



Parish Matters

Newsletter of Douglas Union with Frankfield

October, 2025

The Rector writes...

Dear friends

As we look back on a busy September, we can be thankful for some more beautiful weather and some uplifting harvest thanksgivings. It was very good to welcome back Archdeacon Robin and Faith Bantry White for the harvest services in Frankfield and Douglas. Last week we joined together with members of St Mary's Roman Catholic Church in Passage for our annual ecumenical harvest service. Fr Dave, Rev Anne and I led the service and alongside some traditional harvest hymns the Passage Folk Group contributed two lovely pieces of music. Following the service we enjoyed some excellent hospitality in the parish hall. On Sunday, Blackrock will celebrate their harvest service at the 11.30 am service. I want to say a big 'thank you' to everyone who worked so hard to decorate the churches, lead great music, and provide excellent hospitality. With an emphasis on thankfulness and the encouragement to be generous, the marking of the agricultural year and the harvest celebrations remain important and distinctive moments in our Christian calendar.

St Luke's 150th celebrations continue with the visit of bishop Michael and Claire Burrows on Sunday 12 October. There will be a united service in St Luke's at 11am. The service will be followed by light refreshments. Please remember, there will be no other services in the parish that morning - except for the 8.30am service of holy communion in Blackrock.

Sausage Service

Hot dogs, tea and coffee will be served after the service in Douglas on Sunday (5th). All welcome!

Alpha

Douglas Churches Together Alpha began on Tuesday 30th September @7.30pm in Ardfallen Methodist Church on the Douglas Road. Week 2 will be on Tuesday 7th October at 7.30pm. All welcome. Please pray for everyone on the course.

Please also be praying for the Alpha Youth course running in the Douglas Community School.

Confirmation 2026

Confirmation classes will begin on Monday 13th October and conclude on Monday 17th November. The confirmation service will take place in St Fin Barre's Cathedral on Sunday 1st February at 3.30pm. It will, of course, be bishop Paul's final confirmation service for our parish.

Dr Tim Jackson book launch

Tim's new book – a collection of his poetry – is being launched at St Michael's Church, Blackrock, on Wednesday 22nd October. There will be a wine and nibbles reception at 6.30pm followed by readings from Tim's book, and then the official launch! The evening will finish by 7.30pm. The cost of the book is 15 euro (please bring cash!!). All profit will be divided between the parish and other local charities. It promises to be a very special event. Please come!!

The Certificate course for Christian Studies (2026/27) will begin in January. If anyone is interested, please see William for further details.

Pastoral visiting and Home Communion

William and Anne are available to visit members of the parish who now find it difficult to attend church services. Please contact William on 0871660356 or email: wolhausen@gmail.com and Anne on 0860239699 or email: annemskuse@gmail.com

Safeguarding.

As we begin a new academic year, it is important that we remind you all of safeguarding. Our parish has a Safeguarding Panel who look after all the Safeguarding requirements according to the Church of Ireland's Safeguarding Policy which can be viewed on:

www.safeguarding.ireland.anglican.org/

Every parish has a Safeguarding Panel, and our panel members are **Ann Caird, Noel Locke and Rev William Olhausen**. All our adult leaders are Garda Vetted and Trained before they can lead or help in any activities for those who are under 18.

Children who attend parish events need to complete a consent form, and parents should make themselves aware of the parish safeguarding policies and procedures which can be found here: www.rosscathedral.ie.

Every three years, a member of the Diocesan Safeguarding Support Team come to visit our panel and audit our procedures and processes. Our audit has just been undertaken at the end of August.

If you have any Safeguarding questions, please feel free to contact any of our panel members.

Every blessing

William

Baptisms

3rd August in St Luke's Church, Jennifer Robyn Kent (parents – Samantha Williams and John Kent).

15th August in St Luke's Church, Tadhg Cantillon (parents – Claire Holland and Michael Cantillon).

Funerals

28th August in Douglas and Frankfield – Ronnie Shellard

17th September in Douglas – Jim Kingston



St Luke's School Notes

We were delighted to welcome our lovely new Junior Infants to St Luke's School as a brand new school year begins! Our new pupils were delighted to meet their 6th class buddies and have enjoyed exploring their new school and finding their way around! We also welcome Ms Emma Fitzgerald back to St Luke's as our new 5th class teacher. 2nd and 3rd classes made the most of the

September Blue skies with a lovely walk in the park last week, while 5th and 6th recently enjoyed a Biodiversity workshop entitled 'Hear Their Call'. The focus of the workshop was on bird calls and all pupils enjoyed an art workshop with artist Ann Lamb.

On Tuesday Sept. 23rd we welcomed Lord Mayor Fergal Dennehy to the school. He listened to our performance of Morning has Broken and then spoke to the pupils about his work as Lord Mayor. He gave gifts of bookmarks to the senior classes and, of course, the wonderful gift of a night off homework!





