth Council and commissioning the new Council, commissioning our new Diocesan Secretary John de Montfort and saying thank you and farewell to our former Diocesan Secretary, Billy Skuse.



On Thursday, 19th October in St. Michael's Church, Blackrock, the **St Nicholas Brass Band** conducted by Noel Galvin held their Autumn Concert. It was an absolutely marvellous evening with music for all ages from Sousa to Coldplay. We greatly enjoyed the wonderful voices of soloists Gerard Goodwyn singing Love Changes Everything and Megan Collins singing 'I Don't Know How to Love Him' from Jesus Christ Superstar. Guest pipers Noel McCarthy and Christy McCarthy from Youghal Pipe Band performed Highland Cathedral which made my heart soar.

The St. Nicholas Brass Band will again be joining us on December 17th at 7:00pm in St. Michael's for our Carol Service. Can't wait!! *Rev. Jean*

Church Services November 2023



Wed. 1st Nov	11.00	Holy Communion	Douglas
	11.45	Holy Communion	Maryborough NH
Sun. 5th Nov	8.30	Holy Communion	Blackrock
<i>4th Sun before Advent</i>	9.45	Service of the Word	Passage
Green	10.00	Service of the Word	Frankfield
	11.15	Service of the Word	Douglas
	11.30	Service of the Word	Blackrock
Sun. 12th Nov	8.30	Holy Communion	Blackrock
<i>3rd Sun before Advent</i>	9.45	Holy Communion	Passage
Remembrance Day	10.00	Holy Communion	Frankfield
Green	11.15	Holy Communion	Douglas
	11.30	Holy Communion	Blackrock
Sun. 19th Nov	8.30	Holy Communion	Blackrock
<i>2nd Sun before Advent</i>	9.45	Morning Prayer	Passage
Green	10.00	Morning Prayer	Frankfield
	11.15	Morning Prayer	Douglas
	11.30	Morning Prayer	Blackrock
Sun. 26th November	8.30	Holy Communion	Blackrock
<i>Kingship of Christ</i>	9.45	Holy Communion	Passage
White	10.00	Holy Communion	Frankfield
	11.15	Holy Communion	Douglas
	11.30	Holy Communion	Blackrock

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