



# CARRIGROHANE UNION OF PARISHES

St Peter's, Carrigrohane  
St Senan's, Inniscarra  
The Church of the Resurrection, Blarney  
The Carraig Centre, Ballincollig

[www.cupcork.ie](http://www.cupcork.ie)  
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## JULY 2020

### TCC Update

As you will have heard by now, The Carraig Centre Fire Certificate was issued on Monday June 14. This is a huge step forward and



the  
**carraig  
centre**  
building hope together

nearly completes our ability to open the building for church and public use. A formality must still be accomplished where building completion documentation is submitted and accepted on a national database (maximum time of 3 weeks from submission). This brings all our opening activities into sharp focus and we are making great progress in getting everything ready for an early date opening for CUP functions (including Sunday AM), and a bit later for more general activities.

We are getting many applications for use of the premises for community organisations and we are looking forward to being a busy place! Our first activity under our COVID restrictions will be some Youth Work organised by Matt and Katie and a team of wonderful volunteers running in July, aimed at building connections with the local young people and families with young children.

The formal structures for establishing a Company Limited by Guarantee to run TCC have been approved by the RCB Executive Committee and the CLG application has been submitted to the Companies office. The TCC Board has met on 4 occasions, once with the original TCC Planning Committee, and great progress is being made on setting up all the documentation and procedures needed for safe opening of the Centre.

A great group of people have volunteered to help run the Reception desk and related activities and Ivan McMahon has run two training mornings on June 24 and 26 (more times can be arranged!). We would be delighted to have more volunteers to help provide a welcoming, friendly presence as we open our doors. Our aim is to always have at least two people present in the building (volunteers & staff) on any given morning or afternoon. Please contact the office if you would like to help!

We hope that in the next few weeks we will be able to formally welcome everyone to a socially distanced Carraig Centre!

**Bill Lane, Acting Centre Manager**



Many  
memories  
and times of  
celebration!

Here are  
just a few -  
in no  
particular  
order...



June 2009 to August 2020





Goodbyes...  
Family celebrations  
... and welcomes!

Alphas, special  
weekends, 10 years of  
youthwork celebration,  
Connect 2012 festival  
- and so much more!











Across the parish and into the community...



## Hello, Goodbye

On Sunday July 5<sup>th</sup> under the Government's Road Map to protect us from Covid 19, Churches will be allowed to open for up to 50 people with the appropriate measures to reduce the risk of infection.

It will be a time for each of us to give God our whole-hearted worship and praise and say "hello" in person instead of virtually. Some will not be ready to venture out and so online services will also continue with their own special qualities. For those who come I really look forward to seeing many in person to say "hello". But it is going to be a case of "goodbye" as well. For no sooner do we resume public worship when on the 2<sup>nd</sup> August, I will be preaching at my final services as Rector in Carrigrohane Union, as I retire after nearly 40 years as an ordained minister.

But rather than "goodbye", please see it as an extended "see you sometime" because our new home is in Kerry, and we look forward to keeping in touch. With Gail I simply want to say thank you for making it a privilege to serve here. Your welcome, love and acceptance to us is an example of the "golden thread" of grace in all our relationships here in Carrigrohane Union.

### Fire!

It is with a sense of irony that I will be leaving just weeks after we are granted our Fire Certificate for The Carraig Centre. As those who discover the joy of being in Christ and know the burning presence of the Holy Spirit, we long for fire - the right kind!

This is my prayer for you all. Not just because of the extraordinary faith journey we have been on to see the Centre completed and ready, but also because it is indicative of what I see across the whole Union of Churches. I could write reams about the stories of people with a passion for Christ and to serve Him, and the welcome and acceptance we have received as a family.

For now I look forward to what Bishop Ken "Fanta" Clarke says, that I am not so much retiring, as being refired!

Love and prayers from Gail and myself. *Ian*

### THE INTERREGNUM (THE 'VACANCY' until the appointment of a new Rector )

From August 8<sup>th</sup> the Bishop becomes legally "the Rector", the role of which he delegates to a local clergy person from another parish with oversight by the Archdeacon Rev Adrian Wilkinson. For us, Robert Ferris' role continues as it has done with the addition of day to day care of the parish and responsibility for services, and another clergy person will chair Select Vestry meetings.

