



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
021-4877260

Goodbye to Ian and Gail, and so many 'thank you's!

September 2020



Garrán Gail (or Gail's Grove) – the sign in honour of Gail in St Peter's Field by the recent tree planting!

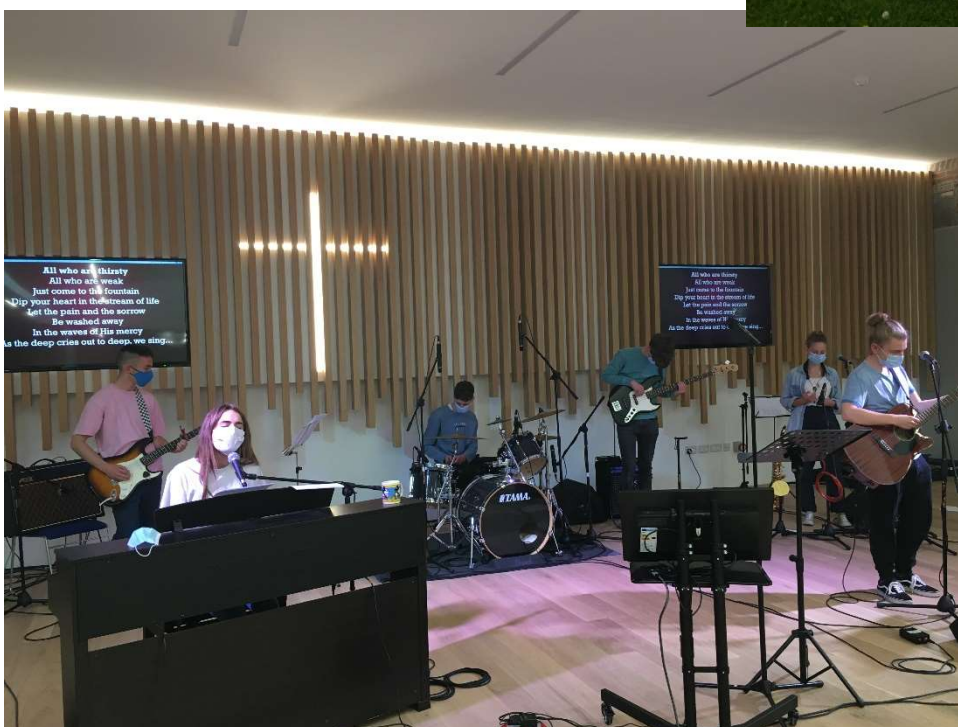


Speeches from Robert F, Robert D for the Select Vestry, Pam for the Mothers' Union/Ladies' Guild, Bill for The Carraig Centre, Richard W for Inniscarra - with videos from Bishop Paul, April for Blarney & Lighthouse, Marg for music group & Laurel for St Peter's. The other congregations also took opportunities to say goodbye and thank you. Presentations included a 'this is your life' book & a photo book of the 11 Carrigrohane Union years.

Ian has just sent an email to say many, many thanks to everyone from Gail and himself...they'll be in touch!



Good weather for the distanced picnic!



September

September is on the horizon with all its uncertainties, with its expectations and its questions. What this September will bring is unknown. I write this the day after the government announced further restrictions - these have come as a blow to some of the activities Matt & Katie had prepared for our young people & their friends - after a tremendous amount of work and very detailed risk assessment and planning. It also has put a stop on some of the things we would normally expect to see at this time of year ... but that is to be expected and we will respond creatively and sensitively to the current restrictions.

I want to thank all parishioners for your flexibility and your care as we have gradually begun to open things up. As we go forward into this month there'll be some regular things which we will be missing, some things which will be very different, and many things will be able to go ahead, however virtually. Please do keep an eye on the email updates, the Facebook page and the online virtual parish hall available on our website www.cupcork.ie/hall

I would like to mention those who for **whatever reason cannot join us in person on a Sunday** - I want to ensure that you feel you are still important to us - because you are and we miss your presence, but we do understand. If any of you would like to prepare prayers or send in one of the readings for the services, please do get in touch with me - I'd be delighted to hear from you.



