

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

www.cupcork.ie



From Robert's Desk!

Welcome to the new look Connect Newsletter

Over the course of the next few months we will be experimenting with layouts and features within Connect. I want to thank Deirdre for her willingness to experiment with a new piece of software. It is my hope that we build upon the success of Connect down through the years going forward.



A new season & new faces

As we get into September we will be welcoming various new staff members – Revd Abigail Sines joins us – details can be found elsewhere about her welcome service. Our new appointment for our Church Army post has been made and we're delighted to announce that Sarah Louise Hockey will be joining the team as our Pioneer Evangelist/Youth Worker. Also at the Carraig Centre we welcome Raymond who will be taking on the role of Caretaker.

As we welcome new faces we are **saying farewell** to others

Alexander Couples who has been with us whilst he studied at UCC – Alexander has been part of our parish now for a few years and has been involved in various groups

We also are prayerfully wishing Michael Kenning well as he begins his studies at the Church of Ireland Theological Institution.

New Opportunities for Service

At our United Celebration in September we are highlighting many opportunities for service and engagement in the parish.

- Welcome Teams at Sunday AM (Tea/Coffee, Welcome)
- Prayer & Reader Rota in Blarney, Inniscarra & St. Peter's
- Helping with Holy Communion in all of our worship Spaces
- Volunteer opportunities at the Carraig Centre & Youth work
- Toddler Teams in Blarney & Carraig Centre
- Lighthouse / Messy Church Teams
- Practical work around the Carraig Centre & various venues

If you would like to find out any more information please send Deirdre at office@cupcork.ie know and she can point you in the right direction



Front Cover Image—Image from the front Cover—By Patsy Devoy—from the Souls of our feet Exhibition at the Carraig Centre.

Confirmation

Over the Autumn Robert will be compiling a list of those wishing to be confirmed – Whether that be adults or young people. If you would like to be confirmed please do let Deirdre in the office know and we will be in touch about classes in due course.



Appointment of Sarah-Louise Hockey

We're delighted to announce that Sarah-Louise Hockey is to be Church Army Pioneer Evangelist / Youthworker based in the Parish.

This Centre of Mission is a 3-way partnership between Church Army, the Diocese of Cork, Cloyne & Ross and The Carraig Centre (Carrigrohane Union of Parishes) in Ballincollig.
Sarah-Louise will be working alongside Lead Evangelist Matt Gould as part of the staff team in Carrigrohane Union.

Isaac Hanna, Mission Development Officer for Ireland North and South says.... "Sarah-Louise's appointment brings the Cork COM up to its full complement of staff and I look forward to seeing how this vital

pioneer Ministry grows even more"

For the past 2 years, Sarah-Louise has been working as a part-time youth worker a role which she took on in the midst of the pandemic. She comes to the post after graduating from University College Cork and is currently studying for a Certificate in Theology and Practice at the Church of Ireland Theological Institute. She has much experience in leading youth and children's ministries in a variety of settings.

Sarah-Louise said -

"It's been such a joy to have been part of and also to have grown with the CUP youth program over the last two years. I'm so excited to see how God will move in and through us as a church family as we continue to build up and invest in the lives of our young people.

I'm also really looking forward to this partnership with Church Army as we prepare to engage with the wider community more deeply, building upon the roots that have been planted over the years and especially working to cultivate a place of belonging here for local teens who so often fall under the radar.

I'm so delighted to be taking on this new role and I'm very grateful for all the prayers and support, and the opportunity to get to serve in this way."

The initial focus of this new role alongside the existing pioneering youth work programme in place, will be to prepare for and deliver the launch of an after schools drop-in space for local young people who are unconnected with church, which it is hoped will start early in 2023.

Abigail Sines Welcome Service

On Saturday 17th September at 3pm - we will welcome Revd Abigail Sines as Associate Minister here in CUP. The Service will be held in the Church of the Resurrection, Blarney – followed by a cuppa in the Blarney Castle Hotel across the square.

All are welcome – seating will be limited so we are asking all to please sign up on the Eventbrite page below:

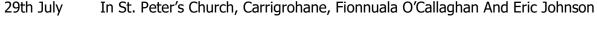
This is linked to from our Virtual parish hall. www.cupcork.ie/hall

From the Registers

Marriages

9th July In St. Senan's Church, Inniscarra, Abigail Watson & Ian Nugent

16th July In The Church of the Resurrection, Blarney, Jade McMurtry and Victor Gibson







Congratulations to Abigail & Ian on their big day

MEET, EAT, LAUGH, TALK IN THE CARRAIG CENTRE WILL BE ON THURS 27 OCTOBER & THURS 15 DECEMBER

Diocesan News

Our Diocesan News can be found in full on the Diocesan NewsBlog -

https://churchofirelandcork.com/

Carrigrohane Union is part of the Diocese of Cork, Cloyne and Ross



To further develop the link between the Diocese of Lichfield, UK and the Diocese of Cork, Cloyne and Ross, the Rev. Julia Cody, link person from Lichfield, visited the Diocese of Cork during the month of July 2022 as part of her sabbatical. It is very important to both Dioceses that, in the wake of BREXIT and other events, they maintain strong links with each other.

