



Parish Matters

Newsletter of Douglas Union with Frankfield

February 2022

The Rector writes.....

The sudden lifting of many of the public health restrictions towards the end of last month took many of us by surprise. However, it is a very welcome development with the public mood, and the atmosphere in our churches, lifting considerably as a result. It has been a long two years of struggle and disruption.

In terms of our worship, it means that we are back to full capacity for our churches. The ropes separating off pews are gone, and we no longer must take a list of names of those in church for contact tracing purposes. Congregational singing, so missed by us all, is now permitted. However, in line with retail outlets, galleries, cinemas and other such indoor settings, face coverings must be worn by all when in church. Hand sanitisers are to be used by all entering our churches and halls. Wafers will continue to be used for Holy Communion for the time being. We are awaiting advice from the House of Bishops in relation to the reintroduction of the common cup, so for the time being, communion will continue in one kind only for the congregation, except for the presiding priest.

It is possible for our parish halls to be used again for meetings and other activities. However, I suggest that where this happens, stringent public health practices continue to be applied and that windows are left open where possible for adequate ventilation. Unfortunately, we cannot reopen the Canon Packham Hall just yet. In recent weeks we have discovered a major leak underground in the water supply to the property and found we were losing 28,000 litres of water a day! As a result, we have had to turn off the water. If left running it would have cost us €80,000 in water charges this year! Several attempts have been made to detect the leak but to no avail. Further efforts will be made during the school half term holiday when the site is quiet. I thank both Uwe Schiller and John French of the Hall Committee who have put in many hours trying to sort this problem out. Once the leak has been found and the necessary repair work carried out, we will be able to reopen the Canon Packham Hall. We apologise for this inconvenience and appeal for your patience. We look forward to welcoming parish and other groups back to the Hall as soon as possible

Yours in Christ, *Adrian.*



Confirmation At present we have 38 young people and 2 adults in this parish who have indicated their desire to be confirmed. Given this number, they have been split into different groups for the purposes of confirmation preparation. A group met on Zoom several times in the autumn and had one in-person class with their parents in the church in January. The second group is

beginning their confirmation preparation this month. Clearly a group of 40 is too many to be confirmed at one service and so we will have two confirmation services this year; the first on 13th March and the second on 15th May. We look forward to what will be joyful expressions of faith and commitment on the part of all these people.

Monthly Prayer Meeting Why not join us for a monthly prayer meeting? These are held on the first Thursday of every month at 7:30pm, currently via Zoom but hopefully in person again soon. We use the Late Evening Office as our guide, but don't worry, all the prayers and readings are displayed on screen or on a provided sheet. Each meeting lasts for just 30 minutes. We ask for personal prayers or intercessions but there is no pressure on anyone to share unless they wish to do so. What really matters is that each of us is helped to meet the Lord in our own way. If you've never attended before, why not give it a try? Email me (Kieran Hogan) at douglasprayergroup@icloud.com



From the Registers

Baptism

2 January in St Luke's Church, Douglas – Abigail Rose Sweetnam, daughter of Grant and Margo Sweetnam.

Marriages

16 December in St Luke's Church, Douglas – Stephen Sweetnam and Stefanie Young.

Funerals

16 December at The Island Crematorium, Ringaskiddy – Daryl Kitteringham. Interment of ashes in St Luke's Churchyard, Douglas on 28 December.

28 January in St Luke's Churchyard, Douglas – Elaine Stevens.

Advance Notice of Vestry Meetings-

Tuesday 1st March – Douglas Union Select Vestry meet at 8pm.

Thursday 3rd March – Frankfield Vestry meet at 8pm.

Toureen Terrace in 1901. *Adrian Wilkinson*

Any Sunday when I am taking a service in St Mary's Church Marmullane, I drive past the house at the end of Toureen Terrace in Passage West where my clerical predecessors once lived. For many years I have admired the houses in that terrace as they face out over the water. Recently I decided to do a little historical research, not



only on my clerical predecessor, but also on all his immediate neighbours who lived there using the 1901 Census. It was fascinating and yielded some interesting results.