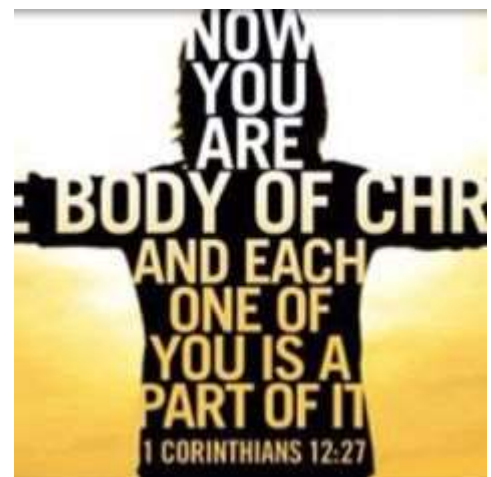
In our current setup & restrictions - **Church services are still able to happen** - we are ensuring Social Distancing, wearing face coverings, hand sanitising and have a one-way system in place around our buildings.

September also sees us having to prepare for **Easter General Vestry** - please do take a read at the details below in Connect.

United Celebrations in the Autumn – The Body Beautiful

I wish to pick up on the theme The Body Beautiful - a theme which links into the idea that the church is the Body of Christ in our world today: the world where there is pain and suffering, but also the world to which we as the church are called to serve with our own gifts, skills and passions. It is my prayer as we look at various passages of the Bible, that we'll be able to see how each person has a unique part to play in the overall mission and ministry of the church.

I would love to have conversations with anyone who is struggling to find what they can do in the body of Christ in this place. One of my overall responsibilities as a church leader here is to 'fan into flame the gift within'. In the past



few years at this time of year there has been an emphasis upon thinking about ministry – so if you are contemplating Diocesan Lay Reader, ordination, prayer / reading rota or other things please do get in touch.

United Celebrations will be held on the first Sunday of each month in the Carraig Centre - they will be ticketed - you can get information on our parish website. If you are having problems please do get in touch with the office.

Things starting back

Over the course of the next few weeks we will be having discussions with each of the group leaders in the parish to see what we can do to slowly re-start things safely following the government guidelines and risk assessments. We will be working hard to do this.

It will take time - there may be things we will have to say 'not-yet' to and other things which will be given the green light but with particular restrictions. It certainly will not be business as usual for the foreseeable future, but we will be doing what we can to ensure everyone's safety.

We will continue to alternate between Blarney and Inniscarra for services on Sunday mornings for the period of the Interregnum and will be assisted by Diocesan readers from our own parish and other parishes.

During the Interregnum Dean Nigel Dunne will be Priest-in-charge of the parish. Day to day I will be looking after things, so if there are any issues please do not hesitate to contact me.

Regards, **Robert Ferris**

Glebe matters:

- Anyone who'd like to help oil the main door of Blarney church – please contact Robert Devoy - 087 6205059
- Notices have gone up in St Peter's graveyard to explain the Eco approach being taken in maintaining the grounds. For details – please see the parish website: www.cupcork.ie/st-peters-graveyard

'EASTER GENERAL VESTRY'

At the moment, the plan is that the deferred **Annual General Meeting** of the Parish – will now be held

in The Carraig Centre on Wednesday 16 September at 7.30 pm.

This will be a ticketed event (available shortly on Eventbrite – link on the website or phone the office). It will be a short service followed by the meeting, chaired by Dean Nigel Dunne, presentation of 2019 accounts and the elections. It will be set up like the regular Sunday worship – with careful social distancing, hand sanitising, a contact tracing list and face coverings to be worn.

All members of the parish are welcome – until the tickets are all gone.

If things change, we'll notify everyone as quickly as we can!

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

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.

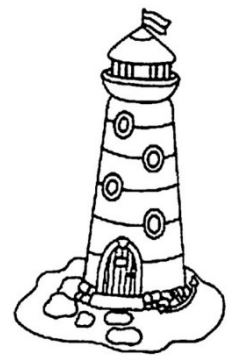
The Bishop gives this guidance on the Diocesan Website:

'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 deferred because of Covid 19, therefore the current nominators are called upon.



We're missing so many things at the moment...and will be for some time – so check out The **Lighthouse** - our Messy Church Facebook page - <https://www.facebook.com/MessyinBlarney> for activities and crafts.



Ministry Restart

Some of our ministries will be paused for a while – whilst we ensure safety and also take time to allow our volunteer leaders & team members time to adjust to the situations they find themselves in at the moment. We will provide more information in forthcoming editions of Connect.

Toddlers - In consultation with leaders both Blarney Toddlers & 'Sparks' will be paused until at least half term - however please do check out our playground at the Carraig Centre which can be booked for an hour for a household group.

Lighthouse – will be paused, but planning is happening for an event in November at the Carraig Centre and we will maintain an on-line offering at the end of September – do keep checking their Facebook page.

