



# Parish Matters

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Newsletter of Douglas Union with Frankfield

September, 2024

## The Rector writes...

Dear friends

I hope very much that you have managed to enjoy the summer – so far!

As we enter the harvest season, we have an opportunity to look back and give thanks for the many blessings in our lives. One of those blessings is our church community – and, of course, our beautiful church buildings and grounds, which not only hold many memories but continue to be places where we gather to pray and mark the important moments in our lives.

I want to take this opportunity to mention some events that are coming up in September...

### Sunday School

Sunday School will begin again on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> September. Thereafter, it will be held on the third Sunday of the month until further notice.

### Sausage Service

The first Sausage service of the autumn will be at 5pm on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> September.

### Harvest Services

Frankfield will hold their harvest services on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> in the morning services.

Passage will hold their harvest service in the evening at 7pm.

And Douglas will hold their harvest service on Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> September at 11am. This will also be a united service.

Blackrock's harvest service will be on 22<sup>nd</sup> September at 11.30am.

### United Service

At this service we will be looking ahead to St Luke's 150<sup>th</sup> birthday next year in 2025. It will very much be a celebration of our life together and a looking ahead to the possibilities for 2025. In this sense, it will be something of a vision service. The pandemic hit many parishes hard – and we too felt the effects on parish life. The social side of our parish was hit especially hard. We will want to continue the process of building up our parish community. Together with the Select Vestry, our hope and prayer are that we can make 2025 a year of special services and events to celebrate our life together.

And, of course, at the heart of our life together is our worship. We recently read the story of King Solomon consecrating the Temple he built in Jerusalem (1 Kings 8). This was to be the place where God's presence would dwell with the people on earth. No expense was spared to make it as beautiful as possible – in itself an act of worship. St Luke's might not quite match Solomon's temple(!) but, for us, it is a very special place, and it is the focus for our worship and holds many memories. As with all our churches in the parish union, these are the places where we mark the momentous events of our lives – as well as inhabiting and celebrating the Christian year.

*William*

### **Volunteers**

As part of our preparations for 2025 we are looking for volunteers to help with imagining and planning events during the year. You might have been a member of the parish your whole life or, like me, you may only have arrived recently. We will need all hands to the pump! Please let me or one of the churchwardens – Ed or Aoife – know if you would like to be involved.

### **Special Project for 2025**

The Select Vestry have identified one major church project for 2025 – a full renovation of our magnificent organ and the re-plastering of the transept walls now that the stone has had a chance to dry out. We are currently exploring every possible source of funding. As an important part of our fundraising, the United Service will be a Harvest Gift Day. Please be thinking and praying about this! More details to follow...

### **Alpha**

Douglas Churches Together Alpha begins on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> October @7.30pm in Ardfallen Methodist Church on the Douglas Road. Alpha is a great way to explore the basics of the Christian faith in a low key and non-threatening environment. This will be a lay-led course for all the churches in Douglas. Tanya Olhausen and Kieran Hogan, representing our parish, will be part of the hosting team. Alpha is especially helpful for people who are preparing for a baptism, confirmation or who just want to revisit their own Christian faith. It is also a great way to meet people and make new friendships.

'The first practise for the new **Children's Choir** takes place Sunday, 15th September at 4pm, before the Sausage Service. Please email Veronica for further information. [Veronicatadmanpianolessons@gmail.com](mailto:Veronicatadmanpianolessons@gmail.com)'

## **Pastoral visiting and Home Communion**

I am always available to visit members of the parish who now find it difficult to attend church services. In accordance with the recent House of Bishops' guidelines on pastoral visiting, it is important that a third party is present – preferably a family member. I would therefore be very grateful if a family member contacts me so a mutually convenient time can be arranged.

## **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/](http://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.

Children who attend parish events need to complete a consent form, and parents should make themselves aware of the parish safeguarding policies and procedures which can be found on our parish website:

[www.rosscathedral.ie](http://www.rosscathedral.ie).

Every three years, a member of the Diocesan Safeguarding Support Team come to visit our panel and audit our procedures and processes. Our audit has just been undertaken at the end of August.

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

## **St. Luke's School Notes:**

It's a brand new term with some brand new faces at St Luke's! We were delighted to welcome our new Junior Infants to school last week. Our 6th class Buddies were on hand to meet and help their new little friends by bringing them around their new school.

