



Parish Matters

Newsletter of Douglas Union with Frankfield

October, 2026

The Rector writes...

Dear friends

As we look back on a busy September, we can once again be thankful for some more fine weather and some very uplifting harvest thanksgivings. We welcomed St Michael's National School to the Blackrock Harvest service. The children led three songs – two of which were new harvest hymns. There was a large contribution of food for Penny Dinners, thanks to the families of the school.

The Passage West Folk group joined us again for the ecumenical harvest service in Marmullane. It was also good to be able to welcome Fr Dave O'Connell. Following the service, we enjoyed some excellent hospitality in the parish hall.

I want to say a big 'thank you' to everyone who worked so hard to decorate all the churches, lead great music, and provided excellent hospitality. And Douglas still have their harvest celebration to come...

United Family Harvest service

Our second monthly united family service takes place this weekend, Sunday 4th October at 10am. Everyone is invited to bring food stuffs for Penny Dinners and we will be joined by the St Luke's National School choir with special guest appearance – the Rev Anne Skuse. It will be wonderful to welcome Anne back!

Alpha

Douglas Churches Together Alpha began on Tuesday 29th September @7.30pm in Ardfallen Methodist Church on the Douglas Road. Week 2 will be on Tuesday 6th 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.

Installation of our new Bishop in St Fin Barre's Cathedral

Following his consecration in Christ Church Cathedral, Dublin on Wednesday 30th September, Bishop Andrew Orr will be installed as our new bishop in St Fin Barre's Cathedral on Sunday 4th October at 3.30pm. No tickets will be required, and everyone who would like to attend will be very welcome.

Diocesan Synod

Diocesan Synod 2026 will take place once again in Bandon Grammar School on Saturday 10th October from 10am until 4pm. Please pray for the Synod and for Bishop Andrew as we start a new season in the life of Cork, Cloyne and Ross!

Confirmation 2027

Preparation for the class of 2027 has already begun. We have 19 candidates. Please pray for all of them as they continue in their journey of Christian faith.

Baptisms

27th September in St Luke's Church, Olivia Helen Sweetnam (parents – Richard and Katie Sweetnam).

Pastoral visiting and Home Communion

Please contact William on 0871660356 or email: wolhausen@gmail.com if you or a family member would like a home visit.

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

Every blessing,
William

Monthly Parish Prayer Group takes place on Wednesday October 7th at 19.30pm and will continue on the first Wednesday of every month thereafter in the home of Kieran & Rosie Hogan. Please email douglasprayergroup@icloud.com if you would like to attend. *Kieran Hogan*



The Parish Bookclub will meet again on Tuesday, 13th October at 11am in the hall beside St. Mary's Church, Marmullane, Passage West. Everybody enjoyed the Summer book choice "Monsignor Quixote" by Graham Greene – a wonderful author with signature dry wit and the eccentric travellers which bring so much entertainment to the reader. Our book choice for October was "Buyer Beware" by well known Cork author Catherine Ryan Howard which we have read in the past and enjoyed the page turning thrillers. We look forward to hearing our members views and thoughts on this one. If anyone would like to join the Parish Bookclub please contact Sharon Kerr on 086 8327653 as we would be delighted to welcome new members.



Anam Cara's next Bereavement Information Evening will centre around the fundamentals of parental grief and 'what helps.' This event is open to all parents whose child or children have died, regardless of the age of their child, circumstances of their death, or time since bereavement. This event will take place online on Thursday 15 October at 7pm. Bereaved parents are very welcome to register here: <https://bit.ly/OctBIE>



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.

St Michael's School Notes It has been a very busy and active September for the children of St Michael's. The children of our Oak and Willow Rooms started a six week course with Rinka. This introduces them to fundamental movement skills and different physical challenges. It also focuses on wellbeing. As well as this, the whole school has started Tennis with Ted at St Michael's Tennis Club on Fridays and swimming has also begun. All of this activity is brilliant as we have signed up for our first Active Flag which will be led by Mrs Harper. At the moment we are taking part in our first challenge, Run Around the EU. Each class will pick a country from the European Union and will run laps each day. Each lap equals 1km on our journey. At the moment classes are running virtually to Slovakia, Portugal and Spain. This month our school was awarded a Bronze Badger Award from Nature Heroes for our pupils' work in protecting biodiversity on the school grounds. We are really proud of everybody's efforts and grateful to Ms Sweeney for all the work she put in. We were delighted to welcome Johanna, our German intern to our school at the beginning of September. We also welcomed Elle who is on placement from Early Childhood Studies in UCC and she will be with us until December. Sandy and Amanda, two teachers from Malta also joined us for a week as part of an Erasmus experience. Some of our children and staff were delighted to take part in the parish Harvest Service in St Michael's church. We are also very grateful to all those who contributed so generously to our Harvest Food Collection. All donated items will be going to Cork Penny Dinners. We really appreciate the support shown by our school community. Our Open Evening took place on Thursday, 1st of October for next year's incoming Junior Infants. Applications for our mainstream and special classes are now open.



Church Services October, 2026



Sun. 4th October	8.30	Holy Communion	Blackrock
<i>18th Sun after Trinity</i>	10.00	United Service	Douglas
Green			

Sun. 11th October			
<i>19th Sun after Trinity</i>	9.45	Morning Prayer	Passage
Red	10.00	Holy Communion	Frankfield
	11.15	Morning Prayer	Douglas
	11.30	Holy Communion	Blackrock

Sun. 18th October			
<i>20th Sun after Trinity</i>	9.45	Morning Prayer	Passage
Red	10.00	Morning Prayer	Frankfield
	11.15	Morning Prayer	Douglas
	11.30	Morning Prayer	Blackrock

Sun. 25th October			
<i>5th Sun before Advent</i>	9.45	Holy Communion	Passage
Green	10.00	Morning Prayer	Frankfield
	11.15	Holy Communion	Douglas
	11.30	Morning Prayer	Blackrock

Parish Contacts:

Rev. Dr. William Olhausen	Tel: 087/1660356	E-mail: wolhausen@googlemail.com
Parish Office	Tel: 4369578.	E-mail: douglasofficecork@gmail.com (Friday mornings only)
Parish Website: www.douglas.cork.anglican.org		

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