



Advent & Christmas Parish Matters

Newsletter of Douglas Union with
Frankfield

December 2024

Dear Friends

Advent begins on Sunday! It is the start of a new church year, a season in which we are invited into a time of waiting and preparation as we look forward to all the good things that came with Jesus' birth.

Around the world, we also know that many people are longing for justice. Advent is also a time in which we anticipate the return of Jesus as the one who will judge the earth and 'make all things new'.

We will be celebrating the great themes of Advent in our times of worship together during December. I hope as many of you as possible find time to participate in our Advent services. One service that may be new to many is the Blue Christmas Service taking place on Sunday 15th December at 6pm in St Luke's. All are welcome but it is especially for people who find the Christmas season difficult. It is a more reflective time, which includes readings, music and times of quiet.

As we light each candle on the Advent wreath, we will be reminded that the light of God's justice and love in Christ is the light that 'overcomes the darkness'. For this reason, we pray the fundamental Advent prayer: 'Maranatha' – 'Our Lord, come' (1 Corinthians 16.22).

Every blessing for Advent.

William

St. Luke's School Notes:



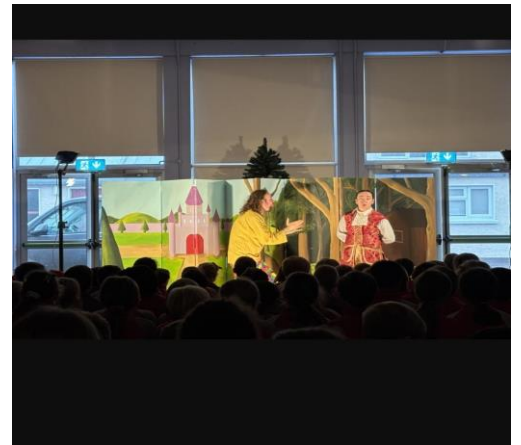
The term continues to fly away, with Christmas preparations in full swing! Our Senior Carol Service will take place on Monday Dec 16th at 7pm, while our Juniors will present their Nativity on Tuesday Dec. 17th at 11am. Our sporting endeavours have continued, with 5th and 6th class taking part in an excellent Cricket Workshop given by Munster Cricket

Union. 4th class, meanwhile, have been taking part in the Cycle Right initiative, learning about road and bike safety.

We are also currently working towards our Biodiversity Green flag and our Green Schools Committee recently had a visit from Council representative Rosmarie McDonald. She gave a talk to both the committee and 3rd class, so we are eagerly looking out for many species of birds in our schoolyard!

We were delighted to welcome the West Midlands Theatre Company on Thursday Nov 28th. We enjoyed a terrific performance of Snow White, with plenty of audience participation!

We are looking forward to the carols, Christmas fairs, seasonal jumpers and everything else the next few weeks will bring. Nollaig Shona Daoibh go leir!



Douglas Union with Frankfield Christmas Trees for Sale takes place on Saturday, 7th December at 10am – 12.30pm in the Canon Packham Hall. All profits to Douglas Union with Frankfield Parish Funds. For further information contact Uwe Schiller at 087/2318099

Monthly Parish Prayer Group will meet on Zoom on Thursday 7th December at 7.30pm. Please email douglasprayergroup@icloud.com if you would like the link.
Kieran Hogan



The run into Christmas can bring heightened emotions. When parents are grieving, the thought of celebrating can be really daunting. **Anam Cara Cork**, the organisation that supports bereaved parents, is holding it's monthly Parent Evening for bereaved parents on Wednesday 4th December at 7:15pm in the Maryborough Hotel, Douglas, Cork City. This event is free and open to all bereaved parents regardless of the age your child died, the circumstances of their death, or whether their death was recent or not. We also offer an online service. For more info call 01 4045378



The **Douglas Union of Parishes Book Club** will meet again on Tuesday the 10th December, 11am-12.30 in the Parish Hall beside St Marys Church, Marmullane, (PassageWest) Last month we discussed "Hamnet" by Maggie O'Farrell which was enjoyed by our members and the author was a firm favourite too by all. Our next choice of book will be "The Mandibles" by Lionel Shriver. New members would be very welcome and if interested please contact Sharon Kerr (086/8327653)



Carol Services

St. Mary's Church, Marmullane will hold it's Carol Service on Sunday 1st December at 7pm.

On Sunday 15th December Holy Trinity Church, Frankfield will hold it's Carol Service at 10am followed by St. Luke's Church, Douglas Carol Service at 11.15am. On Sunday evening, 22nd December St. Michael's Church, Blackrock will have Carols by Candlelight at 7pm.

St. Luke's NS PTA will hold it's annual Christmas Fayre on Sunday, 1st December following St. Luke's Church service at 11.15am.

St. Michael's School Fair will also take place on Sunday, 1st December at 12.30pm – 2.30pm.

CDYC will hold it's **Advent Youth Service** in St. Fachtna's Cathedral, Rosscarbery on the 8th December at 7.30pm. Guest Speaker is Rev. James Power. Refreshments in the Narthex following the service.



Church Services for Christmas

Tues. 24 December	4.30pm	Crib Service	Douglas
Christmas Eve	10.30pm	Holy Communion	Douglas
Wed. 25 December	8.30	Holy Communion	Blackrock
Christmas Day	9.45	Morning Prayer	Passage
	10.00	Holy Communion	Frankfield
	11.15	Holy Communion	Douglas
	11.30	Morning Prayer	Blackrock



From

Rev William



Church Services December, 2024



Sun 1st Dec	8.30	Holy Communion	Blackrock
<i>1st Sun of Advent</i>	9.45	No Service	Passage
Violet	10.00	Christingle	Frankfield
	11.15	Advent Carols	Douglas
	11.30	Service of the Word	Blackrock
	7.00pm	Carol Service	Passage
Wed. 4th Dec	11.00	Holy Communion	Douglas
Sun. 8th Dec	8.30	Holy Communion	Blackrock
<i>2nd Sun of Advent</i>	9.45	Morning Prayer	Passage
	10.00	Holy Communion	Frankfield
Violet	11.15	Morning Prayer	Douglas
	11.30	Holy Communion	Blackrock
Wed. 11th Dec	11.00	Holy Communion	Douglas
Sun. 15th Dec	8.30	Holy Communion	Blackrock
<i>3rd Sun of Advent</i>	9.45	Morning Prayer	Passage
Violet	10.00	Carol Service	Frankfield
	11.15	Carol Service	Douglas
	11.30	Morning Prayer	Blackrock
	6.00pm	Blue Christmas Service	Douglas

Wed. 18th Dec	11.00	Holy Communion	Douglas
Sun. 22nd Dec	8.30	Holy Communion	Blackrock
<i>4th Sun of Advent</i>	9.45	Holy Communion	Passage
Violet	10.00	Morning Prayer	Frankfield
	11.15	Holy Communion	Douglas
	7.15pm	Carol Service	Blackrock
Tues. 24th Dec	4.30pm	Crib Service	Douglas
<i>Christmas Eve</i>	10.30pm	Holy Communion	Douglas
Violet/White			
Wed. 25th Dec	8.30	Holy Communion	Blackrock
<i>Christmas Day</i>	9.45	Morning Prayer	Passage
White	10.00	Holy Communion	Frankfield
	11.15	Holy Communion	Douglas
	11.30	Morning Prayer	Blackrock
Sun. 29th Dec	8.30	Holy Communion	Blackrock
White	11.00	United Service	Frankfield

Parish Contacts:

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