

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



Celebrating St Brigid in Blarney

FEBRUARY 2023

PARISH CONTACTS AND OFFICE HOURS

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

Associate Minister: Rev Abigail Sines Abigail@cupcork.ie

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!

Parishioners in Hospital ?

We can no longer be certain hospitals will provide us with notifications of parishioners who have been admitted to hospital. If you or any parishioner you may know is in hospital, please let the office know and a visit by the relevant chaplain will be arranged..

Email Update ?

Each Friday we send out a message to all parishioners who have signed up—if you would like to get this please sign up on our website homepage or contact the office.

MELTing Pot Lunch— 30th March

Anyone who'd be free to help, contact Patsy 087 6413559

From Robert's Desk!

Since our last Connect Newsletter the staff team have been extremely busy filling up the 2023 calendar. Over the next few weeks we will be working hard to chat with lots of people to find out what other things we need to be doing.



Over the past number of years I have described what we've been doing as being a mix of 'firefighting' and keeping things operating. Obviously, we've been doing more than that with the opening of the Carraig Centre, the change in staff members and dealing with the pandemic. The next few months will see us involved in more determined conversations around what needs to happen in our 3 Church buildings.

These are exciting conversations with our wardens and others. Please do pray for us as we continue to develop things across the Union of Parishes. Please also pray for the staff team as we continue to work together to support the ministries which we are involved with.

On the first Sundays in February and March (and later in St. Peter's) I will be taking time to think, with our congregations, about our Union of Parishes – and what God might be saying to us individually and corporately as a body of believers in this place. I'm excited about getting out and about talking to people about the church where they worship and also about the wider union of parishes.

I'm laying out a challenge to all who are reading this – *how might God be calling you in this new year?*

Practical Jobs – Our Union has a huge number of practical jobs that need to be done over the year – weeding, grass cutting, painting, cleaning etc. Please speak to **Robert Devoy, Ciaran McKeown** or the staff team.

Financial giving – Thank you to all who are giving sacrificially to the parish – we would not be able to do what we do without your contributions. If you would like to find out how to give please do speak to Deirdre Lightbody in the office.

Sunday Services – We would love some help on Sunday Mornings in all of our worship services. There are all sorts of jobs to do – prayers, readings, helping to set up Holy Communion elements & helping with distribution, as well as tea and coffee rotas in various places. Please speak to the wardens or staff team.

Helping out at the Carraig Centre. We have various free slots for a morning or an afternoon for the reception desk. Please speak to **Matt**.

Also, over the next year, I would love to chat with anyone in the parish who might be interested in finding out about ministry opportunities such as Diocesan Reader (Preaching & leading services), Lay Pastoral Assistant (Pastoral visiting), or Lay Liturgical Assistant (Helping to distribute Holy Communion Elements). These roles require training at Diocesan Level and it would be helpful to know if you are interested in the next while.

Regards

Robert

CUP YOUTH TRIP BANDON | 2023

WEDNESDAY 12TH APRIL -
SATURDAY 15TH APRIL

This year's much anticipated youth trip is coming together wonderfully and we're looking forward to partnering with Trinity Church Dublin's youth group as well as Ardfallen youth in Douglas. The youth trip is a key time for our young people to come away and dedicate time to experience God's presence and be supported to grow deeper in their faith journey.

Help Needed



If you would like to help there are lots of things needed to make the trip happen:

- **Pray**- for the preparations, finances, that God will be at work in the lives of the the young people and the leaders who come. (SL will provide more specific prayer points over the coming weeks)
- Offer a lift - For young people travelling from Dublin to Cork city via bus/train - Drivers from Cork Cityto Bandon on Wed 12th and from Bandon to Cork on Sat 15th would be much appreciated.
- Offer a lift -For our group to visit Bandon town from the Centre on Thursday 13th (Involves ferrying YP between centre and Bandon town (10mins) and back (between 2:30-5:30pm)
- Baking- Some treats to offer parents at drop off
- Help with preparing prayer stations and decorations for themed dinner evening

If you would like to be involved please contact Sarah Louise 0852774346 | sarahlouise@cupcork.ie

Lent 2023

Our Ash Wednesday Service will be held in St. Peter's Church, Carrigrohane on **Wednesday 22nd February at 7.30pm.** This will be a service of Holy Communion with the imposition of Ashes.



