



# Parish Matters

Newsletter of Douglas Union with Frankfield

May 2022

## The Rector writes.....

In this season of Easter, we celebrate the joy of the empty tomb and the promise of eternal life. We thank Canon Eithne Lynch for being with us for our services in St Luke's Church on Maundy Thursday and Good Friday. It was good to have her back among us. We also thank those who decorated the churches so beautifully for our Easter services and to the school pupils in both St Luke's and St Michael's who provided wonderfully colourful 'crosses of joy' to be displayed at the front of the churches in Eastertide.



This month the Church of Ireland General Synod meets in person for the first time since 2019. It is being held between 4<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> May in Belfast. For those like me who are elected members of the Synod, this involves considerable time, some inconvenience and not a little personal expense. However, it is fully worth it. Having had two online synods, I can state that there is simply no substitute to meeting in a physical place, with other people to discuss, debate, pray and vote. While we got some essential business done at the online synods, it was very much a holding exercise.

I think the same can be said for attendance at church. In my Easter Vestry speeches this year, I noted that,

*'We are an Easter people. While we acknowledge Good Friday, we don't stay in the darkness and isolation of the tomb. We are a people of faith, hope and joy. We believe that light triumphs over darkness, that joy overcomes fear, and that life conquers death...Yes, Jesus' resurrected body bore the scars of Good Friday and we as individuals, as church communities and as wider society, bear the scars of Covid, but we are being transformed and there is a brighter future.'*

*Numbers attending worship are gradually increasing. We are not by any stretch back to what we were 3 or 4 years ago, but we are on the way back. It is good to see so many faithful regulars in church on Sunday mornings or at our weekday communion. I hope that those who have got out of the habit of church attendance, or still feel a little anxious, will come back over the summer period and fully integrate themselves*

*again into parish activities when they reopen in the autumn. There really is no substitute for being together in a place where people have worshipped together for generations. While online services served their purpose when we had no other choice, physical presence and participation is the priority now. In John's Gospel we read 'the word became flesh' not that the flesh became word. To put it another way, God didn't communicate with humanity from a distance, sending messages, but came to live among us in the person of Jesus Christ. He taught, healed, shared meals, blessed, laughed and cried with others. Jesus sat alongside others. That is the model for parish ministry and activity. We are an incarnational people. We are a people who gather in person to experience the presence of the risen Christ in all that we do and are.'*

For your information, the full text of my speech is being distributed to all those on our email list, as well as a summary of our accounts. Hard copies of our full accounts are available at the back of our churches. Elsewhere in this edition of our Parish Matters newsletter, you will find the names of those elected to serve on our Select Vestries for the next year. We thank them for their interest and commitment.

On 15<sup>th</sup> May we are holding the second confirmation service in the parish this year. This time sixteen of our younger parishioners will be confirmed. And so, we pray for Emma Baker, Lucy Baker, Emma Barry, Zac Clibborn, Lara Coffey, Tom Cromie, Max Dorgan, Lexi Dunne, Nellie Ehizode, Cian Fitzpatrick, Charles Iebugwu, Cory Kinnear Leasley, Alison Gash O'Flynn, Aoife Pittaway, Robert Smith and Zack Carey Younan. We hope and pray that it will be a meaningful step of faith for each of them.

In this season of Easter, I wish you God's continued blessing.

Yours in Christ,

*Adrian.*



**Wedding Celebrations** We extend our congratulations to Amy Schiller and Mike Fox who were married in St Luke's Church on Saturday 9 April. The Bishop, who is the bride's uncle, officiated at the service and was assisted by the Rector. After postponements due to the covid restrictions, it was wonderful to have a church full again of family members and many friends to celebrate with Amy and Mike. We wish them every joy and blessing in their future together.

## St Michael's School Notes

We have had a very busy few weeks in St Michael's, and we can't believe how quickly Term 2 is passing by. For St Patrick's Day our pupils had a Green Day on the 16th of March, and each class took part in a sponsored walk on our local Greenway. We want to thank all of our parents for the very generous amount raised for this event, and also to thank our PA for organising it.

Our 5th and 6th Class are preparing for two performances at the Cork International Choral Festival. This will take place over the May Bank Holiday Weekend. The whole school has enjoyed the sound of beautiful singing while they are practising. We want to thank Ms Campbell, their teacher and Mr Carroll from St Finbarre's Cathedral Choir for helping the class to prepare so well.

Our Teacher Artist Partnership (TAP) project is nearly finished. We just have one more visit from Julie Forrester. 1st and 2nd Class have created beautiful stop motion videos with their artwork.



On Wednesday, the Rowan Room travelled to City Hall to compete in the National Competition for schools. Their performance was outstanding and they represented themselves and their school with distinction. They were delighted to be awarded 2nd place overall in the Primary Schools Category. They also received a 'special award' for best performance of a song 'as Gaeilge'. This is awarded across both primary and post primary choirs - a wonderful achievement!



## St Luke's School Notes

We are all delighted to be back playing sport again and participating in local Interschool competitions. Congratulations to both the junior and senior hockey teams who won the Interschools' Hockey Tournament. Both cups take pride of place in the school and all our pupils enjoyed a night off homework!

4<sup>th</sup> Class have been participating in The Cycle Right programme again this year, this is a very worthwhile programme through which children learn safety skills required in cycling.

