



Parish Matters

Newsletter of Douglas Union with Frankfield

April, 2026

The Rector writes...

Dear friends

On Easter morning we may well hear these words: 'the angel said to the women, 'Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said.' (Matt. 28: 5-6)

We discover the empty tomb with the women and experience again moving from the sorrow and despair of Good Friday to overwhelming joy. Easter is not just Good News – it's the Best News. Jesus is alive! Death has been defeated. There is hope. We have peace with God. We are loved by God. We are people of the new creation.

May we all experience again the joy of Easter new life

William

Looking back...

Sausage Service



On Sunday 8th March St Luke's held their monthly sausage service. Rev Anne took



some nice photos to mark the moment!

Lent Study

We enjoyed our Wednesday Lent Course, Lectio. Over the 5 weeks we learned about how the church has traditionally prayed the Scriptures. Each week we were facilitated by different members of the group. Each week ended with a time of reflection and prayer on a given bible passage.

Looking ahead...

Easter General Vestries

Holy Trinity, Frankfield will hold their Easter Vestry on Wednesday 15th April in Frankfield Church at 7.30pm, followed by the Douglas Union of Parishes holding theirs on Thursday 16th April at 7.30pm in the Parish Hall in Marmullane.

The **Church of Ireland Commission on Ministry Growth Conference** will take place on Saturday, 25th April in the Radisson Blu Hotel, Golden Lane, Dublin. There will be a group attending from the parish. Please let William know if you would like to go.

Holy Week

Wednesday

11:00	Blackrock	HC
7.30pm	Passage	Late night office

Maundy Thursday

7.30pm	Douglas	HC (with Youghal choir)
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Good Friday

2pm	Frankfield	Liturgy of the Cross
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Easter Sunday

Sunday 5th April

8.30	Blackrock	HC
9:45	Passage	HC
10:00	Frankfield	HC
11:15	Douglas	HC
11:30	Blackrock	HC

Easter General Vestry

After Easter, we will be holding our Easter Vestries (like a parish AGM). Frankfield will hold their Easter Vestry on Wednesday 15th April. It will begin with a service of holy communion at 7.30pm. Douglas Union of Parishes will hold their Easter Vestry on Thursday 16th April in the parish hall at St Mary's Marmullane, Passage West. The church family in Passage will also be serving some nice treats to entice us! These evenings are important for our parish life. We will do some necessary business like approving the accounts and electing a new Select Vestry for the year ahead. We will also continue to think about the future shape and rhythm of our parish.

Recent Baptisms:

Sunday, 1st March in St. Luke's Church, Harriet Sweetnam (parents Philip & Holly Sweetnam)

Sunday, 5th April in St. Luke's Church, Noah Tommy Whelton (parents David Whelton & Siobhan Fitzgerald)

St. Michael's School Notes:

March has been a very busy month in St Michael's National School. We started our Seachtain na Gaeilge activities with a performance from The Cois Laoi theatre company in St. Michael's Church. They presented a bilingual performance "The Three Billy Goats Gruff". The show had a lovely mixture of Irish and English and it was full of popular songs. Seactain na Gaeilge came to close with 'Green Day' where children and staff wore green clothing. We celebrated World Book Day on Thursday 5th March. The variety of costumes from both staff and pupils added a great fun factor to the day. The pupils produced amazing "Book in the Box" creations and prizes were given to the judge's favourites. They had a very hard task as the standard was very high. We also carried out Green School's Action Week during March. We did the "Daily Swaps Challenge", to encourage each pupil, member of staff and family to make a little change at school/home regarding saving water/saving energy. We recorded the amount of changes per day, with a final whole school tally at the end of the week. The school started to replant the young trees they won in the Coill na nÓg Competition, into permanent pots. The pupils from 5th and 6th were learning how to encourage drainage in the pots, using layers of stones and sticks, then



layers of leaves and mixed compost. We have beautiful containers of daffodils around the school, especially in the tyres near the school gate. We were very proud of our 2 teams who played in the Hockey Blitz in Garryduff at the end of February. They looked very professional in their school sports jerseys. A big thank you to Tina Harrington and the fellow volunteers who made the day possible. Our Tennis Team were fabulous too, they played their matches against Carrigaline Gaelscoil and Crab Lane. Just before we finished for the Easter Holidays, we held a Relative Day. Children were encouraged to invite a family member into school. Each class prepared a short performance and family members were invited to visit each classroom. Our Beetle Drive held on Friday 20th March was a huge success and raised much needed funds for our Sustainable Garden Project.