A copy of the devotional book, *Dust & Glory*, (€2.00), as recommended by the Archbishop of Canterbury, is available from the Carraig Centre for Lent containing Bible notes for each day of Lent.

Also, I know several parishioners have found resources from Biola University to be of help in seasonal devotions. Their Lent offering is available daily throughout the season of lent here at

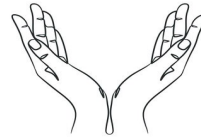
<https://ccca.biola.edu/lent/>

Climate Justice Candle

Over Advent, as a parish, we hosted the Climate Justice Candle which is a reminder of our Creation Care Mission. The Candle is being passed around Parishes across the island of Ireland as a focus of prayer for issues concerning climate justice. We received it from Ardfallen Methodist Church and have passed it on to representatives from the Society of African Missions in Cork. This is an initiative of Eco-Congregation, an ecumenical group of which the Parish has membership through our own Eco Group. Eco-Congregation Ireland is Chaired by Archdeacon Andrew Orr.



Prayer points for this month



Please pray for:

- the Staff team as they develop the 2023 Calendar and the discussions they have around the parish with parishioners
- Karl Tyrell (Abigail's Husband) who will be continuing his training as a Diocesan Reader in this Diocese.
- Michael Kenning as he continues his studies at the Theological Institute in Dublin
- Our friends from Ukraine who have made this parish their home for the time being as they continue to live and work amongst us
- The work of Matt Gould & Sarah Louise Hockey as they continue to plan and set up the After Schools work
- Those Parishes in this Diocese that are currently vacant
- Those considering new forms of ministry
- For all those in the parish who are unwell at the moment
- Those who are grieving the loss of loved ones at this time.



CUP Youth Update

Sunday PM

As we continue to consider the concept of Biblical Justice this term at Sunday PM we are focusing on the persecuted church as we explore the prayer series with Open Doors Youth.

Glow Max



We have a great sense of community forming at our monthly Glow MAX gatherings- enjoying hanging out together and exploring more from the NUA series from Scripture Union. This term's theme looks at living out the Christian faith, 'rules' and fear.



Glow

Glow was back with a bang as we reached our max capacity, gathering for lots of crazy games, baking, playing with moon dough (Thanks to those who donated your unwanted hair conditioner) and an out of the box story time thinking about the Big Question "How might someone know they are loved?"



Pioneer Ministry & it's new National Director, Rob Jones

On Sunday 5th February the Church of Ireland will be Launching & Commissioning the Pioneer Ministry Initiative & team at St. Patrick's Cathedral Dublin.

The commissioning will be by the Archbishops of Armagh and Dublin with the Archbishop of Wales preaching.

Matt, Sarah-Louise and Robert will be in attendance at this important event in the life of the Church of Ireland.

Pioneer Ministry is an initiative of the Church of Ireland to reach those with little or no connection to the good news of Jesus Christ. Emerging from within to encourage, support and release a movement that has the capacity to reach new people in new places in new ways.

Our Centre of Mission here in Carrigrohane Union is part of the overall vision for outreach in this area and seeing the team being commissioned will be a joy and a delight after many years of discussion on these matters.



"On 5th of February, I will be commissioned as the new National Director of Pioneer Ministry. This is new initiative of the Church Of Ireland with the vision to reach those with little or no connection to church. Part of what I will be doing as director, is networking with parishes who are either looking to pioneer new ways of being church, or are currently doing it .

It was great to be down in your parish to meet the Rector and the rest of the team to see and hear about all the pioneering that's going on. The Carraig Centre is such a wonderful project which many from the Church of Ireland can learn from. Also, seeing some of the other churches in your parish and their potential is really exciting. Thank you to the Rector for hosting me and it was also wonderful to spend some time with himself and Bishop Paul, looking at other possible pioneer plans in the diocese.

