

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

THE BIG SKETCH QUIZ

ST PETER'S CHURCH
SATURDAY 08 JUNE
7:30PM

sign up - www.cupcork.ie/events

**COME ALONG FOR SOME LAUGHS,
QUESTIONS AND PRIZES!**

 Carrigrohane Union of Parishes
Sharing God's love in our communities
www.cupcork.ie

 **PLAY IT
BY EAR
DRAMA**

June/July/August 2024

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.

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.

From Robert's Desk!

The world on our doorstep

Dear Parishioners

I write this letter as we look forward to summer holidays. Long days, sun splitting the trees, picnics and all the rest that goes along with summer. These things are important!



I also write this realising that not all is well with the world. I know that many parishioners within Carrigrohane Union are genuinely concerned about the state of the wider world – the war in Gaza, the on-going situation in Ukraine, the climate Crisis, the issues of immigration to name but a few issues.

Having spent 2 days and a night at General Synod (the meeting of the Church of Ireland in Armagh) in the past month I can also see that these things are on the minds of the Church at central level too.

As a Church, at local level we are not silent on these things – In recent months I have spoken on the topic of Israel Gaza – and taken a middle road (not an easy place to be) – that of calling for peace. I do realise that members of the congregations of this union of parishes do have diverse and deeply held opinions on this topic – I will continue to contend that we do need to pray for peace (and work towards that goal) and a political solution to this conflict.

As a nation we do have a particular issue with immigration at the moment and certainly as election candidates come to our doors and share stuff on social media we do need to be aware of political manipulation of communities. Our parish family has long been a place of welcome for people from all over the world – we've recently put up a map on the Carraig Centre main hall wall – showing places from around the world we've come from and made this place home.

Over this next period of time we will see new people enter our community – people who have arrived from all over world – some to find employment, some to flee war & persecution - Human beings made in the image of God who find themselves among us.

Recently the Churches in Ireland have produced a handbook entitled *"From Every Nation? – A Handbook for a congregation's journey from welcome to belonging"* In the introduction Bishop of Derry, Andrew Foster writes:

"In a society which impetuously demands that we choose single identities and competitive sides, this anti-racism handbook is timely ... In a culture that pushes us to accept an 'us vs them' narrative. Jesus gives us the eyes of faith to see that we are all made in the image of God, where diversity is a gift to be enjoyed This is the upside down kingdom where the foreigner can claim kingdom birthright as much as those who are native born."

On Sunday 20th June Revd Abigail and myself have been working to organise services on what is "Sanctuary Sunday" for the second year in the Union of Parishes. This is at the end of Refugee week – More details can be found elsewhere in this magazine.

I also draw your attention to a poem written by Ben Okri - an African poet which cries from the heart for peace in the middle east -The world is on our doorstep – we can decry it or see it as an opportunity to show love and concern for the needs of the world.

Our mission and ministry within the parish is very much focused on the 5 marks of mission – and our neighbour is very much the one who we encounter. I have no doubt that our neighbour will be native Irish and migrant and asylum seeker in the years ahead. As a church I do want us to continue to be a church who welcomes all and where all can find a place belong.

The Bishop at my institution service reminded me of the solemn promise I made 15 years ago at my ordination

"To encourage all God's people to be good stewards of their gifts. Care alike for young and old, strong and weak, rich and poor. By your words and in your life proclaim the Gospel."

This I do and will continue to do in this place. Regardless of the calls for polarisation in communities – I will call for middle ways –I know its really difficult but there is a need to find solutions which build up and ensure people have their God given identity ratified.

Robert



Church of Ireland
United Dioceses of
Cork, Cloyne & Ross

QUIET DAY RETREAT

*SHARING CHRIST'S PEACE IN A
CONFLICTED WORLD*



A RETREAT LED BY
BROTHER TOBIAS
OF THE SOCIETY OF SAINT FRANCIS

All welcome!

Saturday 15th June 2024
10.00am coffee
10.30am - 1.30pm Retreat
followed by a light lunch

**St Mary's Collegiate Church
Youghal**
P37AH64

Book a place by email to rsvp@corkchurchofireland.com
before 10th June 2024

An Invitation to St. Fin Barre's Cathedral

An invitation to St. Fin Barre's Cathedral – an Interview with Robert

What's happening on Sunday 16th June in St. Finnbarres cathedral 3.30pm?

Installation of three new Honorary Canons:

Ms. Gillian Kingston as Honorary Lay Ecumenical Canon

Rev Robert Ferris as Honorary Canon Missioner

Rev John Ardis as Honorary Canon with responsibility for vocations and also The Commissioning of Ms. Joanna Griffin as a Diocesan Lay Reader



What is a Canon?