In June we said goodbye to two valued members of staff. Our 2nd class teacher Ms Fitzgerald and our SNA Gráinne

Redmond left St Luke's and we wish them all the very best in their new positions. We are delighted to welcome our two new members of staff in their place; Ms. Michelle Woodworth joins us as our new SEN teacher, while Fiona Russell is our new SNA.

With all after school activities kicking off in the coming weeks, we look forward to a busy, active and productive term!



## St. Michael's School Notes

We were delighted to welcome all of our pupils to St Michael's this new school year. We gave a special welcome to all those who started with us last week. Carmine, Lugh, Ben, Tadi, Sadie, Henrike, Aoife, Paula, Poppy, Eoin, Charlotte and Oscar started in Junior Infants and Dara joined 4th Class and Róisín joined 5th Class. We are delighted also to welcome Ms Sarah Ryan-Purcell and Ms Hannah Goulden to our staff, and to welcome back Ms Jane Willis and Mr Daniel O'Sullivan. We are looking forward to a great year at St Michael's with all of our pupils, staff and parents.



Biscuit, our school therapy dog has also started school in St Michael's this week. Biscuit has been placed with us from AADI (Autism Assistance Dogs Ireland). Biscuit will be at the door in the mornings to welcome our pupils to school. Biscuit will mostly be based in the Hazel Room while we are being supported in establishing her routine but she will, at times, visit other classrooms. Biscuit has made a lot of friends in St Michael's this week and we hope that she will be a very positive addition to the whole school.

We are looking forward to starting back to school swimming, our link with Cork Sports Partnership and hockey for all classes. 3rd and 4th class are looking to a trip to UCC to visit the labs in late September.

**The Parish Book Club** will take place on Tuesday, the 10th September at 11am-12.30 in Passage. New members welcome! If interested, please text Sharon Kerr on 086 8327653 or Saskia O'Neill on 086 3439124 for further details."

**Monthly Parish Prayer Group** will meet on the first Thursday of every month by zoom @ 7.30pm. Please email [douglasprayergroup@icloud.com](mailto:douglasprayergroup@icloud.com) if you would like the link. (Kieran Hogan)

**Youth Weekend** in the Carhue Centre in Bandon starting at 7pm Friday, 20th Sept until 1pm Sun the 22nd Sept. Those who wish to go must email asap [dyo@corkchurchofireland.com](mailto:dyo@corkchurchofireland.com) to reserve their place and a booking form will be sent directly to them. Forms and payment have to sent by 9th September to secure a booking.

**Kilmoe Union** will be holding a Quiet Day on the 14th September at St Brendan's, Crookhaven from 2:00 to 5:00pm in which it will explore the spirituality of Hildegard of Bingen (1098-1176). There will be a voluntary contribution to cover the costs of the quiet day. Please let Revd. Terry Mitchell know if you wish to attend by email- [terrym438@gmail.com](mailto:terrym438@gmail.com)

# Church Services September, 2024



<b>Sun. 8<sup>th</sup> September</b>	8.30	Holy Communion	Blackrock
<i>15<sup>th</sup> Sun after Trinity</i>	9.45	Morning Prayer	Passage
Green	10.00	Holy Communion	Frankfield
	11.15	Morning Prayer	Douglas
	11.30	Holy Communion	Blackrock
	5pm	Sausage Service	Douglas
<b>Sun. 15<sup>th</sup> September</b>	8.30	Holy Communion	Blackrock
<i>16<sup>th</sup> Sun after Trinity</i>	10.00	Harvest Service	Frankfield
Green	11.15	Morning Prayer	Douglas
	11.30	Morning Prayer	Blackrock
	7pm	Harvest Service	Passage
<b>Sun. 22<sup>nd</sup> September</b>	8.30	Holy Communion	Blackrock
<i>17<sup>th</sup> Sun after Trinity</i>	9.45	Holy Communion	Passage
Green	10.00	Morning Prayer	Frankfield
	11.15	Holy Communion	Douglas
	11.30	Harvest Service	Blackrock
<b>Sun. 29<sup>th</sup> September</b>	8.30	Holy Communion	Blackrock
<i>18<sup>th</sup> Sun after Trinity</i>	11.00	Harvest United Service	Douglas
Green			

## Parish Contacts:

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Rev. Dr. William Olhausen    Tel: 087/1660356    E-mail: wolhausen@googlemail.com

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

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