Please be praying for Pioneer Ministry as it gets going and if you'd like to know more about the history of pioneer check out this video:
<https://youtu.be/tzka5NHiUY>



For all other information please go to our new website which will be launched soon.
www.pioneerministry.org. God Bless." Rob

Please pray for Rob and the team as they meet up with pioneers across the island to encourage and support ventures in new places and in new ways.

Date for your Diary — Confirmation

The Bishop has announced that the Confirmation Service will be on Sunday 4th June 2023 in St. Peter's Church at 11am.



ADVENTURERS



At an Adventurers session recently, some of the older Adventurers had opted to take part in a bible study and one question was about the difference Jesus makes in our lives.

I began by saying that my bible notes had talked about how God properly came to be a real human in the middle of the mess with us: learning to walk, talk, do carpentry, (perhaps badly at first!) as well as serve, make friends, teach, heal, suffer and die.

We talked about how great it is to know that we are not alone and that we have God with us, however difficult things may be. Another Adventurer said that the big difference for her is not having to be afraid of death and I guess if we aren't afraid of dying, that really changes how we live too.

Someone else said that knowing Jesus helps them to live each day enjoying the moment. We also talked about how knowing that God made the world around us helps us feel safe in our world and makes it a happier place.

Another interesting comment was that without our faith in Jesus, we probably wouldn't know each other: our church family is made up of such different people that we probably wouldn't have crossed paths except for Jesus.

I was telling another Adventurers leader about this discussion later on and we thought it was so fabulous that it's worth sharing with the wider parish. Our kids are seeing and experiencing the difference God makes in their lives and were also able to talk about the difference they can/have made in the world. One example was our Adventurers' fundraising efforts in the past, so watch this space for further such events in the term ahead!!

Ruth Hockey

New to the Parish?

If you have recently arrived in the Parish and found yourself wondering who we are and what goes on around here, don't hesitate to call the office or talk to Robert, Abigail, Matt or Sarah Louise

The Parish is a Church of Ireland Parish and as such has a structure unique to the Church of Ireland. At the beginning of February we will be revising our Vestry Roll which will provide the opportunity for you to add your name to the roll of members of the Parish and will allow you to vote at our Annual General Meeting of Vestry Members.

Forms are available at each Church and at the Carraig Centre reception desk.

*Starting Monday, 7 November,
feel free to drop in!*

MONDAY MOMENTS

Church of the Resurrection

9.00-9.15 am

Morning Prayer

9.30-11.45 am

Drop in for a quiet moment to
yourself, to write down a prayer
request in our prayer diary,
or a cup of tea and a chat

12.00-12.15

Prayers for peace and healing

All welcome!

Mothers' Union Diocesan Festival

WITH BISHOP PAUL

SUNDAY 12TH MARCH

AT 4PM

THE CARRAIG CENTRE

ALL WELCOME



Church of the Resurrection The Square, Blarney

**Thursday, 16 February
10.00 - Noon**

Drop in for a cuppa and a chat!
All welcome!



Save the Date!

Come along for a coffee morning!



THE LOVE-STORY BEHIND THE WORLD'S BEST-LOVED HYMN

All-island theatre tour visits Ballincollig

"Forever Mine"

Thursday 23 March 7.30pm
at The Carraig Centre, Carrigrohane Union of Parishes

Old Fort Rd, Ballincollig, Cork, P31 PV20

Phone: (021) 4877260

Web: www.carraigcentre.ie

Admission €10 (Booking reserved through Eventbrite)

The Carraig Centre is delighted to host a performance of the brand-new stage play "*Forever Mine*" as part of its all-island tour. 2023 marks the 250th anniversary of "Amazing Grace" – the world's best-loved hymn and one of the most recorded songs of all time.

At its heart, *Amazing Grace* tells the dramatic story of its author John Newton. The original stage play and costume drama, *Forever Mine*, explores this powerful story through the lens of the two great loves of John Newton's life – his love for God and his love for "Polly" (his nickname for his wife Mary).