In medieval times every cathedral was run by its Dean together with a committee of clergy, each chosen by the Bishop. The committee was called the **chapter**, and its members were called **canons**. Each canon would have his own seat in the cathedral, known as a **stall**, and often each stall would be named after a saint, or after a place in the diocese.

What is an Honorary Canon Missioner?

To be honest I'm not really sure but I'm looking forward to finding out. I do see my role as somewhat encouraging the work going on in all sorts of places across the diocese around 5 Marks of Mission as we reach out into the communities in which we live and work.

We live in challenging times and there is so much need for community engagement with local and global issues – I'm excited as we work out in Cork, Cloyne and Ross what it means to be missional day by day.

Can I come along?

Absolutely – all will be welcome in St. Fin Barres that particular Sunday. It will be a choral evensong – a time of prayer and choral music – yes it's different style to what we are used to in Carrigrohane Union but I do want to extend this invitation to all.

There is an exceptional choir in St. Fin Barre's and it will be an opportunity to be together with members of parishes across the diocese for this important service. Also if you have never been in St. Fin Barre's it is an incredible building – the windows of which portray the whole scope of scriptures – Genesis to Revelation! – a sight to behold.

CUP Youth Update Summer 2024!

We've had a busy year and things are slowly winding down from their usual rhythm for the summer.

This year we have interacted with just over 100 young people through Glow, Glow MAX, Youth Space and our Easter Youth Trip! (That's a lot of consent forms!! Thank you Robert for sorting digital ones this year!!)

It has been a joy to work along such a great team of volunteers who make it possible to run so many events and create spaces for these young people to hear about Jesus and engage with faith in Him!

Although the summer will look a bit different there will still be lots going on!



Dates for the diary!

FOR YOUNG PEOPLE IN 4TH TO 6TH CLASS PRIMARY

Glow Drama Workshop with Play it by Ear
Friday 7th June 7-8:30pm

June Glow: Friday 21th June 7-9pm
(To sign up email sarahlouise@cupcork.ie)

FOR TEENS IN SECONDARY SCHOOL

Creative writing brunch with Play it by Ear
Sat 8th June 11-1pm)

June Glow MAX
Friday 14th June 7:30-9:30pm
(YP going into 1st year in Sept welcome to come and join the older teens for a taster session!)

Sunday PM on a Saturday
Sat 22nd June 6-8pm

We also like to "Move it" with 2 events of the same name!

Firstly a group from CUP will be attending the Christ in Youth **MOVE Summer Conference from the 29th July to the 2nd August.**

Move is a youth event drawing groups from across Ireland, from every denomination, designed to activate Christ's call on a young person's life to be a kingdom worker.

Any teens 14+ are welcome to come- please let Sarah Louise know before 8th June if you're coming!

We hope to organise a fundraiser during the summer to help subsidise some of the costs for families.

Our second Move event is Scripture Union's **Nua:Move which is a youth session for young people starting secondary school in September** to help them navigate the journey and grow from the experience. Date still to be confirmed but aiming for the **week of the 12th of August**. Any parents of young people in this cohort do let me know if there's interest.



Thank you so much to all the church family for the prayers and support throughout the year.

Blessings,
Sarah Louise



14-19 July 2024

Cork Summer Show helpers needed

Once again MU are hoping to staff the baby changing and feeding station at Cork Summer Show in Curraheen, situated in the heart of our Parish!. This is such an appreciated service but in the last few years has only been possible due to members of CUP being prepared to augment MU members, some of whom travel over an hour from different parts of the Diocese to be there. If you feel you can offer an hour to meet and greet, (we always have two folk on duty so you won't be on your own!) please contact Pam on 086 1597860. This year the Show is on Sat 15th/Sun 16th June. Free entry to all helpers!

Big Congratulations to our wonderful Adventurers who did their sponsored walk on Sunday 12 May to raise funds for Balance in Ballincolliig. They raised an amazing

€424.24

St Thomas' Aldridge, our Diocesan Link

Our friends at St Thomas' Church visiting us over the weekend of **Friday 5th to Sunday 7th July**. We look forward to welcoming them.

If you might be interested in hosting please get in touch with Deirdre in the office

A great evening for all the family & the whole community, it's like a table quiz but with more drama! Just watch some funny sketches, answer some tricky(ish) questions and be in with a chance of winning some prizes! You don't need a team simply come along for a great night! signup: www.cupcork.ie/events



It's free - but donations accepted to cover costs

Play it by Ear is a very small Belfast based Christian drama company...we say small as it's made up of just two people, Chris and Ross, but though they are small (literally in Chris's case), they certainly pack a punch! From Belfast to Berlin, churches to prisons, schools to festivals, Play it by Ear bring their own unique mix of humour and energy, getting audiences of all ages to laugh, think and explore faith in a fresh way.

