



Parish Matters

Newsletter of Douglas Union with Frankfield

July & August, 2025

The Rector writes...

Dear Friends

School is out and, hopefully, it will be a kind summer. As we change gears for July and August, I want to mention three events for your diaries – and end with a word of encouragement.

A special event in St Luke's for Heritage Week

To mark heritage week, historian and author, Dr Rachel Finnegan, will be launching her biography of Mary Reeves in St Luke's Church at 6.30pm on Saturday 16th August. The Reeves family were important patrons of St Luke's Church – especially Mary. You can read more about this very interesting family here: <https://douglastidytowns.ie/heritage-trail-tramore-house/>

Visit of Bishop Adrian and Jacqui Wilkinson

As part of our 150th celebrations for St Luke's, at the end of August, we look forward to welcoming Bishop Adrian and Jacqui Wilkinson for a united service on Sunday 31st August. That will get the new term off to a great start.

Alpha

I am delighted to announce that Churches together in Douglas will be running a new Alpha course from the end of September.

What is Alpha?

Alpha is a 10-week course introducing the Christian faith. It is a great way to explore the Christian faith in an informal and friendly context. The evening begins with light refreshments and chat. A video is then shown which introduces the theme of the evening. There is then an opportunity for

discussion in smaller groups. No questions are off limits and no 'expert' knowledge is required.

Who is it for?

Everyone. Whether you are exploring faith for the first time or interested in brushing up on the basics. It is also a great way to grow in faith while making new friends.

When is it starting?

7.30pm on Tuesday 30th September. The evening finishes at 9pm. Further details of venue to follow.

I have been involved with Alpha for many years. I always find it enormously encouraging for my own journey of faith. I also love the way friendships are made. Alpha provides a space where people can talk about the big questions of life – and have fun doing so! If you would like to be a helper on the course, please let me know.

A word of encouragement

Finally, the summer is the time when we recharge the batteries and relax. Our personal circumstance or the state of the world can sometimes make this difficult. I often go to the psalms for perspective, reassurance, and comfort. Here, for instance, are the opening verses of Psalm 121:

1 I lift up my eyes to the mountains—

where does my help come from?

2 My help comes from the Lord,

the Maker of heaven and earth.

This reminds me that the world belongs to God – not to big business or political leaders. It also reminds me that we are not alone or abandoned. We are precious to God. The psalmist says that the maker of heaven and earth is our helper:

7 The Lord will keep you from all harm—

he will watch over your life;

8 the Lord will watch over your coming and going

both now and forevermore.

May these promises shape our perspective on the world and on our worth to God.

Every blessing
William

Baptisms

Sunday 1st June in Douglas

Scott William Lynch (parents: Billy Lynch and Hollie Moffett)

Funerals

Monday 30 June at 11am in St Luke's Church, Douglas.

Sylvia Henry

St Luke's School Notes

Our school tours took us all over Cork county and beyond recently, with classes travelling to such places as Cuskinny, Lismore, Spike Island, Rosscarbery, Leahy's Farm and Ballyhass! All pupils took part in a huge variety of activities and the weather was favourable for the most part!

We are very grateful to our 6th class who once again organised a terrific sports day on Monday June 23rd. Each



class was tasked with choosing County colours of their choice, so from Cork to Sligo and everywhere in between, the school was awash with colours. Following the traditional parade and chants, 6th class ran 7 stations including obstacle courses, target games and races. A fantastic morning was had by all.

Earlier this month, a selection of athletes from senior infants to 6th class took part in the Inter-school Athletics



competition in MTU. We had a wonderful day with great displays of running and jumping and we are proud of the team spirit and excellent sportsmanship on display.

June brought not only the end of a school year, but also a time to say “Slán agus go raibh maith agat” to Mrs Audrey Coulter, who has retired from St Luke’s



School. Mrs Coulter has been in St Luke’s for 36 years and has made an invaluable contribution to all aspects of school life. We celebrated Mrs Coulter’s wonderful teaching career with a special assembly on Wednesday June 25th, with a number of gifts, performances and

surprises! We say a huge thank you and wish Mrs Coulter all the very best in her retirement.

Finally, we wish everyone a happy and safe Summer and we say a sincere thank you to all members of our wider school community who have provided ongoing support, help and encouragement throughout the year.