### From September.

The Rural Dean (or neighbouring Rural Dean), arranges a vacancy inspection of the rectory, and helps the parochial nominators to draw up a profile of the parish before they are formally summoned as a Board. The Bishop will call for the Board of Nominators to meet, made of representatives from Carrigrohane Union and the Diocese.



Our nominators are those elected at the 2017\* Easter General Vestry i.e. **Hilary Jenkinson, Bill Lane, Ivan McMahon and Pamela Wood**. If they are not available the supplemental ones are called on: Diane Martin, George Quinn, Jane Moffatt, Viv Squire. Meetings then take place over a period of time. In any event, three months have to lapse from the date of the first meeting of the board of nomination and the start of the ministry of a new Rector. This work is confidential as the possibilities and the availability of other clergy is considered.

*The Bishop gives this guidance on the Diocesan Website:*

‘Every effort is made to keep the rhythm of life as familiar as possible in a vacancy. It has to be remembered, however, that those who are looking after you also have their own other full-time responsibilities. It is not possible, therefore, to keep everything exactly as normal. The most important things are looked after first: the Sunday worship, caring for those who are ill, dying or bereaved; and those who urgently need the pastoral ministry of the Church. It’s not always possible either to keep the pattern of worship exactly the same as usual. A vacancy is an Interesting Time of Opportunity to reflect on our own role and involvement in the ministry of the Church.’

\*The 2020 annual meeting was cancelled because of Covid 19, therefore the current nominators are called upon.

**Lighthouse** - Do check out our Lighthouse - Messy Church Facebook page - <https://www.facebook.com/MessyinBlarney> for activities and crafts.

**A note from Patsy:**

Many thanks to all those who have moved their parish giving to standing order – or who are lodging on-line. A few kind people are anonymous on the bank statements (including a regular contributor to the 10 year youthwork fund for the past year or so). If you’d prefer to be anonymous, that is, of course, fine! But we won’t be able to include your generous giving in the annual tax reclaim which brings such extra benefit to the parish. If you’d be happy for me to include your giving in that – please email [patsy@cupcork.ie](mailto:patsy@cupcork.ie) to let me know which donations are coming from you. It will all remain completely confidential! To those who prefer to save up their envelopes or plate contributions, we’ll be happy to take those in the office for lodgement as soon as is convenient. Thank you so much!

*Patsy We also now have an on-line giving page - Details are available on [www.cupcork.ie/hall](http://www.cupcork.ie/hall)*

**Shared by George Quinn....Author Unknown**

Blessed are they who understand  
My faltering step and shaking hand  
Blessed, who know my ears today  
Must strain to hear the things they say.

Blessed are those who seem to know  
My eyes are dim, and my mind is slow  
Blessed are those who look away  
When I spilled tea that weary day.

Blessed are they who, with cheery smile  
Stopped to chat for a little while  
Blessed are they who know the way  
To bring back memories of yesterday.

Blessed are those who never say  
"You've told that story twice today"  
Blessed are they who make it known  
That I am loved, respected and not alone.

And blessed are they who will ease the days  
Of my journey home, in loving ways.

## Summer Services:

Usually at this time of the year things quieten down in the parish after terms of all sorts of things happening. This year things are not as they have been, nor how they will be. After much reading of church and government regulations we've planned out a summer schedule of services which is different for a number of reasons:

Social distancing guidelines; caps on maximum numbers in buildings; face coverings guidance; reduced levels of holiday cover due etc.

You can read all about it in the COVID-19 guide that Robert has prepared in consultation with all the church wardens, Sunday AM leadership teams and the Diocese.

Do check out the guidance later on in this edition of Connect, on our website [www.cupcork.ie/hall](http://www.cupcork.ie/hall) – and we'll keep you updated by our weekly email update.

- For the Inniscarra services – please let Andrew know by email [inniscarra@cupcork.ie](mailto:inniscarra@cupcork.ie) if you plan to attend.
- For Sunday AM services in The Carraig Centre in July we'll be able to book 'tickets' online- [www.cupcork.ie/hall](http://www.cupcork.ie/hall)
- For Ian's retirement service / presentation on 2<sup>nd</sup> August you can book 'tickets' online too!
- Blarney & St Peter's will simply be a first come, first served basis, with approximately 20-30 (to be confirmed) people allowed in Blarney and 38 in St Peter's.

All are welcome!