All ages from 5 - 105.

Performance takes the form of a table quiz in which the audience watch the dramas and then answers some simple questions about them.
It lasts about an hour.

Please sign up www.cupcork.ie/events

Inniscarra Picnic

Sunday 28 July

Everyone welcome

Sanctuary Sunday, 23 June

Sanctuary Sunday is marked at the end of Refugee Week each year and is an opportunity to highlight issues around global migration and to encourage faith communities to help build a culture of welcome, hospitality and safety in our communities. We are pleased that the Revd Ivan Ruiters, rector of Kinneigh Union, will be with us to preach in Sunday AM. Ivan is a member of the Primate's Ethnic Diversity, Inclusion and Racial Justice Reference Group, whose purpose is three-fold: promoting education on racial equality and justice; working toward equitable representation within Church structures; and organising events to promote inclusiveness within the Church of Ireland.

Our Sanctuary Sunday collection this year will be in aid of **Fáilte Cork Higher Education Community Sponsorship Group**, which will be supporting refugee students by raising funds and helping them to integrate in Cork. The group looks forward to welcoming the first 2 UCC Education Pathways student in September 2024. Richard Scriven, who is secretary of the group, will be in attendance at services in St Peter's and Sunday AM to share a bit about the group's progress so far in preparing to receive the 2 students in the autumn. We will also be welcome members of the collective **Saoirse-Ethnic Hands on Deck** who will have handmade cards and tote bags for sale after services in those 2 locations. We hope that you will generously support both of these initiatives as you are able!



Refugee Week 2024

IN CARRIGROHANE UNION

Monday, 17 June

7:30 - 9.00 PM @THE CARRAIG CENTRE

Screening of 2 short films on the theme of 'Our Home': **I Carry It With Me Everywhere** (dir. Arwa Aburawa and Turab Shah) and **Little Pyongyang** (dir. Roxy Rezvany), followed by discussion. Free of charge, donations welcome in aid of **Fáilte Cork Higher Education Community Sponsorship Group**.



Sunday, 23 June

SANCTUARY SUNDAY

Across the Union we'll be collecting in aid of **Fáilte Cork Higher Education Community Sponsorship Group**, which will be supporting refugee students by raising funds and helping them to integrate in Cork. The group looks forward to welcoming the first 2 UCC Education Pathways student in September 2024. We will also be welcoming to St Peter's and Sunday AM **Saoirse-Ethnic Hands on Deck** who will have handmade cards and tote bags for sale after service! Please do consider supporting these 2 initiatives if you are able to do so!



OUR HOME

17-23 JUNE '24



The world's largest arts & culture festival celebrating the contributions, creativity and resilience of refugees.
www.refugeeweek.org.uk

POETRY Corner

POETRY



I don't know how many have died
Or how many died before war flared up.
There must be a way to listen to all
The pain that burns in a people
Must be a way to hear all that anguish.
Pain creates pain creates deadness
Of heart. Distance makes all that suffering
Unreal. How else can great powers
Add bombs and missiles to an agony
That's engulfing the world in fire and rage?
How did we become so deaf to the death
Of innocent children and their mothers?
How did we get to measure the value
Of one death against another, with one
Worth a thousand of the other?

Surely the heart of the world has died.
Surely we have turned to stone in our veins.
I sit here staring at the sky wondering what
Could change the coldness in the soul
That makes it possible for us to eat our food,
go to work and laugh with our families
When we know that over in Gaza, a brief dream
Away, hundreds of thousands starve,
Their homes destroyed, their lives broken.

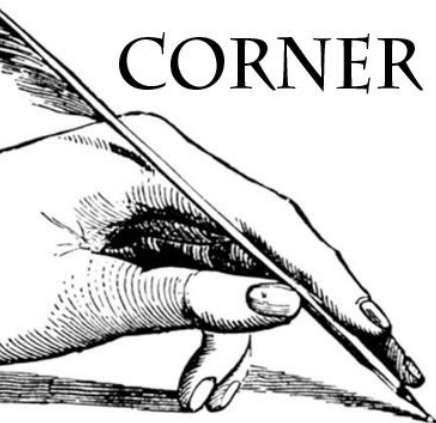
There ought to be no religion that lets
Us be indifferent to all that suffering.
Surely something's wrong with the world.
Something's twisted in our humanity.

