

CARRIGROHANE UNION OF PARISHES



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

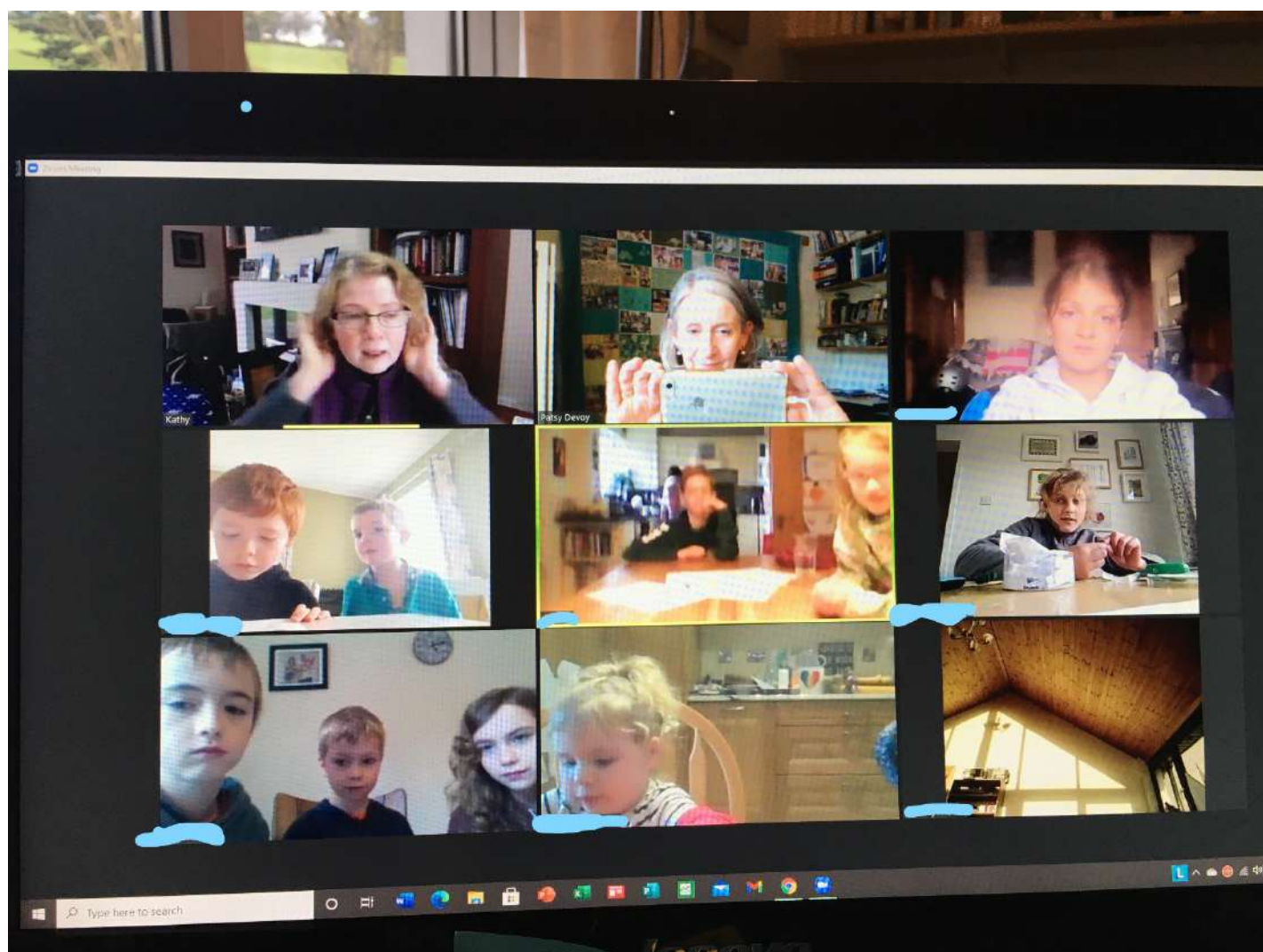
www.cupcork.ie
021-4877260

March 2021

Everyone is zooming these days !!!

Some of our Adventurers joined a zoom together for a Scavanger Hunt recently – and we shared jokes!