## Online Services:

Online Services will continue when the churches open back up – St. Peters at 9.30 am on Facebook & Youtube for the month of July and on Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> of August after which we would like to talk to those who wish to still join us remotely and we will be able to make provision for that.

We also will be coming live online from the Carraig Centre at 11am on Facebook and Youtube channels

## Ian's Retirement Presentation:

On Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> August Ian will celebrate Communion in St. Peter's Church followed by a service in the Carraig Centre with a presentation to Ian and Gail from the parish.

Following that – if the weather is kind – ALL will be invited to join us on St Peter's field for a (bring your own) picnic (maintaining social distance).



A socially distanced staff meeting in TCC foyer comfy space!



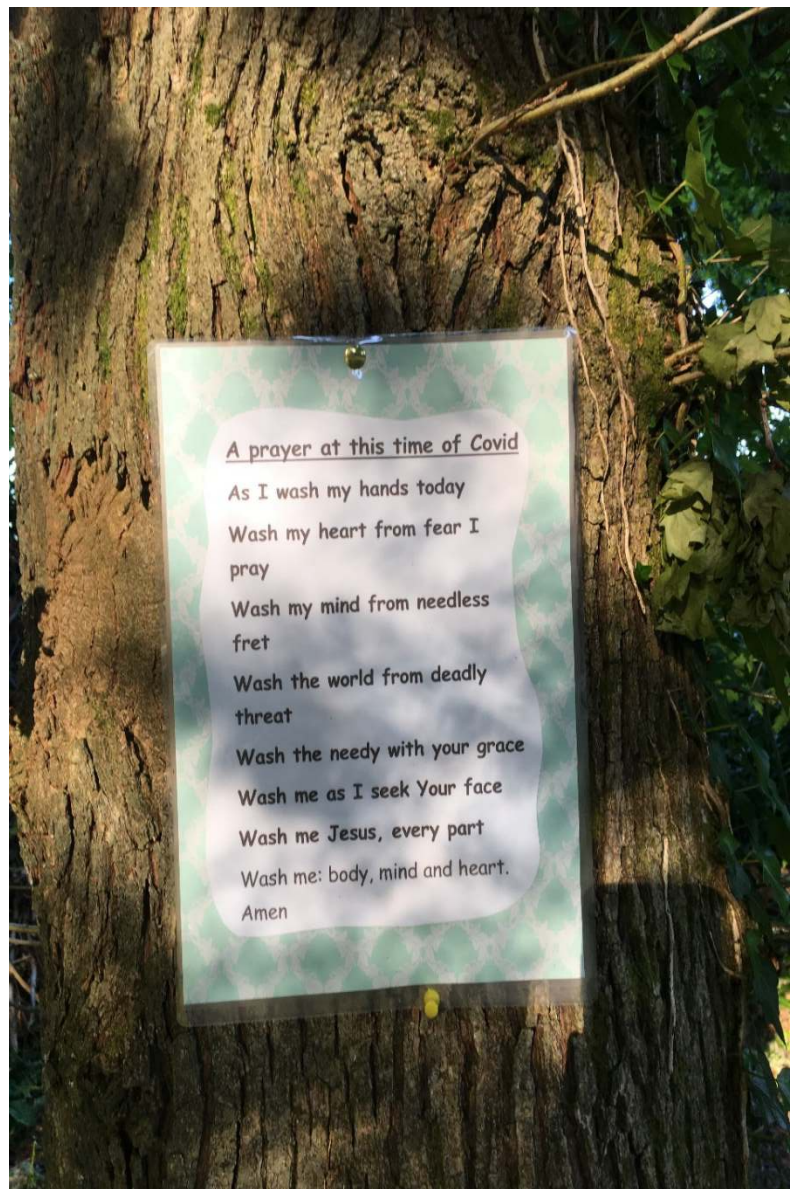
**The Eco-group**, joined by others in the parish, have been active since March in looking at ways the CUP church community can enhance the management of parish lands, buildings and environmental resources to ensure best uses. In particular, tree planting at St Peter's Field and in Inniscarra was undertaken in March. Over 450 trees were planted (including oak, holly, birch, wild cherry, black & whitethorn and rowan) and most are doing well. The immediate concern this summer period has focussed on the issues of the best and most cost-effective ways of maintaining the church graveyards in the parish, especially in future years. A group of parishioners met on Monday 23 June at St Peter's to review these needs and the possibilities for graveyards maintenance and uses and to use the areas at St Peter's as a template for future approaches. A very valuable meeting was had, and this will be reported on to the Select Vestry in due course. In the meantime, help with grass cutting, strimming, weeding of paths etc. and other maintenance jobs would be very welcome. Let us know if you can; we have already been given some help, so many thanks to all those who have been working away in recent time. Much appreciated. **Robert Devoy**