During her time in Cork, the Rev. Julia Cody visited a number of parishes, events, and sights all across County Cork. She discovered the many different aspects of life in the Diocese, from the urban parts to the most rural parts, and she also got to know the varied and inclusive nature of the Church of Ireland in Cork, Cloyne and Ross. Many of the parishes, youth groups, and organisations in the Diocese showed great interest in building lasting relationships, and welcomed the initiative, inviting Julia to their churches, events, and homes.

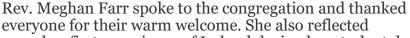
New Faces in the Diocese



On Sunday, 24th July 2022, the **Rev. Terry Mitchell** was instituted as priest-in-charge of Kilmoe Union of Parishes and also as Diocesan Further Education and Training Officer by the Bishop Paul Colton.

Kilmoe Union, where Terry will be based, includes the parishes of Schull, Altar and Crookhaven. The role of Diocesan Further Education and Training Officer is a new one in the Diocese of Cork, Cloyne and Ross. As the first appointee to this post, Terry will oversee, administrate and innovate the provision of further education and lifelong learning within the Diocese. He will also actively teach and deliver some of the courses.

On Wednesday 6th July 2022, the Reverend **Meghan Farr** was licensed as priest-in-charge of one of our neighbouring parishes - the **Parish of Saint Anne**, **Shandon**, **and as Chaplain to Saint Luke's Home**, **Cork**.







Rev. Jean Carney as the new **Curate Assistant to Douglas Union of Parishes with Frankfield**. Jean is currently a Deacon and will be ordained to the priesthood by the Bishop on 14th September, 2022 in St Fin Barre's Cathedral, Cork.

Parish BBQ on Friday 26 August.

We had a gloriously sunny evening for our Parish BBQ. Thanks to Robert, Chuck and Paddy who did the cooking and to all who brought lots of lovely food.















in

Carrigrohane Union of Parishes

For links to online services—check out www.cupcork.ie/hall

Date	St Peter's Carrigrohane	The Carraig Centre, Ballincollig	St Senan's, Inniscarra	The Church of the Resurrection, Blarney
4.9.22	9.30am Service of Baptism	11 am United Celebration		
11.9.22	9.30am Holy Communion	11am Sunday AM	11am Morning Prayer	11am Holy Communion
18.9.22	9.30am Family Service	11am Sunday Am Holy Communion		11am Service of the Word
25.9.22	9.30am Holy Communion	11am Sunday AM	11am Holy Communion	3.30pm LIGHTHOUSE



Toy Library

Just a reminder that we're open for 'business' on the first Friday of every month—in the Playroom of the Carraig Centre.

12-1pm



Opinion

'Some Kind of Protestant' by George Quinn

Some years ago, I was in a group doing a day-long fund-raiser. During one of those quiet times when little chats develop, one of the group told us she was going out with a protestant. During the conversation, an acquaintance in the group said to me, "aren't you some kind of protestant?" I replied that I was a member of the Church of Ireland. In due course, the conversation moved on to other things, and I probably wouldn't have remembered it except that around that time I was listening to a radio program about non-Catholics in broadcasting and one of the panellists named a well-known broadcaster and described him as some kind of protestant.

Given Irish history, it is good that people can accept others as being some kind of Protestant without being upset about having them around and in positions of influence in society. So, leaving out the "some kind," what is a protestant? The word "protestant" comes from the Latin word "protestari," meaning "to bear witness," and the English word "protest." The first reformers, like Martin Luther, were "protesting" against certain doctrines and practices of the Catholic church. Protestantism traces its theological roots to the New Testament church. Protestants believe that Scripture alone is authoritative for establishing doctrine and proper Christian practice.

It is rather amusing to hear the term "protestant" being used, never mind the term "some kind of protestant" in the 21st century. I suppose when the word "protestant" is used, it is an attempt to describe the people who are not members of the Roman Catholic church and to know at least what Christian label they go under if any. I don't think the dictionary definition of "protestant" fits in this day and age. I haven't heard any protestants doing any protesting, at least none that upset any great number of people in recent times. Believing that Scripture alone is authoritative for establishing doctrine and proper Christian practice does not truly describe all those who are labelled as protestants.

