



Parish Matters

Newsletter of Douglas Union with Frankfield

June, 2026

The Rector writes...

Dear friends

I want to tell you about some changes to our service schedule. Firstly, there will be a new pattern of services for the summer months of July and August. For July and August there will be a service of Holy Communion at 8.30am in Blackrock every Sunday. There will also be a united service every Sunday, which will rotate across our 4 churches in this order: Douglas, Frankfield, Blackrock, Passage. Here is what that looks like:

Church Services – July – August 2026

HC = Holy Communion MP = Morning Prayer SOW = Service of the Word US = United Service

Sun. 5 July

8:30	Blackrock	HC
10.00	Douglas	US

Sun. 12

8:30	Blackrock	HC
10.00	Frankfield	US

Sun. 19

8:30	Blackrock	HC
10.00	Blackrock	US

Sun. 26

8:30	Blackrock	HC
10.00	Passage	US

Sun. 2 August

8:30	Blackrock	HC
10.00	Douglas	US

Wed. 5

11:00	Douglas	HC
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Sun. 9

8:30	Blackrock	HC
10.00	Frankfield	US

Sun. 16

8:30	Blackrock	HC
10.00	Blackrock	US

Sun. 23

8:30	Blackrock	HC
10.00	Passage	US

Sun. 30

8:30	Blackrock	HC
10:00	Douglas	US

From September, there will be a change in the current schedule of services for our 4 churches. On the first Sunday of September, Sunday 6th, and the first Sunday of every month following, there will be a united service in Douglas at 10am. This will be a new type of service intended to be for the whole church family inspired by the phrase used in Acts2: 1: 'They were all together in one place'! We aim to make this service as welcoming and accessible as possible. It will run for no longer than 40 minutes (ideally nearer to 30 minutes) and it will be followed by light refreshments in the church. My hope is that every congregation will participate in the running of this 'all together' service - from welcome and hospitality to music and creative presentation of the theme of the day.

Weeks 2, 3, and 4 of each month will follow the established pattern of services except that there will be no 8.30am service of holy communion. The 8.30am service of Holy Communion will take place on those Sundays when there is a united service (the first and fifth Sundays of the month).

I am very conscious that this represents a significant change and we will, of course, review the year when we get to next summer. I have been encouraged by the support of the Select Vestry and the Easter General Vestry. Good communication will be essential as we implement this new rhythm to our year. I plan to talk about the rationale and vision for these changes in services over the weeks ahead.

Please continue to pray for our life and witness.

Every blessing,

William

Baptisms

May in St. Luke's Church, Noah Tommy Whelton, son of David Whelton and Siobhan Fitzgerald

June in St. Luke's Church, Elliot Sam Vickery, son of Ross and Amanda Vickery

St. Michael's School Notes:

May has been a very busy and active month in St Michaels. At the beginning of the month, Chestnut Room and the Rowan Room went orienteering with Cork Sports Partnership. Led by Sean Cotter of Ballincollig Orienteering, their routes started at the grotto in Blackrock Village. The Chestnut Room went first, running a route of 1.8km, whilst the Rowan Room followed a much longer route of 3km.



It was great to see everyone working in groups and reading maps to find the markers and use the punchers at each stop. This month Chestnut and Rowan Room started "Tri Heroes," a programme from Triathlon Ireland. During the sessions the pupils will cycle and run, learning how to transition safely between the two. The children are really enjoying these sessions and learning pace and control. On trips away from school, Willow Room took part in a hockey blitz in Garryduff and really enjoyed the experience. The ISSA Soccer tournament took place in Ashton last weekend. Our teams were organised and supported by parent Flicky Lawlor. We're very grateful to her for giving up her time. It's school tour season. During the month, Willow Room travelled to Fota, Chestnut Room travelled to Zip It, while Rowan Room enjoyed a trip to Smugglers Cove and The Lagoon at Rosscarbery. Oak Room will go on their tour during June.

St. Luke's School News:



Congratulations to our wonderful Green Schools committee who were recently awarded the Green Flag for Biodiversity. The committee has done extensive work in the school grounds throughout the year, raising awareness about biodiversity, creating bee



corridors, flower beds and much more! Bean Uí Mhathúna, Julie Black and Ben Cronin represented the school at a ceremony at Fota to receive the flag on behalf of St Lukes. We look forward to raising it soon!



The Summer term is always busy with sporting activities, and the month of May has been no exception. On a beautiful sunny Saturday, three St Luke's teams took part in the Interschools soccer blitz. All three teams fought hard and played brilliantly; congratulations to the Junior boys and Senior girls who lifted the trophies.



3rd Class recently went to MTU to take part in an athletics blitz. This was part of a Cork Sports Partnership Initiative, providing excellent coaching to 3rd class over a number of weeks. The blitz was a great way to show off all those new skills and have a great day out!

