



Parish Matters

Newsletter of Douglas Union with Frankfield

May, 2025

The Rector writes...

Dear Friends

It certainly feels like summer has arrived early this year. I hope you have been able to find some time to enjoy it!

We are in the season of Easter and week by week we hear another account of a resurrection appearance from our Gospel readings. This week, we have John's account of Jesus cooking breakfast for the disciples on the beach. On that occasion, Jesus took the opportunity to do some important pastoral work with Peter. Three times Jesus asks Peter, 'Do you love me'? And three times Peter says he does: 'yes, Lord, you know that I love you'. The question might be re-phrased like this, 'Peter, are you my friend'? A few days earlier, Peter had denied Jesus three times with increasing insistence that he didn't even know him! But now, on the beach, Peter assures Jesus that he is his friend – he loves him. Once restored, Jesus can commission Peter: 'Feed my lambs'. Like Peter, our response to God's love is made possible by our own decision to be the friend of the Good Shepherd, Jesus. It is this friendship that provides us with the essential faith, hope and love to live well.

I want to take this opportunity to alert you to some important dates coming up.

Confirmation Service

The confirmation service will take place on Sunday 25th May at 11am in St Luke's Church. Please note, this will be a united service.

150th Anniversary of St Luke's

Over the remaining months of 2025, there are several special united services planned. These will all be in St Luke's at 11am.

Sunday 8th June (Pentecost) - Rev David Bowles

Sunday 29th June - Bishop Ferran Glenfield

Sunday 31st August - Bishop Adrian Wilkinson

Sunday 12th October – Bishop Michael Burrows

Sunday 30th November – Bishop Paul Colton

Please put these dates in your diary!

Every blessing

William

St. Michael's School Notes:



St Michael's had a very busy week as the Spring Term came to a close. The 5th and 6th class children of Rowan Room held an Easter Bake Sale which was a huge success. There was an amazing array of baking and the class enjoyed serving the other classes that came to buy. A staggering

€499 was raised that will go towards their school tour in May. Our Chestnut Room visited the Alzheimer's Society of Ireland Bessboro Day Care Centre just before the Easter Break. They presented beautiful Easter Art to the clients of the centre and sang beautifully for them. "Sweet Caroline" was a firm favourite. On the very last day of term, 6th class organised a lovely Egg hunt for the other classes in the school grounds. There was great excitement and everybody enjoyed some Easter chocolate in the sun.

St. Luke's School Notes:



Fourth Class recently enjoyed a trip to the Lifetime Lab, where they learned all about sound and light. Everyone had the opportunity to take part in practical activities and even made an instrument to take home!

Our junior classes were delighted to welcome Puppet Rowan to their classroom, where they enjoyed a fantastic workshop with the Graffiti Theatre Company entitled 'Rowan and the Seasons'. What better way to start the final term of school than with a visit from a pirate? Second to 6th class were enthralled by Mr Anthony Galvin-Healy from Heritage in Schools Initiative, who entertained the senior classes with stories of notorious pirates Grainneuille and Anne Bonny. We were very proud of our School Choir who took part in the Choirs at St. Luke's Concert recently. Organised by Ashton, the concert was part of the Cork International Choral Festival, with a unique performance from a guest choir all the way from Canada, as well as the Ashton school choir, the Adult Education Choir and the Retired Teachers' Choir. Our School choir performed Animal Crackers in My Soup and Musica Dei, under the direction of conductor Ms Saoirse Daly. They also performed Jesus Christ is Risen Today and One Voice by John Rutter, in collaboration with the other choirs.



A **Coffee Morning** will be held on Saturday 24th May 10 am- 12 midday at Marmullane Church Hall. Raffle, books and plants. Entry €5 which includes tea/coffee and scone. In aid of church funds and P.A.C.E.



The **Douglas Union of Parishes Bookclub** will meet again on Tuesday 11th May at 11 am in the Parish Hall beside St. Mary's Church Marmullane in Passage West. Last month we discussed "Charlotte" by Martina Devlin which we all really enjoyed. This was a novel cleverly written through the eyes of Mary Bell who was the cousin of Arthur Bell who was married to Charlotte Bronte and later became his second wife after Charlottes untimely death. We all enjoyed the way the author had incorporated historical fact with creative fiction which made for a wonderful read. Some of our members told of their trips to the Howarth Parsonage where Charlotte lived and were able to walk in the footsteps of the Bronte sisters who are still igniting so many readers minds today. Our next choice of book is "Time of the Child" by renowned Irish author Niall

Williams set in a midland town of Ireland in the sixty's. The Bookclub will break for the Summer after the 11th May and resume again on Tuesday 9th September. We are always looking for new members and if anyone would like to join our little group please contact Sharon Kerr on 086 8327653.