There are 17 houses in the terrace and on the day of the census, numbers 6,7 and 8 as well as 10 and 11 were unoccupied. As all the other houses were well maintained and regarded as first-class residential properties in the census, it is safe to assume that their owners were temporarily absent, and the houses were not neglected or derelict.

Of the houses that were recorded, in all but two, the head of the household was a member of the Church of Ireland. Two women, Anna Whitney and her cousin Catherine Beamish lived in number 1. They were aged 50 and 40 respectively. In the occupation column they listed 'Lady' but later crossed it out! Both were unmarried and had a 25-year-old servant called Lizzie Coleman to look after them.

A bank clerk lived in number 2. He was Richard Gill and was 47. His wife Marie was twenty years younger, and they had two daughters Dorothy 4 and Ada 1 as well as Helena Pierce an 18-year-old 'servant'.

Number 3 was occupied by Emily Simms. She was a Roman Catholic and a widow aged 54, but the five unmarried daughters who lived with her (Rosalene 31, Alice 29, Janie 28, Kathleen 24 and Ileen 22) were all Church of Ireland. It is therefore safe to assume that Emily's husband was Church of Ireland.

Her neighbour in number 4 was Rev Canon Francis Casey. At 71, he was a retired parish priest. I'm sure current Catholic clergy can only look on this with amusement as retirement at such an age is rare for them in the Ireland of today. Canon Casey had two live in 'servants' to look after him, Bridget Collins 37 the 'housekeeper' and Catherine Holland 23 a 'housemaid'. Both were Roman Catholics.

Next door, a professor of music with the distinguished name of Wilberforce Franklin aged 37 lived with his wife Harriett 30. On the night of the census, a visitor called Gertrude Tirley 26 was staying with them. All these were born in England but were

members of the Church of Ireland. Their 24-year-old servant was Julia Sheehan. Elsewhere in 1917 he is listed as a teacher of 'voice production' at the Cork School of Music.

Two unmarried sisters, Elizabeth and Christina Hall, both in their 40s, lived in number 9 with Margaret Hegarty, their cook and domestic servant.

A sub manager of the National Bank lived in number 12. William Williams 45 and his wife Sarah 40 shared the house with their unmarried sister-in-law Charlotte Danckert. Their 'maid' was Mary Calanan aged 28.

Next door another two unmarried sisters lived together. They were Lizzie and Harriet Douglas. They too were in their 40s and did not give an occupation. Mary Downey 23 was their 'general domestic servant.'

Number 14 was occupied by Elizabeth Sandiford. Aged 55, she was unmarried but obviously someone of independent financial means. Under occupation she lists 'landowner and interest of money'. She had one servant with her called Albina Lucy.

Her neighbour Elizabeth Ware, a widow at 68 lived on her 'rents and dividends' and could afford two servants, a cook Mary O'Connell aged 28 and Minnie O'Connor aged 26 who was a 'parlour maid.'

Next door in number 16 two other widows resided. They were mother and daughter Eliza S Walker aged 79 and her daughter Eliza A C Smyth aged 45. Obviously earlier in life they had lived overseas. Eliza Smyth listed Canada as her place of birth. Their 26-year-old servant Bridget Coleman lived in the house too.

Finally, there is a Canadian link to the parochial house (number 17) at the end of the terrace. The rector Alexander Knox 50 was born in Dublin, but his wife Mary Emily Knox 47 was born in Nova Scotia. Their son Alexander Edmund is aged 11 and is the only child given as living in the terrace. Mary O'Neill lives in the house too as a 'domestic and general servant'. She is 36 and is a Roman Catholic.