Our thanks to 6th class who recently ran a cake sale, providing a beautiful range of cakes, cookies and other treats for the whole school! As the term continues to roll on at a fast pace, we are looking forward to all the usual end of year activities- tours, sports days, competitions, projects, awards and lots more to come!

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.

Monthly Parish Prayer Group takes place on Wednesday June 3rd at 19.30pm and will continue 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



The Parish Bookclub will meet again on Tuesday 9th June at 11 am in St Mary's Hall, Marmullane , Passage west before we break for the Summer. Last month we discussed two books " The Actress" by Anne Enright and "The Longbourn

letters" by Rose Servitova - both by Irish authors and both brought interesting observations to the discussion. We look forward to chatting about our latest choice " Four Seasons in Japan" by Nick Bradley on Tuesday.

We will resume after the Summer on the 8th September and if anyone would like to join our little Bookclub they would be very welcome - and if interested please contact Sharon Kerr on 086 8327653.

If Parishioners would like to include any of our reads to their reading lists here are a list of books we have been reading since September 2025:

Rembrandts Promise by Barbara Leahy

The Stone Diaries by Carol Shields

56 Days by Catherine Ryan Howard

Fault lines by Emily Itami

The Correspondent by Virginia Evans

The finest Hotel in Kabul by Lyse Doucet

The Actress by Anne Enright

The Longbourn letters by Rose Servitova

Four Seasons in Japan by Nick Bradley

Anam Cara Cork, the organisation that supports bereaved parents, will hold its monthly Face to Face Parent Support Evening for bereaved parents on Wednesday 3rd June 2026 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 their child, the circumstances of their death, or how recent their death was. There is no need for registration, this is 'come-as-you-are' event. We also offer online support group meetings. To find out more call 01 4045378 or email info@anamcara.ie

Musical Miscellany An evening of music from contemporary to classical with the Haven Quartet will take place in St. Michael's Church, Blackrock on Monday, June 1st at 6.30pm. Tickets €20 are available from Eventbrite, on the door or by email. leoniecurtin@gmail.com.



Save the date Join **Mother's Union Women's Getaway Weekend** in Garryvoe Hotel and Leisure Centre, Castlemartyr between Friday, 13th to Sunday, 15th November, 2026.

Mother's Union will be celebrating 140 years in Ireland 2027. Annabella Hayes Day 140th Service of Thanksgiving will take place in All Saints Raheny, Dublin on Sunday, 7th February at 11am. There will be a celebratory lunch after the service at Clontarf Castle Hotel at 1pm.



The **6th Class Day outing** to Oysterhaven Outdoor Activity Centre, near Kinsale, is happening on Saturday, 6th June. Cost €35pp. Age: Current 6th Class Students. Time: 9.30am-4pm. (Bus dependant on numbers) Places are limited.

Those who wish to go must let Hilda Connolly know asap via email dyo@corkchurchofireland.com to reserve your place and a booking form will be sent to you. Forms and payment have to reach her by Friday, 29th May to secure your booking.



The Church's Ministry of Healing: Ireland welcomes everyone to sign up for its new series, God's Compassion; Self-Compassion, created and facilitated by Lydia Monds. This series offers four live sessions on Wednesdays from 17th June-8th July, 7.30-8.15pm, and four pre-recorded videos,

available to watch at any time. When we criticise ourselves harshly for "not being good enough," we deny ourselves the lovingkindness that God offers, and which never falters or fails. Join Lydia as she gently guides us through prayerful practices that can help us to follow the call to live like Christ, who spoke to those he met from a place of radical compassion. Book via www.ministryofhealing.ie or email lydia@ministryofhealing.ie

Church Services June, 2026



Wed. 3rd June	11.00	Holy Communion	Douglas
	11.45	Holy Communion	Maryborough NH
Sun. 7th June	8.30	Holy Communion	Blackrock
<i>1st Sun after Trinity</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
Sun. 14th June	8.30	Holy Communion	Blackrock
<i>2nd Sun after Trinity</i>	9.45	Morning Prayer	Passage
(Visit of Christian Aid)	10.00	Holy Communion	Frankfield
(Visit of Christian Aid)	11.15	Morning Prayer	Douglas
White	11.30	Holy Communion	Blackrock
Sun. 21st June	8.30	Holy Communion	Blackrock
<i>3rd Sun after Trinity</i>	9.45	Morning Prayer	Passage
Green	10.00	Morning Prayer	Frankfield
	11.15	Morning Prayer	Douglas
	11.30	Morning Prayer	Blackrock
Sun. 28th June	8.30	Holy Communion	Blackrock
<i>4th Sun after Trinity</i>	9.45	Holy Communion	Passage
Green	10.00	Morning Prayer	Frankfield
	11.15	Holy Communion	Douglas
	11.30	Morning Prayer	Blackrock

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