Based on Polly and Newton's love letters and on letters, diaries and authentic historical writings, *Forever Mine* is a true story of separation and reunion, death and new life, love, loss and redemption. Although set in the 18th century, this moving narrative will resonate with modern audiences.

The drama also looks honestly at John Newton's role in the slave trade. It traces his slow journey to repentance and his later work supporting the campaign for abolition as mentor to William Wilberforce. *Forever Mine* also elevates the lesser-known voices of the abolition movement such as former slave and writer Olaudah Equiano and the poet William Cowper.

Forever Mine is brought to life by a stellar cast of professional actors starring Ellis Wells as John Newton, Susie Garvey-Williams as Polly Newton, Gideon Assuming as Olaudah Equiano and Ryan Moss as William Wilberforce.

With venues in Munster, Leinster, Connacht and Ulster, the debut tour of *Forever Mine* will have its finale in Buncrana, on the shores of Lough Swilly, in County Donegal, where John Newton's ship *The Greyhound*, dropped anchor after a ferocious Atlantic storm in 1748 – the Irish connection to this global story that inspired the play.

For more information check out www.amazinggrace.ie/forever-mine or contact forevermineproduction@gmail.com.

Mental Health First Aid Training

If anyone would be interested in doing a Mental Health First Aid Course, we have the funds for a parishioner who might find it helpful.

Are you ready to support a friend, colleague, young person or family member who may be experiencing a mental health difficulty or in crisis with their mental health?

The next course is being run online on Tuesday 18th & Wednesday 19th April.



ARCHIVES

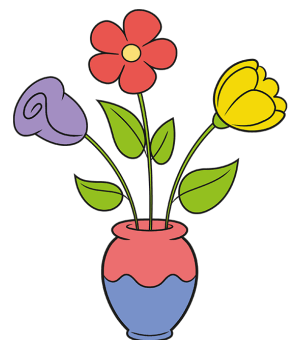
We recently said Farewell to Marg and Paul Everett. One of Marg's tasks in the parish was to handle enquiries about our archives from anyone needing information about burials or other historical queries.

We are now looking someone who has a passion for history who might take on this important responsibility. If you are interested, please contact Deirdre in the Parish Office for more information.

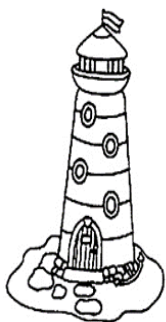


Flower Rota

Volunteers are always welcome to be added to the flower rota's in our churches and also at the Carraig Centre. If you are able to help please let the office / wardens know. Parishioners may wish to mark a birthday or anniversary by placing flowers in the churches. Do let us know.



The Lighthouse – Messy Church in Blarney



On Sunday 22nd January we held our first session of the new year with a theme of 'New Beginnings'. The activities all focused on different stories from the Bible. During the Celebration the story-time was a mini walk through the whole Bible and looking beyond that to how we are also part of God's Big Story. We had five



activity stations: 'Creation' where there were two activities, exploring creation with kinetic sand and creating a stained-glass window decoration by colouring a picture and applying baby oil; 'Rainbow science' where



were created with bicarbonate of soda,

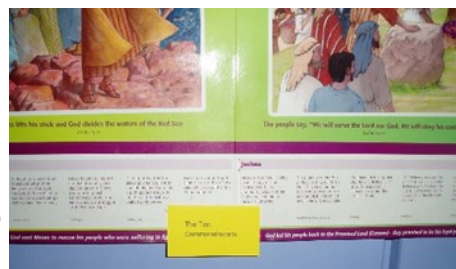


food colouring and vinegar; 'Wall building' (Nehemiah and repairing the walls

of Jerusalem), great fun was had both building and knocking down the wall!, 'Find the Bible story' where the idea was to find the Bible story named on the cards on the Bible Timeline; 'St. Brigid cross' where crosses were made using fluffy craft sticks.