In recent years, I have come to understand that, by some scholars' views, over one-quarter of the Bible is prophecy. Yet, it doesn't seem to make it to the pulpit for a sermon in any meaningful manner. Yes! The prophecies about Jesus are accepted, but what about the rest of them that are not yet fulfilled? Just read Matthew 24 and what Jesus prophesied. When I was growing up, it was pretty much a standard belief that protestants read their bibles. So, do protestants just read the nice parts about a gentle Jesus, meek and mild,

who went to the cross to pay for the sins of the world and who will return to judge the world sometime in the future but that is nothing to concern ourselves with right now?

Prophecy is not in the Bible for entertainment, and what some prophecies say will be no fun for those alive when they begin to come true. I believe God wants us to know where we are in time and place. If we are in the end times, as many claim, we need to be able to recognize a false prophet and false doctrine so we won't be taken in by the wolves turned false shepherd. Could it be that bible-reading protestants just don't read books of the bible like Daniel and Revelation or search the scriptures the way the Bereans did?

Do protestants understand and heed scripture's injunctions as they should? In recent years, some church leaders have taken part in the Hindu festival of lights, Diwali. Here is some information on this festival.

Dhanteras is the first day of the festive celebrations. The word *Dhanteras* itself means wealth and prosperity. The day holds special significance as people choose this day to invest in gold or jewellery. On this auspicious occasion, new clothes and utensils for Diwali are also bought. The day also pays homage to Lord Dhanwantri, who is

associated with Ayurveda, a form of natural therapy and various healing practices. *Narak Chaturdasi, or "Small Diwali,"* is the second day. This day signifies the triumph of Goddess Kali and Lord Krishna over the demons to free the world from fear. The festival is all about dissolving the bad and protecting others. *Diwali, or Deepavali,* is the main day of the *Festival of Lights,* symbolic of the triumph of good over evil and light over darkness. On this day, Mother Lakshmi is worshipped to achieve the blessings of wealth and prosperity. *Diwali Padwa and Govardhan Puja* fall on the fourth day. On this day, also celebrated as **Vishwakarma Day**, people worship their instruments, arms, and machinery. *Bhai-Dhuj, t*he fifth day of Diwali, is a day dedicated to family bonding.

It is worth looking up some of these Hindu gods, especially Kali, in the Encyclopedia Britannica because of their attributes. It doesn't make for pleasant reading, especially when so many Christians are involved in yoga. The word "**Yoga**" is derived from the Sanskrit root "Yuj", meaning "to join" or "to yoke" or "to unite". The word "YUJ" describes a physical device used to join cattle at the neck for work. Yoga is joining or uniting with Hindu gods, whether the practitioners are aware of this or not.

If Christians believe Jesus is the light of the world, then we cannot attach ourselves to the Hindu religion, which has many gods, or indeed any religion that does not admit that Jesus Christ is the son of God. According to Matthew 6: 22–23,

22. The eye is the lamp of the body. If your eyes are good, your whole body will be full of light. **23.** But if your eyes are bad, your whole body will be dark. If the light within you is darkness, how great is that darkness? Diwali light celebrating demon gods must surely be darkness to a Christian.

Christians expect Jesus to return for his church at the end of this age. As regards Islam, Muslims expect their own Messiah, or Mahadi (the one who is guided), to come at the end of the age and that Jesus will be his servant. This poses very deep questions for those who pray with Muslims as equals and also profess Jesus as their God and saviour.

St. Paul tells us in **Corinthians, 6. 14–18**, "Do not be unequally yoked together with unbelievers." For what relationship does righteousness have with lawlessness? And what communion has light had with darkness? And what accord does Christ have with Belial? Or what part does a believer have with an unbeliever? **16**And what agreement has the temple of God had with idols? For you are the temple of the living God. As God has said, I will dwell in them. And walk among them. I will be their God, and they shall be my people. "**17**Therefore, "Come out from among them and be separate, says the Lord. Do not touch what is unclean, and I will receive you. "18 says the Lord Almighty, "I will be a father to you, and you shall be my sons and daughters."

Opinion is a new column—the views expressed are personal opinion of the author.



The Lighthouse – Messy Church in Blarney

The Lighthouse returns again after the summer break on Sunday 25th September 3.30 – 5.30pm. Each afternoon will begin with an hour or so of activities based around the Bible story, followed by Celebration which includes songs, Bible story and creative prayer-time and the afternoon ends with time to chat together as we eat a meal. We look forward to welcoming you back after the summer.