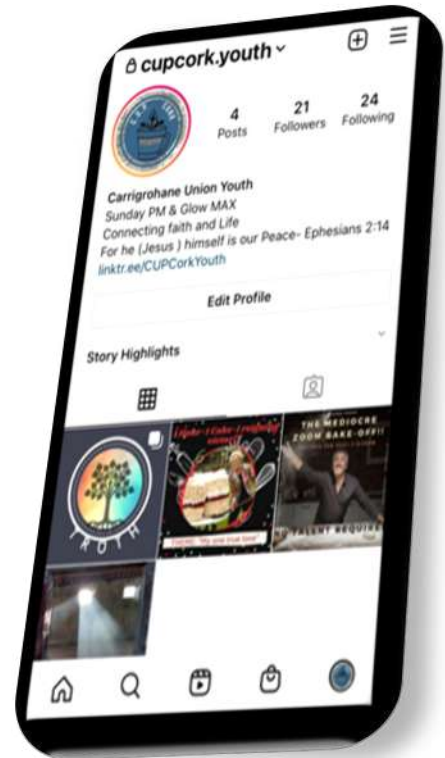
We're now working on lego (and other kinds!) of challenges through the rest of Lent and Holy Week – so watch out for the results!



YOUTH UPDATE

We're delighted to have started up an Instagram page for Glow MAX and Sunday PM to post upcoming events, thoughts for the day, encouraging bible verses.

Here's a link for any secondary school aged young people who'd like to know more 😊



Having passed the half-way mark of our Growing leaders course we ask for your continued prayer for this group of young people and their mentors. They've done an amazing job remaining committed in spite of restrictions leading to more online content. We ask that God would bless them and move in their lives - especially in this next stage of the course.



Follow the QR code to the Parish YouTube channel for some snippets of the evening!

In December we had the privilege of running an evening of reflective worship and prayer for our teens and young adults, surrounding the word **"Nevertheless"** as the pivoting point of Hope between Isaiah 8 & 9. It was such a special event - being able to gather together in person and find ways to still make music and draw near to God - even with all the restrictions. Thanks to David Backhouse for leading worship, Matt Gould for speaking and everyone who came along.

CUP CORK YOUTH ZOOM BAKE-OFF

A group from Sunday PM and Glow MAX put their baking skills to the test with a (rather chaotic) fun-packed Bake-off during mid-term.

Our wonderful Judges

Chris' Bass-ic Sponge (Best interpretation of the theme winner)



Anne's Chocolate Swiss Roll (Tastiest looking bake winner!)



Rachel and Grace's lovely doggo made an appearance



Our theme was

"My one true love"

...So naturally 2 of our young people (Kevin and Dary) made cakes of Michael D Higgins!

Even receiving recognition from the man himself on Twitter!!!



Adam's Pokéball cake (Star Baker)



Matt's Best Effort winner!



Matt Gould



Grace's Bread and Butter Pudding

Lydia's Football Ice-cream Cake





the
**carraig
centre**
building hope together

Carraig Centre Update:

Hard to believe it is a full year since we took possession of the Carraig Centre from Clancy's, the builders. It has been an eventful year, one filled with great highs and lows! It has been wonderful to get this space into operation, haltingly at

times with. the Covid-19 restrictions coming and going, but so much positive has happened as well!

We have "weathered" great storms which have shown a weakness in the hundred year old downspouts and which Clancy's have rectified brilliantly, we have come into chilling temperatures as we got the heating system sorted out and functioning smoothly. Our snag list has shrunk to two remaining items and we have full reassurance from Clancy's that they will stand over their work if any build issues emerge.

It has been wonderful to have a wide variety of people coming and going during the various restriction phases as Enable Ireland Adult Day services are considered essential services. This has let us keep the place warm and functioning and while we have had large populations here last summer and autumn for a wide range of activities, during the more extreme Level 5 restrictions Enable Ireland has been here every week day along with a recovery group once a week. During the relaxed restriction times we have had Polish after school classes, Baby and Toddler sensory, Slimming World, Konfident Kids drama, Little Fine Artists camp and classes, Bricks4Kidz Lego and Nutty Scientists camps, Buzzy Bounce Box toddler action classes, and Cork Education and Training Board Adult Ed classes. During more recent lockdowns we have kept the outdoor



play areas open and during finer weather these have been greatly appreciated as safe restricted access areas by young families from near and far. We couldn't have managed without a wonderful team of volunteer receptionists last summer and autumn, everyone pitching in to give a friendly welcome to our visitors, as well as the great support from Patsy and Jaki in the office and Robert Ferris as overall supervisor and Covid-19 officer! In the gardens Robert Devoy, Mel Harris, Chuck and

Kathy Hohnbaum and so many others have planted, built and planned lovely spaces which the coming spring will bring to blossom no doubt as things get finished.