Robert



the
carraig
centre
building hope together

With the new COVID 19 restrictions we were concerned to implement any changes required. All our own activities are being reviewed.

We will still be meeting on Sunday mornings for our informal church service called Sunday AM, booked on-line at Eventbrite. Our playground will continue to be available for free use by “households”, booked with a call to 021 487 7260 during office hours.

We are delighted that our wider community of users include Little Fine Artists camp who are continuing with their creative activities for the rest of the week, Slimming World is underway again Thursday, Friday and Saturday though with slightly different arrangements. Bricks4Kidz Lego camp and a Nutty Scientists’ Science camp have already enjoyed using the main hall space for a week each in August.

Thank you to the great team of volunteers who are taking turns on the rota at the reception desk (anyone else who’d like to join the team, contact Bill or Patsy!) – and to everyone who has continued to help us ‘move in’, put up notice-boards, build dishwashers, re-paint walls, gardening, removing rubbish etc, etc!

We are so looking forward to welcoming many more groups and activities (including a few children’s birthday parties when conditions permit), including Enable Ireland’s Ballincollig Community Hub, Pilates, the YMCA, Ballet, Baby and Toddler Sensory and our own Toddler group - again when conditions permit! **Bill Lane**



CALENDAR

Sunday 30 August

9.30 am - St Peter's, Carrigrohane – Morning Prayer (and on-line)
11 am – The Carraig Centre, Ballincollig – Sunday AM (and on-line)
11 am – St. Senan's, Inniscarra – Morning Prayer

Sunday 6 September

9.30 am - St Peter's, Carrigrohane – Holy Communion (and on-line)
11 am – The Carraig Centre – UNITED CELEBRATION (and on-line)

Sunday 13 September

9.30 am - St Peter's, Carrigrohane – Morning Prayer (and on-line)
11 am – The Carraig Centre, Ballincollig – Sunday AM (and on-line)
11 am – The Church of the Resurrection, Blarney – Holy Communion

Wednesday 16 September

'Easter General' Meeting – the parish A.G.M. that was deferred – in The Carraig Centre, Ballincollig at 7.30 pm. Tickets from Eventbrite!

Sunday 20 September

9.30 am - St Peter's, Carrigrohane – Morning Prayer (and on-line)
11 am – The Carraig Centre, Ballincollig – Sunday AM (and on-line)
11 am – St. Senan's, Inniscarra – Morning Worship

Sunday 27 September

9.30 am - St Peter's, Carrigrohane – Morning Prayer (and on-line)
11 am – The Carraig Centre, Ballincollig – Sunday AM with Holy Communion (and on-line)
11 am – The Church of the Resurrection, Blarney – Morning Prayer

Sunday 4 October

9.30 am - St Peter's, Carrigrohane – Morning Prayer (and on-line)
11 am – The Carraig Centre – HARVEST UNITED CELEBRATION (and on-line)

- For the Inniscarra services – please let Andrew know by email inniscarra@cupcork.ie if you plan to attend.
- For Sunday AM services in The Carraig Centre book 'tickets' online- www.cupcork.ie/hall
- 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.

Update on Youth Work in CUP



Very sadly MOVE in The Carraig Centre had to be cancelled as the updated restrictions came in – just as the planning, great leaders’ meeting and all the safety and risk assessments had been completed!

The Growing Leaders’ Taster session on 30 August will still be able to go ahead! We’re also planning that Sunday PM will be up and running again in the coming weeks – all with safety and advised restrictions in place.

We wish Katie a successful and helpful time on her Parental Leave this term – and at the time of writing this we’re preparing to interview the possible candidates for a part-time person to cover her hours.

This time of uncertainty and restriction has been hard on all sections of society – including the young people. Please continue to pray for them – for encouragement and strength as they return to school, college or work.

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 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



"THE BEST I CAN DO FOR CHRISTMAS EVE IS THREE TOGETHER IN THE NINTH ROW."

PARISH CONTACTS AND OFFICE HOURS:

**The Parish Office is closed Mondays and open on:
Tuesdays, Thursdays & Fridays from 9.30 am – 12.30 pm; and Wednesdays 9.30 am – 5.30 pm.**

Phone: 4877260 - office@cupcork.ie

Associate Minister: Robert Ferris – 4516620 - robert@cupcork.ie

Youth Worker: Matt Gould – 085-1080067 - youth@cupcork.ie

WEBSITE: www.cupcork.ie & find us on Facebook!