## Come to visit...

If anyone from the parish would like to drop into the Carraig Centre for a tour and to see how everything's getting on...please feel free to come along on Wednesdays, 1<sup>st</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> or 15<sup>th</sup> July anytime between 10 am and 12 noon! Someone will be available to show you around.



The lovely prayer stations arranged around St Senan's, Inniscarra are open for all to visit and enjoy!



## What are **CUP Youth** doing:

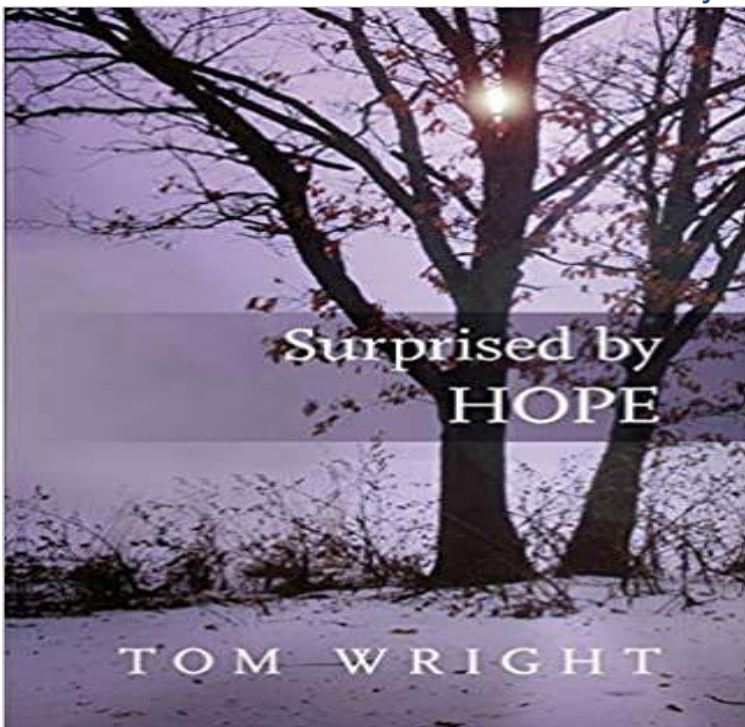
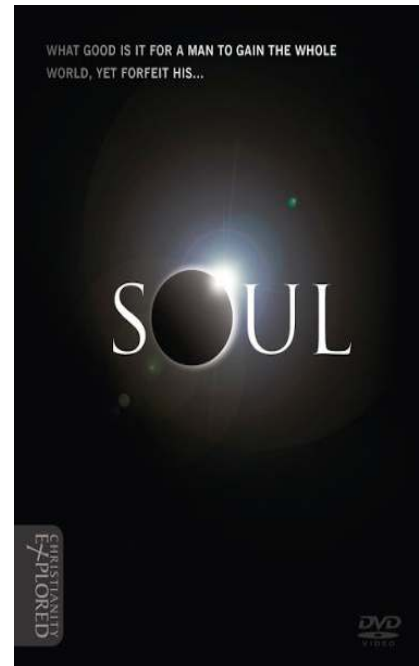
This is a crazy time to be a teenager! Missing friends, trying to do work online instead of 'in class', and all the off/on/off messages around exams have taken their toll...

As a Youth Team (Matt and Katie and volunteer leaders) we have been doing:

Lots of phone calls, text messages and generally keeping in touch.

Weekly Zoom bible study/ discussions in the Sunday PM slot. We are currently using the 'Christianity Explored' course for Youth called '**Soul**' which is a well produced video series, looking at the key points of the Christian faith. Which has been a good starter for conversations.

For obvious reasons relating to lockdown and social distancing, we have paused our Glow and Glow MAX groups at the moment. Katie did manage to send out cards to the Glow children to say hi.



The Youth Leaders and Young Adults are starting to read '*Surprised by Hope*' by Tom Wright, which looks at Resurrection Hope, Life beyond Death, and what that means for us today.



