



# Parish Matters

Newsletter of Douglas Union with Frankfield

October, 2024

## The Rector writes...

Dear friends

I have really enjoyed our month of harvest services. Alongside the rich theme of creation, the older traditions of Plough Sunday, Rogationtide, and Lammas Day are brought together in our more celebration of Harvest Festival. All four churches were beautifully and abundantly decorated to encourage us in thanksgiving, in asking for God's help and blessing in our work, and in our praise and worship for the wisdom and beauty of the creation. A big 'thank you' to everyone who made these services so special.

This celebration of the agricultural year is also a reminder of the ways in which our Christian faith draws on the rhythms of the natural world. We humans are also part of the world's harvest. We too find ourselves asking God to make us more fruitful as people. This is why St Paul talked could talk about the fruits of the Spirit. I don't think I really thought about my life as a harvest field and it has certainly got me wondering about what might be growing in me! Is there anything worth harvesting?! As I talk with the school children each week about another fruit of the Spirit, I find myself challenged and encouraged in lots of different ways. This week I am thinking about patience. My patience crop needs quite a lot of attention! And so, 'let us offer ourselves to God's service, asking that by the Spirit at work in us others may receive a rich harvest of love and joy and peace'.

Finally, well done to everyone who braved the stormy weather for the United Service in St Luke's last week. It is so encouraging when there's a good crowd and we certainly enjoyed some fantastic hospitality. It was also good to launch the St Luke's 150<sup>th</sup> Appeal – the organ restoration. There will, of course, be lots more going on, but this is a significant project to conserve what is something of a musical gem in our care. It is one of only 3 or 4 other organs like it in the country and we want to ensure that it is fit to accompany our praise and worship for another 100 years.

*William*

### **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. *Rev William*

**Confirmation 2025** Please let William know asap if you would like to be confirmed in 2025.

**Sausage Service** will take place on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> October at 5pm in St. Luke's Church, Douglas.

**Alpha** Douglas Churches Together Alpha continues on Tuesday evenings @7.30pm in Ardfallen Methodist Church on the Douglas Road. There's still time to join for another 2 weeks.



**St. Luke's School Notes:** From aquatics to cross country to a visiting Olympian, it has been an active, sport-filled start to the school year! On Tuesday September 17<sup>th</sup>, over 50 pupils travelled to Fota House to take part in a Primary Schools Cross Country event. Pupils from 1<sup>st</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> class took on distances from 400 metres to 800 metres, testing endurance and speed over a hilly course. All our athletes showed excellent determination and enthusiasm and ran their best. Special congratulations to Ayla Twomey and Tim

Cromie in 4<sup>th</sup> class who both won silver medals in their events. A few days later, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> went to the Gus Healy swimming pool in Douglas and took part in the 'Splash and Dash' event. This involved a swim followed immediately by a run, once again testing the stamina and adaptability of our athletes!

We were delighted to welcome a local Olympian, Nicola Tuthill, to school on Monday September 30<sup>th</sup>. Nicola competed in the Hammer Throwing event in the Paris Olympics this year and popped in to chat to the pupils and answer their many



questions! Nicola talked about her training routine and showed us how to throw the hammer! We were thrilled to meet her and cannot wait to see her in action in future competitions.



We also had our annual visit from the Lord Mayor in early September. Cllr Dan Boyle spoke to the pupils about the importance of growing vegetables and gave everyone 'Green' homework instead of written homework that night!

Finally, we are very much looking forward to showing all that is on offer in St Luke's School at our Open night on Wednesday October 9th at 7pm- All Welcome!

### St. Michael's School Notes:

We've had another very busy month at St Michael's! We welcomed Cork City Cllr Kieran McCarthy visited the Chestnut Room and the Rowan Room to talk about the "Discover Cork, Schools' Heritage Project"

3rd to 6th Class began their 10 weeks of French lessons. This is part of the Say Yes to Languages programme being provided by the Department of Education.