When allowed it has been wonderful to have our CUP activities here as well. Ranging from the Youth activities late last summer and during the early autumn to the in-person and on-line Sunday services and the host site for the on-line Alpha course, the bigger spaces and facilities of the Carraig Centre have provided great opportunities to interact in appropriate ways with each other. While still feeling "artificial" and constrained it has been a blessing to at least be present together!



Under Robert Devoy's chairmanship the Board of the Carraig Centre CLG has come together and done amazing work guided by Ivan McMahon, Jessie Kindler and Jane Moffatt to get the CLG off the ground. The interregnum slowed things down a little, but progress is picking up now as we aim for charitable tax status over the next months.

So, as we look ahead to a hopefully easier 2021 and the rollout of the vaccination programme, we are eagerly awaiting more activity in the Centre. While we can keep light and heat on

with the finances available under Level 5 restriction activities, we will welcome the increased resources that more guests will bring! In addition, we are hopeful of some moves on the anchor tenant unfinished side of the building which would allow us to put into action the staffing plan that was always foreseen, extending our outreach and service activity in the community. God is good and His ways are always perfect; we thank and bless Him for His great provision.

Bill



Ramblings from the Rectory ... A year on ...

I write this a year on from the time that the World Health Organisation declared the Coronavirus Pandemic . I write this a year on from the time when I was setting up the phone system in the Carraig Centre and as you've just read its remarkable what has been achieved in the past 12 months despite of the pandemic

When I reflect upon both the bad and the good ... What a strange year it has been but also what we've been able to do and we've not been able to do.

During the next couple of weeks I'll be taking time to reflect upon the year that has been for us as a parish in preparation for **Easter General Vestry on the 14th April at 8pm** – Please do put this date in your diary. I do hope that this will be a time when we can gather and be greatly encouraged about what is being accomplished in this Union of Parishes as well as challenged about what God might be calling us to in the years ahead.

As we begin to see glimmers of hope as more of us get the vaccine and talk begins about the opening up of society in limited ways over the next months.

Holy Week and Easter are again approaching, and it is my hope that we as a parish will be able to take time to walk the way of the cross and celebrate together on Easter Day.
Robert

Holy Week & Easter Day

At time of writing practicalities of Holy Week in Carrigrohane Union are still being worked out but there will be a daily act of worship Monday – Friday. As a Union of Parishes we are thankful for the many people who are able to create content across the Union and Diocese as we celebrate the event that changed the world forever. More details will be circulated on our website www.cupcork.ie/hall

Monday -Wednesday – A daily recorded reflection released on our Facebook & Youtube Channels

Maundy Thursday – The Diocesan Maundy Thursday Holy Communion Service will be available we are also planning at 6.30pm a Parish Zoom Agape meal

Good Friday – The Stations of the Cross – Reading from various parishes along the River Lee including Carrigrohane and A Tenebrae service will be broadcast

Easter Day – A Celebration of Holy Communion for Easter Day from the Carraig Centre. We will also be having a Zoom Coffee before the service

Regular Sunday worship

We will continue with our Live Service broadcasts at 11am each Sunday whilst churches remain closed and will resume in-person worship when the restrictions lift. You can find details in our virtual parish hall www.cupcork.ie/hall

St. Patrick's Day

– An online service at 11am led by Robert with Preacher Revd Simon Genoe. Links as usual on www.cupcork.ie/hall

Robert say's "I'm really looking forward to having Simon join with us on St. Patrick's day. Simon is a great friend who I have known for many years, he was recently Best Man at our wedding in Blarney. He is Rector of Magheralin & Dollingstown in Down and Dromore Diocese and also Assistant Leader of New Wine Ireland"

Simon is pictured on St. Patrick's day in 2017 with former Rector of Carrigrohane Bishop Harold Millar



Rectory Renovations

We're delighted that Robert and Noelle have moved into the Rectory. To get ready for the move, the rectory was cleaned and painted and received some new carpets and window coverings. Besides the finishings, we've also been looking at the energy efficiency of the rectory and how we as a parish can better care for our environment and our rector and his family. The rectory received a BER rating of D1; a big concern was the three open fireplaces. Open fireplaces are a problem from an energy efficiency perspective because they put a big, draughty hole through a house, kind of like putting a big hole through a warm ski jacket. It wouldn't do such a good job keeping you with a hole. Open fireplaces are also a problem because burning fuel—especially smoky fuels like bituminous coal, peat, turf or wet wood—pollutes the air and harms thousands through air-pollution related illnesses, including asthma, heart disease and stroke (for current information from the Irish Heart Foundation, see <https://irishheart.ie/news/public-unaware-of-serious-health-impacts-of-burning-smoky-fuel/>).