Pastoral visiting and Home Communion

I am always available to visit members of the parish who now find it difficult to attend church services. In accordance with the recent House of Bishops' guidelines on pastoral visiting, it is important that a third party is present – preferably a family member. I would therefore be very grateful if a family member contacts me so a mutually convenient time can be arranged.

Rev William



As exams are approaching fast and there is a lot of pressure mounting, we are hoping to run a Wellbeing, Stress Free day in Bandon Grammar on the 24th May with guest speaker Ger Rice from KYSS <https://www.kinsale.ie/2022/02/12/kinsale-youth-support-services/> on hand that day to speak to everyone and to give tips and ideas on how to cope with exam pressure.

The next **Prayer Group Meeting** will take place in the home of Kieran & Rosie Hogan, Blackrock on Thursday, May 8th at 7:30 pm. New members welcome. If you would like to join, please email douglasprayergroup@icloud.com"

Bandon Grammar School Transition Year Students will bring to the stage the extraordinary story of "Oakhoma" over four consecutive nights. Doors will open at 6.46pm with curtains up at 7.30pm. Tickets are available from Eventbrite from 7th April, 2025.



Anam Cara Cork, the organisation that supports bereaved parents, will hold it's monthly Face to Face Parent Support Evening for bereaved parents on Wednesday 7th May at 7.30pm in the Maryborough Hotel, Maryborough Hill, Douglas, T12 XR12. This event is free and open to all bereaved parents regardless of the age of your

child, the circumstances of their death, or how recent their death was. You do not need to register in advance. We also offer an online support group meeting. To find out more call 01 4045378 or email info@anamcara.ie

Join the Church's Ministry of Healing: Ireland for a four-week online reading



**POEMS
FOR HOPE
AND
HEALING**

A 4-week online
reading group:
on Wednesdays
May 7th-28th,
7.30-8.30pm
facilitated by
Jessica Brown
& Catherine
Smith
You are warmly
invited to join
us!

group, Poems for Hope and Healing, on Wednesday May 7th, 14th, 21st, and 28th, 7:30 - 8:30 PM. Everyone is warmly welcome, whether you haven't read a poem since school, or whether you enjoy poetry and would like to read it in the company of others. Each hour-long session will be an invitation to pause, reflect, and pray, and discover how reading poetry together can be a

spiritual practice that helps us listen to our emotions, see the world in surprising ways, and open the doors of our own creativity. Our chosen poems, by Emily Dickinson, Wendell Berry, Denise Levertov, and many more, explore our relationship with the divine, and the healing power of nature. Book in via www.ministryofhealing.ie or search for us on Eventbrite.

Baptisms:

Fiadh and Jack Hurley Wyse baptised in St. Luke's Church, Douglas on Sunday, 4th May

Luca Daly baptised in Holy Trinity Church, Frankfield on Sunday, 4th May

Cork Ecumenical Bible Week will take place in Cork Methodist Church, Nursery Drive, Ballinlough with Rev. Eugene Griffin, Kinsale Union of Parishes at 7pm on Sunday, 11th May, 2025 and in the Crypt, Church of the Descent of the Holy Spirit, Dennehy's Cross with Dr. Marian Mortell and Dr. Phil Mortell, Cork Scripture Group at 7pm on Thursday, 15th May, 2025. All welcome.

Church Services May, 2025



Sun. 4th May	8.30	Holy Communion	Blackrock
<i>3rd Sunday of Easter</i>	9.45	Service of the Word	Passage
White	10.00	Service of the Word	Frankfield
	11.15	Service of the Word	Douglas
	11.30	Service of the Word	Blackrock
 Wed. 7th May	 11.00	 Holy Communion	 Douglas
	11.45	Holy Communion	Maryborough NH
 Sun. 11th May	 8.30	 Holy Communion	 Blackrock
<i>4th Sun of Easter</i>	9.45	Morning Prayer	Passage
White	10.00	Holy Communion	Frankfield
	11.15	Morning Prayer	Douglas
	11.30	Holy Communion	Blackrock
 Sun. 18th May	 8.30	 Holy Communion	 Blackrock
<i>5th Sun of Easter</i>	9.45	Morning Prayer	Passage
White	10.00	HC Or MP	Frankfield
	11.15	HC or MP	Douglas
	11.30	Morning Prayer	Blackrock
 Sun. 25th May	 8.30	 Holy Communion	 Blackrock
<i>Rogation Sunday</i>	11.15	Confirmation Service	Douglas
White			

Parish Contacts:

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