The Lighthouse team are The Lighthouse team are looking for new members. If anyone is interested, please contact April at lighthouse@cupcork.ie.

Maybe you're thinking:

'I'm not sure if I'm interested' - well you could come along one Sunday afternoon to see what it is all about.

- or 'I don't know if I have the right skills' well there are just so many different ways to be involved, I'm sure we will be able to match you to an area that interests you and you might even discover a skill you hadn't realised you had!
- or 'I'm not sure I could commit to going each month' well you don't have to! The commitment you make is up to you, it might be a once off commitment, or to come once a term or once a year...



Summer is a time when we often move away from our regular rhythms of the term and embrace the "all -over-the-place-ness' that the school break brings. However, even with holidays, kids camps, visits from family and more, our young people still found the time to gather together for a bit or our usually craziness.



Our youth café hang out space was a very chill (albeit

occasionally competitive- did someone say 'spoons?') atmosphere and it was wonderful to be able to invite some of our Ukrainian friends along to be part of it.

We also enjoyed some time to get together, chat and be creative as a small group has been working on some



Carraig Centre windows

It was such a privilege to be able to bring two of our young people to the CIY (Christ in Youth) 'Move' festival in Kildare in August. We, and a few from Douglas Methodist joined forces with Trinity Church Dublin's 'Ruach' Youth.

After such a long time spent looking for ways to follow restrictions and keep apart, there was something very powerful about the unity that came about at Move. The group gelled within hours and it was so special to join with so many youth leaders and young people, all worshipping our wonderful God together!



God is moving powerfully and I'm so excited to see what He does next!

We also had an opportunity to meet with some of our soon-to be- first-years and chat about how they're feeling about the







move to Secondary School. We had a lovely afternoon of games, discussions, creativity, and a (not-so-hypothetical) dream pizza order! Looking forward to having these guys join our older teens for more in September!

To conclude our main summer events, a group of us headed down to

Fountainstown beach for the afternoon. Everyone braved a swim in the sea, and very much

enjoyed warming up afterwards with some toasted marshmallows!

Thank you so much to everyone who has helped out over the summer. Those who have given their time, energy and prayers to serve and support our young people. It's been such a



joy to be a part of!

-Sarah Louise :)



The Alpha Course

Thursday 22 September
7.30pm
The Carraig Centre

The Alpha Course runs for 11 weeks and is a great opportunity to explore the basics of the Christian faith in a friendly, informal atmosphere. Each week covers a different topic using film and group discussion. It's open to all faiths and none! Maybe you know a neighbour, colleague or family member whom you could invite.

For more information see cupcork.ie/alpha-course

Interview with Abigail Sines

As we look forward to meeting our new Associiate Minister Abigail, we thought it would be nice to find out a bit about her as a way of introduction to the

What brought you to Ireland?

I originally came to Belfast to take up a master's course in theology. Of course I was only intending to live in Belfast for 2 years to complete the course things took a turn, and it became a major transition in life! When I travelled over, I was only thinking of the course as a sort of 'career break' but it became so much more.

What have you been doing since you got here?

As I settled in to the MTh course in Belfast Bible College, I was considering what church to land on as 'home' for my student time. I had a sense that I wanted to be in a church that I could walk to, so that I could get involved and be connected with people. There was no shortage of churches in the immediate local area(!) and I went along one Sunday to the local Church of Ireland parish. Despite not having come from an Anglican background, by the end of that service I felt that that was the church that I should remain part of. I had entered into my course without much thought for what I would do after, with perhaps a vacue sense of interest in considering an academic



What areas of ministry are you most excited about?

I love the chance to be creative! One of the most rewarding things to have been involved with over my ministry within the cathedral was our creative Lent series, which involved working with

What areas of ministry are you most excited about?

I love the chance to be creative! One of the most rewarding things to have been involved with over my ministry within the cathedral was our creative Lent series, which involved working with contemporary dance and music artists. These collaborations involved people at different places in a faith journey but were focused around an agreed spiritual theme or biblical text, and built toward an a reflective 'pilgrimage' evening that took place in the cathedral space in Holy Week. I really enjoy opportunities to develop creative and experiential prayer spaces, whether these are geared towards adults for a reflection evening or for kids as well in context of something like Messy Church. Engaging in creative work helps me feel a real sense of connection to the expansiveness and creativity of God's Spirit. Even in something simple, like a Bible discussion group, when making space for silence and trusting in the activity of God's Spirit it is very rewarding to see the depth of learning and growth that happen when we pause and take time to listen both to one another and to what God brings alive to us within the text.