St. Michael’s School News

It has been a very busy month in St Michael’s filled with school tours and end of year activities as we wound down for the Summer holidays. Rowan Room kicked off our school tours at the end of May with a much anticipated tour to Ballyhass Lakes, Mallow. It didn’t disappoint and the children enjoyed the Water Park, Zip Line and archery. Willow Room also had a very active day at a Let’s Go Camp, while Chestnut Room enjoyed a trip to Spike Island. The Oak Room were thrilled with a trip to the Cookery Cottage and returned with plenty of sweet treats. As an extra treat all classes enjoyed a session with The Animal Roadshow. In our last week we held Sports Day which ran like clockwork thanks to Mrs Sweeney’s



organisation. We mixed all the classes up into teams and we found that all the age groups looked after each

other and encouraged each other. We had fun, naming the teams after chocolate bars: “The Malteaser Mob” and “The Crunchie Crew” etc. On the penultimate day of term, we held our Graduation Service for 6th Class which was both joyful and poignant. The Rowan Room were stunned when all the other classes in the school performed a choreographed flashmob at the end of the service which was organised by Ms Welch.

Prayer Group Meeting

The next prayer group meeting will take place in the home of Kieran & Rosie Hogan, Blackrock on Wednesday, July 9th at 7:30 pm. New members welcome. If you would like to join, please email douglasprayergroup@icloud.com

The Parish Office will close on Friday 27th June for the summer holidays and reopen Friday 5th September at 9am.

Home Communion Visits

For home visits please contact either Rev William Olhausen, Rector, or Rev Anne Skuse, Assistant Priest. You can contact William by email (wolhausen@gmail.com) or by mobile (0871660356), or Anne by email (annemskuse@gmail.com) or by mobile (0860239688).

Rev William

Parish Contacts:

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Parish Website: www.douglas.cork.anglican.org

Church Services – July & August, 2025



Wednesday 2nd July	11.00	Holy Communion	Douglas
	11.45	Holy Communion	Maryborough N.H
Sunday 6th July	8.30	Holy Communion	Blackrock
<i>3rd Sunday after Trinity</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
Sunday 13th July	8.30	Holy Communion	Blackrock
<i>4th Sunday after Trinity</i>	9.45	Morning Prayer	Passage
Green	10.00	Holy Communion	Frankfield
	11.15	Morning Prayer	Douglas
	11.30	Holy Communion	Blackrock
Sunday 20th July	8.30	Holy Communion	Blackrock
<i>5th Sunday after Trinity</i>	9.45	Morning Prayer	Passage
Green	10.00	Morning Prayer	Frankfield
	11.15	Morning Prayer	Douglas
	11.30	Morning Prayer	Blackrock
Sunday 27th July	8.30	Holy Communion	Blackrock
<i>6th Sunday after Trinity</i>	9.45	Holy Communion	Passage West
Green	10.00	Morning Prayer	Frankfield
	11.15	Holy Communion	Douglas
	11.30	Morning Prayer	Blackrock

Sunday 3rd August	8.30	Holy Communion	Blackrock
<i>7th Sunday after Trinity</i>	9.45	Service of the Word	Passage West
Green	10.00	Service of the Word	Frankfield
	11.15	Baptism	Douglas
	11.30	Service of the Word	Blackrock
Wednesday 6th August	11.00	Holy Communion	Douglas
Green	11.45	Holy Communion	Maryborough NH
Sunday 10th August	8.30	Holy Communion	Blackrock
<i>8th Sunday after Trinity</i>	9.45	Morning Prayer	Passage
Green	10.00	Holy Communion	Frankfield
	11.15	Morning Prayer	Douglas
	11.30	Holy Communion	Blackrock
Sunday 17th August	8.30	Holy Communion	Blackrock
<i>9th Sunday after Trinity</i>	9.45	Morning Prayer	Passage
Green	10.00	Morning Prayer	Frankfield
	11.15	Morning Prayer	Douglas
	11.30	Morning Prayer	Blackrock
Sunday 24th August	8.30	Holy Communion	Blackrock
<i>10th Sunday after Trinity</i>	9.45	Holy Communion	Passage
Green	10.00	Morning Prayer	Frankfield
	11.15	Holy Communion	Douglas
	11.30	Morning Prayer	Blackrock
Sunday 31st August	8.30	Holy Communion	Blackrock
<i>11th Sunday after Trinity</i>	11.00	United Service	Douglas