HIGH SCHOOL EVENT EXPERIENCE

### Coming up In August: 'Move AT'

For obvious reasons the 5 day youth residential due to be in Clongowes College in August is cancelled. In its place, we are going to host three evening youth sessions ourselves in The Carraig Centre!

There will be a mix of worship, teaching, games, discussion and activities.



The dates are TBC, but we would love you to pray for them in the weeks ahead.

## **Carrigrohane Union of Parishes' Covid-19 Response Plan**

### **Getting Back to Church Summer 2020**



## COVID -19 response and Carrigrohane Union of Parishes – Sunday Services

Now that all the regulations have been read and we're now about to slowly open up the Churches in the Parish there's a few things which underpins all that is below - further details are available on [cupcork.ie/hall](http://cupcork.ie/hall)

### It's not 'business as usual'

But on the other hand there is much that will be recognizable – **we are still able to meet together to worship God, to enjoy him and each other's company**

The last couple of weeks we've been meeting as a Vestry, Church Wardens and staff team to ensure that we take all of the necessary precautions.

There are a basic few things which underpin this:

#### **Stay Safe:**



This might seem obvious but - If you are feeling ill – or have any of the COVID-19 symptoms please do not come out to church!

- If you are in one of the groups which have been cocooning and are feeling uneasy about coming out – please do not feel you **NEED** to come to church right away – come out at your own speed.

- We are making provision for families – we'd love to see you! – however we also would request that parents help us to maintain the 2m distancing

rules with and between kids. This is really important for all of our families to feel safe on Sundays.

#### **Protect Each other:**

In line with this we are asking people to do a few things:

- Make sure you **keep your distance** – 2m where you can.
- Please ensure you **sanitise /wash hands** on the way into church and after going to the toilet – we as clergy will be observing hand hygiene protocols right the way through services.
- **Consider the use of a face covering** if you are aged over 13 in our buildings considering the risks this virus poses to some of those who may be in the building alongside you. We as staff will be wearing face



coverings on Sunday mornings and where we are meeting people in homes and other places when we are requested to do so (more info below).

- If you use the toilets please **wipe down surfaces** before and after use with the cleaning products supplied.

### **Capacities of our Buildings:**

**This is a changing picture – which depends upon government guidelines on distancing, and also maximum capacity caps. Please check information on [cupcork.ie/hall](http://cupcork.ie/hall)**

At time of press there's a 50 people max capacity in the Carraig Centre in July - please do book a ticket via our website and Eventbrite – Information at [cupcork.ie/hall](http://cupcork.ie/hall)

In the other churches there are smaller capacities – please do come earlier than usual so we can help you find your seats. If we are over-subscribed please do bear with us - we may have to say to you that we are full.

**Inniscarra Church** is operating a booking-in system – simply email Andrew Watson – the email address for this is [inniscarra@cupcork.ie](mailto:inniscarra@cupcork.ie) - if you are planning on coming simply let us know!

As you come into each of our buildings, you'll see that there are the 2m markings outside that are familiar – we might have to queue to get in!

There is the regular hand sanitisation station! – please sanitise your hands well.

We're also making a list for **contact tracing purposes** – so if we ask you your name / contact phone number please don't be surprised. These will be held for 21 days.

When you get to the front of the queue – one of the wardens / service hosts will be pleased to escort you to your seat!

### **During the service**

The service words will be either projected or there will be service sheets already in your pews/seats.

The service will take our usual formats with some differences.

If it is a Communion service you will notice the peace will have to be shared differently and also the presiding minister will let you know how the receiving is to happen.

Holy communion will be in one kind only.

For families with kids – we recommend you bring some activities / toys with you for the service. We will provide colouring/puzzle sheets for children in every service – so please bring along your own colours!

### **Use of toilets:**

Please do speak to wardens / service hosts and they will direct you.

If you need the toilet in our churches, please ensure you sanitise your hands going in and coming back out again.

There will be a pack of anti-bac wipes / cloth & disposable paper provided - please use these to wipe surfaces you touch and throw them in the bin provided. If you are concerned please feel free to wipe surfaces before and after!

### **Leaving Church:**

Please follow directions of the wardens/service hosts – you will most probably be leaving from a different door than you came in. In the traditional churches this will be through the vestry / kitchen, in the Carraig Centre this will be through the side exits.