Robert and Noelle's solution was to cap 2 of the chimneys, install 3 'Chimney sheep' to keep heat in, then install two electric fire (1 fireplace remains operational should it be required) and chose an electricity supplier that uses 100% renewable sources. Their decision, supported by the vestry, encourages us all to burn less fuel and be more energy efficient. Not everyone has a choice, but if you do, how about limiting the number of fires that you light? Sitting in front of the fire is pleasant but improving the climate and health of our neighbourhoods is vital. One might even see it as an opportunity to love one's neighbours as oneself! I hope the rectory is a warm, energy-efficient, and happy home for Robert and Noelle for many years to come and thank them for encouraging us all to examine our energy choices.

Mary Venables

Robert & Noelle add – Thank you to all who have made the move possible, for the various cards and gifts and for the Vestry support as we make the Rectory our home ☺



If anyone would like to come along to a zoom cuppa (or glass?!) and chat catch-up - meeting from
7.30-8.30 pm on Thursday 18 March –
a few of the Mothers' Union/Ladies' Guild
group are planning to gather! All welcome!



Patsy is hosting and will send out the link to anyone who'd like to come along. Please text or whatsapp on 087 6413559 or send an email to patsy@cupcork.ie and I'll send out the link out to you in the morning on 18th.

CUP Bank Details for Standing Orders or direct lodgements:

Carrigrohane Union Select Vestry Current Account, AIB, Patrick Street, Cork.

Account: 21109077

IBAN: IE89 AIBK 9342 8321 1090 77

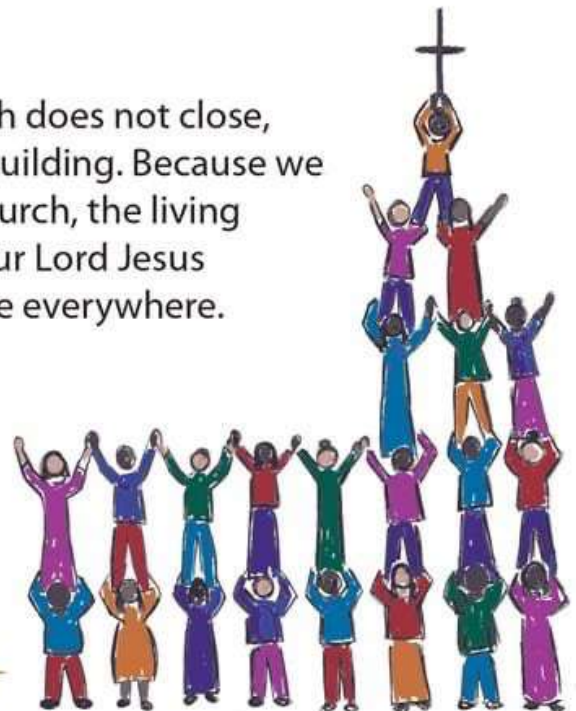
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Continued grateful thanks to everyone for generous giving to the life & work of the Parish.

Please note that any lodgements and Standing Orders that are anonymous means your generous giving can't be included in the annual Tax Reclaim that is such a great help in our annual finances. If you prefer your name not to be on the bank statements, but you are willing to let Patsy know who you are, we can do the necessary work to substantially increase the value of your gifts.

It's great to announce that the
St Peter's Centre
on Church Hill, Carrigrohane
will have a new use on
Wednesdays – as
'Neighbourfood' will be there,
with customers driving in to
collect the boxes of produce
that they've pre-ordered.

The church does not close,
only the building. Because we
are the church, the living
body of our Lord Jesus
and we are everywhere.



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.*

Jaki & Patsy are working from home until restrictions allow a return to The Carraig Centre office.

Phone: 4877260 - office@cupcork.ie

Rector: Robert Ferris – 085 1800720 - robert@cupcork.ie

Youth Workers: Matt Gould matt@cupcork.ie – 085-1080067 & Sarah hockey -
sarah@cupcork.ie

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