How do you spend your down time?

To relax I really enjoy going for walks. I find that it's one of the most effective ways for me to unplug as it gets me completely away from screens. I like seasides, mountains and forests equally, as long as I can get away at least once in a week for a good stretch of a walk I find that I feel much more balanced and fresh. I also always have some kind of craft project on the go knitting, crocheting painting or something like that to keep my hands busy. Karl and I both enjoy travelling and visiting new places.

What are you looking forward to most about moving to Cork?

I am excited for new opportunities and experiences. It is a big move but there is so much that is positive and inspirational that is going on in the Carrigrohane Union I'm really looking forward to learning new things and to contributing to the team.



CORK STRFFT PASTORS

At the launch of Cork Street Pastors in 2012 it was said that the church would never be able to sustain such a demanding voluntary service. Now, Cork Street Pastors is a registered charity and a registered company and celebrating 10 years of Christian service to the people of Cork.

Cork Street Pastors is recognised by Cork City Council and An Garda Siochana as providing an essential support service to the night time economy of Cork City, and assisting those in need of support and care, protecting any who are vulnerable of abuse or worse.

To further strengthen the work of Cork Street Pastors, they are promoting their current recruitment campaign with a public promotional event at the

Grand Parade, Cork on Saturday 24th September from 4.00pm to 9.00pm.

It's Autumn!

Our fellowship groups and Bible Study groups are starting up again. If you would like to join a group, get in touch and we'll put you in contact with a group in your area. (Deirdre@cupcork.ie)



Carraig Centre Growth Group starts back on Thursday 22 September @ 7.30pm

Blarney Growth Group starts back on Tuesday 20 September @ 8pm (Church of the Resurrection)

This group can also be joined on Zoom for those who can't be there in person.

CUP Bank Details for Standing Orders or direct lodgements:

Carrigrohane Union Select Vestry Current Account, AIB, South Mall, Cork.

Account: 21109077 IBAN: IE89 AIBK 9342 8321 1090 77

BIC: AIBKIE2D

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 Deirdre know who you are, we can do the necessary work to substantially increase the value of your gifts.

Connecting With Us via Social Media

We're on Facebook—facebook.com/cupcork
We're also on Youtube—youtube.com/cupcork

Safeguarding Trust

The Rector, Select Vestry and parish leaders are committed to upholding good practice in the Parish's ministry with children, young people, and vulnerable adults. Should you have a concern or suspicion regarding child welfare in the parish please contact a member of the parish panel below or any of the statutory agencies:

Robert Ferris - 085 1800720; Jane Moffatt - 086 8935866;



Rector: Rev Robert Ferris 085 1800720 Robert@cupcork.ie

Associate Minister: Rev Abigail Sines Abigail@cupcork.ie

(from 17 Sept)

Community leader & Lead Evangelist: Matt Gould 085 1080067

matt@carraigcentre.ie

Pioneer Evangelist & Youth Worker: Sarah Louise Hockey 085 2774346

sarahlouise@cupcork.ie

TCC Bookings Manager: Bill Lane bill@carraigcentre.ie

The Carraig Centre reception: Monday to Friday 9am—5pm

The Parish Office: Monday to Friday 9.30am—1.30pm

Phone: 4877260 office@cupcork.ie

Parish Administrator: Deirdre@cupcork.ie

Parish Secretary: Jaki@cupcork.ie

Finance Officer: Mary@cupcork.ie

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

Carrigrohane Union of Parishes:

Our Mission:

- Our mission is to be an authentic, open community of all ages and stages:
- Making whole-life disciples of Jesus who live and share His gospel
- Praying, playing, and learning together
- Worshiping God passionately



Our Identity:



Carrigrohane Union is a union of churches whose members are drawn from near and far. Each of our four congregations seeks:

- To be centred on the life and teaching of Jesus
- To grow in his love together
- To express his love in action

Our Purpose:

We seek to be a church for everyone; following Jesus's example of serving our community, making disciples, and enabling people to experience the generosity of God.



Our Values:



Risk taking which allows us to try new things because we worship a creative God

A whole life spirituality which encompasses prayer, Bible study, outreach and living out our faith

Generosity of time and resources because we worship a generous God

Relevance making sure that what we do connects with everyday life in Cork

Encouragement and support within the community, helping each other through tough times and celebrating through good times

Enabling people of all ages and backgrounds to find their God given place as we create and celebrate our changing community

Developing an inter-generational church where people from all ages learn, grow, and serve together.