The Lord Mayor of Cork, Cllr Dan Boyle visited our school. He brought the pupils some seeds to plant, talking about how seeds grow and comparing it to how pupils grow in the schools. The pupils asked him some very interesting questions, from the amount of gold in his Lord Mayor's chain to how he got voted in as Lord Mayor. He was also asked if he was going to build more parks for children. He was also accompanied by photographer Chani Anderson from The Irish Examiner.

Our Chestnut Room visited a Microbiome Lab in UCC for a very interesting workshop about food and digestion. The Chestnut Room took part in a Biodiversity Heroes workshop in our school grounds. This workshop has been fully funded by Glenveagh Homes. Our Junior Infants to 2nd Class began Junior Hockey, with Lisa. The Chestnut Room held their Bake Sale and raised over €500.

The Lifetime Lab visited all of our Senior Classes for a House of Circuits workshop. On Wednesday 3rd October we held our open evening for prospective Junior Infant pupils for next September.

The **Douglas Union of Parishes' Book Club** met again in the parish hall beside St Mary's Church in Marmullane (Passage West) on Tuesday 10 September. Although we missed quite a few of our members, who were still enjoying holidays abroad, we had a lovely time catching up and discussing our summer reads. Our next meeting is planned for Tuesday 8 October, when we'll discuss 'Second Honeymoon' by Joanna Trollope. New members



welcome! If interested, please text Sharon Kerr on 086 8327653 or Saskia O'Neill on 086 3439124 for further details.



A **Coffee Morning** will take place on Saturday 12th October from 10am-12 midday at Marmullane Church Hall. Entry €4 which includes coffee/tea and scone. Cakes, books and raffle. In aid of church funds.

**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)

Peter Stobart will be running a **Diocesan Come and Sing Evensong** in St Fin Barre's Cathedral on Saturday 19th October @ 5pm.



**CDYC** will run a **Soccer Tournament**, during Midterm, on Sat the 2nd of Nov.

It would be great to get the parishes involved in this and to get a team representing the parish. Not always possible I know, but worth a try!! It will take place in

Bandon Grammar School Sports Hall at 2pm -6pm. Pizza and snacks on the day!

COST: €5, AGE: Secondary School . It is a 5-a-side team, but if a full team can't be filled, send the eager players along anyway and we will sort it out!

If there will be big enough numbers coming from East Cork, a bus can be organised! Just let me know! Those who wish to go **MUST** let Hilda Connolly know asap via email [dyo@corkchurchofireland.com](mailto:dyo@corkchurchofireland.com) to reserve their place and a booking form will be sent. But please do get the info out to your parishes, parishioners, young people!

Cork Diocesan Youth Council will run **A Leader's in Training Course** this year in October. This course has proved to be a great asset to our youth work. It also has helped young people in their college choices and careers. It will run over 8 Saturdays (depending on other commitments for the participants). The days usually run from 10am – 4pm and the venue and date is yet to be decided. Booking forms and costs will be available soon. If anyone is interested please contact Hilda Connolly at [dyo@corkchurchofireland.com](mailto:dyo@corkchurchofireland.com) Also there is a new Youth Alpha series coming. Anyone interested in Alpha can sign up for the launch event in Cork at this link <https://alphaireland.org/events>.

The **CUMH Annual Service of Remembrance** will be held in the Sacred Heart Church, Wilton on the 11<sup>th</sup> October 7:30pm. All who have experienced pregnancy or infant loss are welcome to attend.

# Church Services October, 2024



<b>Sun. 6<sup>th</sup> October</b>	8.30	Holy Communion	Blackrock
<i>19th Sun after Trinity</i>	9.45	Service of the Word	Passage
Green	10.00	Service of the Word	Frankfield
	11.15	Service of the Word	Douglas
	11.30	Service of the Word	Blackrock
<b>Sun. 13<sup>th</sup> October</b>	8.30	Holy Communion	Blackrock
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	5pm	Sausage Service	Douglas
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<b>Sun. 27<sup>th</sup> October</b>	8.30	Holy Communion	Blackrock
<i>22nd Sun after Trinity</i>	9.45	Holy Communion	Passage
Green	10.00	Morning Prayer	Frankfield
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## Parish Contacts:

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

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