There was great singing and actions during the songs and our prayer-time focused on thanking God for everything. The afternoon finished with time to chat as we ate a meal together. The favourite activities of the afternoon were, rainbow science, crosses and wall building.



The dates for the 'The Lighthouse' for this term are:

Sunday 26th February and Sunday 26th March 3.30-5.30pm

Do come along and join in the fun and learning, while we praise and worship God. All are welcome.

The Lighthouse team are looking for new members. Do you enjoy being with children and their families? If so, then this may be an area where you might like to serve. If anyone is interested, please contact April at lighthouse@cupcork.ie.

Ukrainian Community News



It's been a busy time for the Ukrainian Community in Ballincollig and Cork County. We're delighted that our community is growing bigger and stronger. Thanks to the CUP support we have, it's possible to organize various activities for Ukrainians including English language classes on Tuesdays and choir on Saturdays. Some of our Ukrainian families are attending Sparks toddler group on Fridays.

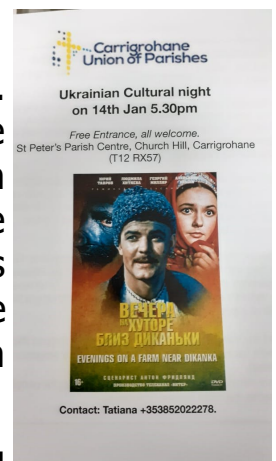
The choir 'Kalyna' has become very popular in a short period of time. Almost 35 participants attend rehearsals on a regular basis each Saturday at the Parish Center.

This is not just a choir for our people. It is a small 'motherland' for Ukrainians in Cork. We come to sing songs, socialize and receive support. We have started with Christmas songs and now are learning new songs and preparing for new concerts. People feel they can do something meaningful as they integrate and share their culture.

Recently, we launched a new project 'Ukrainian Cultural Night'.

The aim of the project is to introduce ourselves to the local community and bring something of our Ukrainian culture. During the first meeting we introduced some facts about Ukraine and watched a traditional Christmas Ukrainian movie 'Evenings on a Farm Near Dikanka'. We will continue with this project as we received such warm feedback from our first participants.

A huge "Thank You" for all your support and standing with Ukraine.



Victoria & the Ukrainian Community

As a parish we want to express our sympathy to Ted Rea and his family on the death of Kathleen whose funeral was held in the Church of St John the Baptist on Monday 30th January.

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;

Ivan McMahon – 086 8125792

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

Pastoral Visiting

It is always a great privilege for the clergy to visit parishioners in their homes. If you would like to request a clergy visit, please telephone the Rector (085 1800720) or Parish Office on 0214877260

Don't Forget—The Deadline for Connect Newsletter is the 15th of the month—Please leave any articles in the Parish Office post box or send them to the Connect Newsletter email connect@cupcork.ie



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

Youth Event Dates

Glow (4th-6th Class) 7-9pm TCC:

- Friday 24th February
- Friday 24th March

Glow MAX (Secondary School) 7:30-9:30pm TCC:

- Friday 10th February
- Friday 10th March

Sunday PM (Secondary School) 5:30-7:30pm TCC:

- Sunday 12th and 19th February
- Sunday 5th March
- Sunday 26th March visiting Lighthouse/Messy Church 2.45-6.00pm

For the Diary:

BANDON YOUTH TRIP

Wednesday 12th- Saturday 15th April

CIY MOVE Conference 31st July-4th August 2023

***MELTing* Pot Lunch**

Thursday 30th March

at 1.00pm

In the Carraig Centre (All welcome)

Calendar for February



February 2023 Sunday Worship

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
5.2.23	9.30am Morning Prayer	11 am United Celebration		
12.2.23	9.30am Holy Communion	11am Sunday AM	11am Morning Prayer	11am Holy Communion
19.2.23	9.30am Family Service	11am Sunday AM with Holy Communion		11am Holy Communion
22.2.23 Ash Wednesday	7.30 pm			
26.2.23	9.30 am Holy Communion	11am Sunday Am	11 am Holy Communion	3.30 pm Lighthouse