Having looked through each return in the 1901 Census for Toureen Terrace in Passage West, several things are worth noting. Of the 44 people listed as living in the terrace on the day of the census, 30 are members of the Church of Ireland. Only Canon Casey a retired priest, and Emily Simms a widow, are Roman Catholic heads of the household and all Emily's children are Church of Ireland. Each house had at least one domestic servant and all of these were Roman Catholic. Clearly this part of Passage West was divided along religious and socio-economic lines. Given the size and quality of the houses in this part of Passage West, it was assumed that live in help was essential. It is worth noting that the vast majority of residents, 38 of the 44, are women. The men list middle class occupations; two were clergy, two were bank officials and one was a music professor. First time buyers or those with young

families clearly cannot afford to live in Toureen Terrace. The only child listed is a son of the Rectory which is not owner occupied. Reading these records, the plight of the relatively large number of unmarried women of mature age is with worth reflecting on. Independent careers and earning your own income was probably not an option for many middle class women at the time.

Finally it is worth reflecting on the fact that the Revd Alexander Knox could have put in a very useful afternoon visiting his parishioners in Toureen Terrace. Every house listed in 1901 had Church of Ireland residents, except number 4, and I would like to think that he had a very warm ecumenical relationship with that resident too!

Holy Trinity Church, Frankfield. *Roger Flack*

The renovation work continues on Holy Trinity. The bell tower should be completed by the end of January. The porch roof repair and stone wall repointing on the south west corner is complete. By the end of January the scaffolding around the entrance door should be taken away.

The coping stones on the top of the east wall beside the roof have been removed and the broken stones at the top of the wall are being replaced. The coping stones will then be replaced, and the joints and flashing made good. Then the chimney on the top of the east wall will be taken down to roof level and rebuilt. All this work is weather dependent and with luck the builder may be finished by early March.

A big thank you to all the parish members who have generously donated just over €19,000 to date. Cork City Council Heritage Dept increased their grant to €15,000 which is wonderful as it acknowledges the history, architecture and lovely ancient and modern stained-glass windows of our church. The RCB have offered 8,300 of a grant when the work is complete. The balance of the costs will be met by our rainy day fund.

Outdoor Seat in St Mary's

Last year Passage West parishioner Jill Hingston celebrated her 90th birthday. To mark the occasion the parishioners there clubbed together to buy a seat to be placed in the churchyard. Recently Mervyn Hosford put it on a permanent concrete base against the south side wall of the church where it will get the benefit of the sunshine. Hopefully it will be used regularly by parishioners and others visiting the churchyard. We are glad to see that Jill was the first person to use the seat after church on a Sunday morning recently.



Services for February 2022



Sunday 6th February	8.30	Holy Communion	Blackrock
4th Sun. before Lent	9.45	Morning Prayer	Passage
	10.00	Holy Communion	Frankfield
	11.15	Morning Prayer	Douglas
	11.30	Holy Communion	Blackrock
Wednesday 9 th February	11.00	Holy Communion	Douglas
Sunday 13 th February	8.30	Holy Communion	Blackrock
3rd Sun. before Lent	9.45	Holy Communion	Passage
	10.00	Morning Prayer	Frankfield
	11.15	Holy Communion	Douglas
Wednesday 16th February	11.00	Holy Communion	Douglas
Sunday 20 th February	8.30	Holy Communion	Blackrock
2nd Sun. before Lent	9.45	Morning Prayer	Passage
	10.00	Holy Communion	Frankfield
	11.15	Morning Prayer	Douglas
	11.30	Holy Communion	Blackrock
Wednesday 23 rd February	11.00	Holy Communion	Douglas
Sunday 27th February	8.30	Holy Communion	Blackrock
Sun. before Lent	9.45	Holy Communion	Passage
	10.00	Morning Prayer	Frankfield
	11.15	Holy Communion	Douglas

Parish Contacts:

Ven. Adrian Wilkinson, Tel: 4891539. E-mail: adrianwilkinson3@gmail.com (Day off Monday)

Rev. Hazel Minion, Tel: 4361924. E-mail: hminion22@hotmail.com (Only contact if above unavailable)

Parish Office Tel: 4369578. E-mail: douglasofficecork@gmail.com

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

Follow us on Twitter: @DouglasUnion