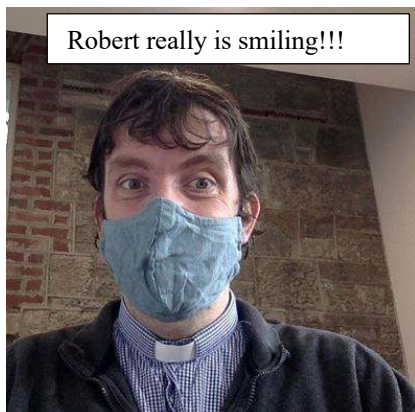
Please do not congregate outside the door but rather move right away to allow others to exit.

### **Face-coverings and the Administration of Communion:**

This is one of the areas where there could be issues.

Some may receive the bread in the usual way at the particular point in the service. Others may wish to maintain their face-covering until outside of the building after the dismissal – in order to facilitate this the presiding minister will be available outside to administer bread to those who wish.

Please do contact the clergy if you prefer to receive Home Communion at this time.



**Face Coverings:** While we are working hard to seat people in church in a socially distanced way, such social distancing risks breaking down in comings and goings to and from church, arriving and departing, and at times of receiving Holy Communion, depending on how the administration takes place, or where there is some other necessary movement around the church, such as to and from seats.



Also when it comes to singing – face coverings are one way of ensuring that we can continue to sing together – however muffled!

The Minister of Health recently said – “The very clear public health advice is that we are asking people to wear face coverings when they use public transport, **in indoor public areas**, including retail outlets, when they are visiting the homes of those who are cocooning or are being visited in their homes by those who are cocooning, when they are visiting a residential care facility, or in any environment where it is not possible to maintain one's social distance.”

So on this basis we’re recommending the use face coverings in all of our Sunday gatherings whilst also recognizing that it is not recommended for some.

HSE Guidelines state that - cloth face coverings are not suitable for children under the age of 13 and anyone who:

- has trouble breathing
- is unconscious or incapacitated
- is unable to remove it without help
- has special needs
- who may feel upset or very uncomfortable wearing the face covering

We as a parish family will **NEVER** criticise or judge anyone who is not wearing a face covering.

### **Church Services this Summer**

**Check out our website for latest details as there may be unexpected changes to this!**

#### **5<sup>th</sup> July**

9.30 am St. Peter’s – Morning Prayer with Online Streaming

11 am Sunday AM – Test Event in the Carraig Centre – ONLINE Only – Team only

7.30 pm – Blarney – Short service of Prayer & Praise

#### **12<sup>th</sup> July**

9.30 am St Peter’s – Morning Prayer with Online Streaming

11 am Sunday AM – Carraig Centre – with Online – Open Tickets available (50)  
11 am St. Senan's – Morning Prayer

### **19<sup>th</sup> July**

9.30 am St. Peters – Holy Communion with Online Streaming  
11 am Sunday AM – Carraig Centre – with Online – Open tickets available (50)  
7.30 pm - Blarney Service of Prayer & Praise

### **26<sup>th</sup> July**

9.30 am St Peter's – Morning Prayer with Online Streaming  
11 am Sunday AM – Carraig Centre – with Online – Open Tickets available  
11 am St. Senan's – Morning worship

### **2<sup>nd</sup> August – Ian's Retirement services**

9.30 am – Holy Communion Service with Online Streaming  
11 am – United Celebration – Carraig Centre – with online - Open Tickets available online, with presentation to Ian & Gail followed by a bring your own picnic on St Peter's Field, Carrigrohane – if it's good weather!

### **9<sup>th</sup> August**

9.30 am St Peter's – Morning Prayer with Private Streaming  
11 am Sunday AM – Carraig Centre – with Online  
7.30 pm – Blarney Evening Service

### **16<sup>th</sup> August**

9.30 am St. Peters – Holy Communion with Private Streaming  
11 am Sunday AM – Carraig Centre – with Online  
11 am – St. Senan's - Morning Worship

### **23<sup>rd</sup> August**

9.30 am St Peter's – Morning Prayer with Private Streaming  
11 am Sunday AM – Carraig Centre – with Online  
7.30 pm – Blarney Evening Service

### **30<sup>th</sup> August**

9.30 am St Peter's – Morning Prayer with Private Streaming  
11 am Sunday AM – Carraig Centre – with Online  
11 am – St. Senan's Church – Morning Worship