5th and 6th have also welcomed representatives from several secondary schools in the area; we were particularly delighted to see past pupils Jody, Tali, Heidi and Andrew back as part of the Ashton visit!

As is traditional, 6th class travelled to St Peter's Church in Bandon to take part in a beginning of year service with Bishop Paul Colton. Julianne and Lola read prayers beautifully, while Aimee and Meera proudly carried the school banner through the church. Freddy presented our school contribution to the Liloma Project, while Brendan represented us in a special presentation to Bishop Paul Colton who will retire later this year. Finally Nathan took custody of the school bell and rang it with gusto along with all the other schools at the end of the service!



St. Michael's School News



It has been a very busy start to the new school year in St Michael's. We were delighted to welcome our new Junior Infants who have settled in very well in Oak Room. Each child in Oak Room has been paired with a child from Rowan Room and they will be buddies for the year. So far they have enjoyed a reading session and a lovely Autumn Walk together. The children have elected their Student Council who will serve for the school year. This is a very special privilege as each member is elected by their classmates. They will soon be busy planning fundraisers and taking note of any suggestions that are posted into the suggestion box. On the 29th of September the whole school gathered in church with Reverend William to celebrate St Michael's Day. Later in the week a whole school celebration took place to recognise our achievements in gaining our Amber Flag and our Water Flag for the Green Schools. We also unveiled our mural and new Sensory Garden.

Prayer Group Meeting

The next prayer group meeting will take place in the home of Kieran & Rosie Hogan, Blackrock on Wednesday, November 5th at 7:30 pm. New members welcome. If you would like to join, please email douglasprayergroup@icloud.com



Coffee Time @The South County Bar, Douglas Village, Cork
Wednesday October 8th, between 10am - 12pm. Only €5 for a Tea or Coffee, a Pastry, Plus entry into a draw. Raffle to take place with fantastic prizes to be won, raffle tickets available on the day. Proceeds benefiting Down Syndrome Centre Cork.

St. Luke's School

OPEN NIGHT

Wednesday 8th October
7-8pm
ALL WELCOME

St. Luke's School is a Primary School for Boys & Girls in Douglas.

Enrolment form available on our website, from the school office or scan the QR code here →

Phone: 021 4361388 Email: office@stlukesschool.ie
www.stlukesschool.ie

SCAN ME

Confirmation classes will begin on Monday 13th October and conclude on Monday 17th November. Anyone who would like to be confirmed this year please contact Paula in the parish office for an application form.

Andrew Coleman, Christian Aid Ireland, will be retiring from his role as Church Community Officer. A new person will be recruited for the replacement position of Church & Community for Munster, closing date 19th October. If you would be interested please contact Christian Aid Ireland for more details or Andrew at acolemanbandon@gmail.com

Coffee Morning at St Mary's Church Hall Marmullane on Saturday 11th October 10am-12 midday. Admission €5 to include tea/ coffee and scone. Raffle, plants and books. In aid of Parish Funds and a local charity.

The next **Sunday School** takes place on Sunday, 19th October at 11.15am. Collection at the Canon Packham Hall following the service.



For all those keen soccer fanatics, it is time to polish up those football boots and get your 5-a-side Team together and start your training!! If you can't get a full team together and still want to partake, come along anyway, we will sort you with a team! We will also have Nintendo games and board/card games to keep everyone occupied in between matches!

WHEN: The beginning of Midterm, on Friday evening the 24th Oct.

LOCATION: Bandon Grammar School Sports Hall. **TIME:** 6.30pm -9pm

FOOD: Pizza and snacks, **COST:** €5, **AGE:** Secondary School

Those who wish to go **MUST** let me know asap via email

dyc@corkchurchofireland.com to reserve your place and a booking form will be sent to you. **FORMS AND PAYMENT HAVE TO REACH ME BY 10th Oct 2026 TO SECURE YOUR BOOKING** . Hylda Connolly dyc@corkchurchofireland.com

Church Services – October, 2025



Sunday 5th October	8.30	Holy Communion	Blackrock
<i>16th 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	Harvest	Blackrock
Sunday 12th October	8.30	Holy Communion	Blackrock
<i>17th Sunday after Trinity</i>	11.00	United Service	Douglas
Green			
Sunday 19th October	8.30	Holy Communion	Blackrock
<i>18th 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 26th October	8.30	Holy Communion	Blackrock
<i>5th Sunday before Advent</i>	9.45	Holy Communion	Passage West
Green	10.00	Morning Prayer	Frankfield
	11.15	Holy Communion	Douglas
	11.30	Morning Prayer	Blackrock

Parish Contacts:

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