As part of our St Patrick's Day celebrations 1<sup>st</sup> Class went for a walk to our local post box and posted "Cead Mile Hugs" cards to friends and relations. Also, as part of "Seachtain na Gaeilge" 5<sup>th</sup> Class made Irish books and read them to some of the junior classes.

4<sup>th</sup> Class had a very interesting trip to the Lifetime Lab when they learned about Ireland's Marine Life and did some science experiments based on water pressure. All of our classes have been involved in Heritage in School Workshops in our local Ballybrack Woods, the children really enjoyed being out in the fresh air and learning more about their environment.

We had a very successful Book Fair again this year when children had an opportunity to purchase books and we were able to expand the range of books in our School Library.

We were delighted to welcome the Vanbrugh String Quartet back to St Luke's, it was our first "Live Musical Performance" in two years and was thoroughly enjoyed by all. The Parents' Association organised a Coffee Morning and St Patrick's Day Raffle in Barrys recently. With this event and the clothes drive over €2000 was raised for school funds. They are now busy organising an Easter art Competition for the pupils. 2<sup>nd</sup> Class were involved in planting a Wildflower Area in the Community Park next door to the school, we look forward to watching the flowers bloom in the summer. Thank you, Archdeacon Wilkinson for organising an Easter Service for us in St Luke's Church. It was wonderful to be able to attend a Church Service again in person as a 'School Community'.

Our very creative Students Council organised "Anything but a Bag" day when pupils were asked to bring their books to school in anything but their usual schoolbag in aid of the Ukraine Red Cross Appeal. Pupils and parents were very imaginative in their ideas, we had everything from wheelbarrows, buckets, trolleys, pillowcases to hoovers and wheelie bins.



## Baptism Celebrations

Easter is a very appropriate season for baptisms. We will have several in the parish in the coming weeks. On Sunday 24 April, Hugo Rhys was baptised in St Michael's Church in Blackrock at our 11.30 service. We congratulate his parents Tracey and Conor.

The **Easter General Vestry Meetings** took place on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> April. Please find the election results listed

## Easter General Vestry 2022 - Douglas Union of Parishes

Churchwardens and Glebewardens

Marmullane	Incumbent's Churchwarden	Shirley Clarke-Swanton
	Vestry Churchwarden	Alfred Hosford
Douglas	Incumbent's Churchwarden	Liam Cotter
	Vestry Churchwarden	Leslie Deane
Blackrock	Incumbent's Churchwarden	Denis Hinchion
	Vestry Churchwarden	Mark Exshaw
	Incumbent's Glebewarden	Mervyn Hosford
	Vestry Glebewarden	Tom Chambers

**Select Vestry:** John Kershaw (Hon. Treasurer), Kieran Hogan (Hon. Secretary), Fred Cassidy, Patricia Bogan, Martin Brennan, Vicky Coomber, David Kerr, Keith Dawson, Janet Dillon, Anne Hevers, Don Trotter, David Perrott

### Holy Trinity Church Frankfield

Churchwardens and Glebewarden

Incumbent's Churchwarden	David Wolfe
Vestry Churchwarden	John French
Vestry Glebewarden	John Kingston
Hon. Secretary	Noel Locke
Hon. Treasurer	Roger Flack

#### **Parish Contacts:**

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Parish Office Tel: 4369578. E-mail: [douglasofficecork@gmail.com](mailto:douglasofficecork@gmail.com) (*Friday mornings only*)

*Parish Website:* [www.douglas.cork.anglican.org](http://www.douglas.cork.anglican.org) Follow us on Twitter: @DouglasUnion

# Church Services – May 2022



<b>Sun. 1st May</b>	8.30	Holy Communion	Blackrock
<i>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter</i>	9.45	Service of the Word	Passage
	10.00	Service of the Word	Frankfield
	11.15	Service of the Word	Douglas
	11.30	Service of the Word	Blackrock
<b>Wed. 4<sup>th</sup> May</b>	11.30	Holy Communion	Douglas
<b>Sun. 8<sup>th</sup> May</b>	8.30	Holy Communion	Blackrock
<i>4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter</i>	9.45	Holy Communion	Passage
<i>White</i>	10.00	Holy Communion	Frankfield
	11.15	Holy Communion	Douglas
	11.30	Holy Communion	Blackrock
<b>Wed. 11<sup>th</sup> May</b>	11.00	Holy Communion	Douglas
<b>Sun. 15<sup>th</sup> May</b>	8.30	Holy Communion	Blackrock
<i>5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter</i>	10.00	Holy Communion	Frankfield
<i>White</i>	11.15	Confirmation	Douglas
<i>(No Service in Passage and no 11.30 service in Blackrock today)</i>			
<b>Wed 18<sup>th</sup> May</b>	11.00	Holy Communion	Douglas
<b>Sun. 22<sup>nd</sup> May</b>	8.30	Holy Communion	Blackrock
<i>6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter</i>	9.45	Morning Prayer	Passage
<i>White</i>	10.00	Holy Communion	Frankfield
	11.15	Morning Prayer	Douglas
	11.30	Holy Communion	Blackrock
<b>Wed. 25<sup>th</sup> May</b>	11.00	Holy Communion	Douglas
<b>Sun. 29<sup>th</sup> May</b>	8.30	Holy Communion	Blackrock
<i>7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter</i>	9.45	Holy Communion	Passage
<i>White</i>	10.00	Morning Prayer	Frankfield
	11.15	Holy Communion	Douglas
	11.30	Morning Prayer	Blackrock