St. Luke's School News:

Bhí seachtain iontach againn i rith Seachtain na Gaeilge ar scoil, lán le gníomhaíochtaí agus spraoi! The week began with a performance on tin whistles by 6th class at school assembly,, followed by a game of Bingo for senior classes. A céilí got the whole school dancing, with a Tráth na gCeist to bring Seachtain na Gaeilge to a close.



Our Student Council came up with an excellent idea to celebrate World Book Day- Snuggle with a book day! In aid of the Irish Guide Dogs, pupils were permitted to wear cosy clothes for the day and enjoy extra reading

time in school. We had a wonderful variety of dressing gowns, oodles, fleecy tops and onesies, as well as lots of comfy tops. Rang 5 and 6

also enjoyed a talk from Daniel Heaphy, a local author and podcaster. Fourth class have been very busy lately, taking part in a Bees workshop with Dr Signe Martin from Irish Bee Conservation Project. Through hands-on activities, the



children used microscopes to examine parts of bees, learn about the various types of solitary and honey bees, what we should plant in our gardens or let grow to feed bees and the great work bees do to spread pollen across plants. The class has also been busy working on an engineering project with Wesley Bateman, making Robot Hands! Rang 1 and Rang 2, in the meantime, have been trying something new, enjoying some excellent Cricket sessions with Munster Cricket. We are also absolutely delighted to have our first School camogie team! Under the guidance of Ms Fitzgerald, the team travelled to Carrigtwohill to take part in a Sciath na Scol competition . They played extremely well, with a draw in one match and a win in the other! As another term rolls to a close, we wish everyone a Happy Easter!



The **Douglas Union of Parishes' Book Club** will meet again on Tuesday 14th April, at 11 am in St. Mary's Church Hall, Marmullane, Passage west. Last month we read " The Correspondent" by Virginia Evans which was set in letter form and a lively and fun discussion followed of the many letters many of us had written through our lives. We all thoroughly enjoyed this book and it's many interesting and diverse characters. Our choice of book for next month is " The finest Hotel in Kabul" by Lyce Doucet.

If anyone would like to join our Bookclub please contact Sharon Kerr on 086 8327653.

Monthly Parish Prayer Group Please note there will be no prayer meeting in April. It will resume on Wednesday May 6th at 19.30pm and on the first Wednesday of every month thereafter in the home of Kieran Hogan. Please email douglasprayergroup@icloud.com if you would like to attend. (Kieran Hogan)

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.

Parish Contacts:

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

Church Services April, 2026



Wed. 1st April	11.00	Holy Communion	Blackrock
	11.45	Holy Communion	Maryborough NH
	7.30pm	Service of the Word	Passage
Thurs. 2nd April	7.30pm	Holy Communion	Douglas
Fri. 3rd April	2pm	Liturgy of the Cross	Frankfield
Sun. 5th April	8.30	Holy Communion	Blackrock
<i>Easter Day</i>	9.45	Holy Communion	Passage
Violet	10.00	Holy Communion	Frankfield
	11.15	Holy Communion	Douglas
	11.30	Holy Communion	Blackrock
Sun. 12th April	8.30	Holy Communion	Blackrock
<i>2nd 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. 19th April	8.30	Holy Communion	Blackrock
<i>3rd Sun of Easter</i>	9.45	Morning Prayer	Passage
White	10.00	Morning Prayer	Frankfield
	11.15	Morning Prayer	Douglas
	11.30	Morning Prayer	Blackrock
Sun. 26th April	8.30	Holy Communion	Blackrock
<i>4th 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