I have friends who weep at the loss
Of their dogs, but whose ears are closed
To the wailing from the flattened houses
Of Gaza. Complexity ought not to stop our
Souls from feeling. For pain creates pain
Creates stones instead of human beings.

There are in truth no distances in the spirit
Of humanity. Any great injustice makes
The sleep of the world howl. We breathe in
The destruction of lives that we don't see.
In our dreams we die with them. In our sleep
Our souls grieve with them, for their deaths
Are ours, whoever they may be. We grow
Sick with the times. We become twisted with
The wounds. Whether we are silent or not
We are poisoned by the massacres. No
Civilisation can survive on the murder
Of a people. We are watching our demise
In our silence. Peace is not ignorance or lies.

We are measured by what we tolerate,
The agony we ignore, keep quiet about,

CORNER



For our peace of mind. Silence helps
Those missiles. Our silence is touched
With the blood of those children. And every
Day that we turn away, and shut our hearts,
Below, in the common earth of all humanity,
The spilled blood rises and ghosts feed on our
Prosperity. For Gaza is not there. It's here.

That the war must end, it is clear
Find a way, find a way
That does not mean the destruction
Of one people or another.
History, in its wisdom, in its terror,
Has brought us to this place
To this impossible mathematical
Equation where we cannot solve
The future with the past,
With blood or blame or bombs
Or unsustainable slogans.
I see a new future is possible there.
I see the lands fertile in tough
Invaluable collaboration.
I see that the desert will come alive
With music. I see two peoples finding
A new way. I see that this miracle
Is the only pragmatic path.
All that hatred, that anger, can
Only blossom into a miracle.
If vision and love can't bring us
There, then let all the suffering
Find for us a new road.

I see a shining land where
Two dreams surprise the world
By finding a way to coexist.
It would be the greatest
Breakthrough of our times.
Who would dream it, make it
Real, while the bombs flower
And the children weep?

Who will find a
Way instead of
Taking a side?

Who will find a
Way instead of
Taking a side?

As sure as I
Sit here staring
At the sky, I know
That this vision
Of peace
Must come to be.

It's an unavoidable destiny.

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

Carraig Centre Connect Update

Summer 2024

Summer is always a different time for everyone, the normal rhythms of the school year go out the window! So it is in the Carraig Centre too, almost all our regular providers' classes and sessions wind down between now and the end of June and the summer fun starts up!

This year we have nine different summer camps on offer including two Lego camps run on three occasions, four art and creativity camps on five occasions, a Fashion and Sewing camp, a Chess and activities camp, a Drama and Improvisation camp, some Ukrainian activity camps and the YMCA camp. We will also be hosting two Family Fun days in July and August so lots of things to choose from!

This summer weather is also now helping to drive down our energy costs and improve our green profile! We have fitted and commissioned 24kW of solar photovoltaic (PV) panels on our flat roofs with 10kWh of battery storage (see photographs) and this combination is having an enormous impact during these bright summer days as we have been generating 50% more than we use since the panels were installed 2 weeks ago. The excess is being fed into the electricity grid and we will in due course be paid for it. Of course this will change with the seasons but it's great to start on a summer high! We worked with a coordinating company called SE Systems and the panels were provided and installed by EnergyWise under an SEAI Community Energy Initiative grant.

Currently we are planning a two week shutdown from July 22 to August 8, with the family fun day of July 28 in the middle. We hope to do some maintenance during this time as well as giving a welcome break to staff and volunteers.

Our West Wing plans are gradually shaping up and the Board recently approved moving on to the next step of detailed design, leading to preparation of tender documentation. This is a 3-4 month process so should enable us to begin actual refurbishment during the autumn, everything going smoothly (which it always does!).

Bill Lane



Calendar for June July & August

Date	St Peter's 10 am	Carraig Centre 11 am	St Senan's 11.30 am	Blarney 11.30 am
2.6.24	Holy Communion	Sunday AM with bring & share lunch		Holy Communion
9.6.24	Morning Prayer	Sunday AM with HC Lighthouse at 3.30pm	Morning Prayer	
16.6.24	Family Service	Sunday AM		Service of the Word
23.6.24	Holy Communion	Sunday AM	Holy Communion	
30.6.24	Short said Service	United Celebration		
7.7.24	Holy Communion	Sunday AM with bring & share lunch		Wild Church Outdoor, All Age Service
14.7.24	Holy Communion	Sunday AM with HC	Holy Communion	
21.7.24	Family Service	Sunday AM		HC with Bishop Paul
28.7.24			United All Age Service of the Word & Parish Picnic	
4.8.24	Morning Prayer	Sunday AM with bring & share lunch		Holy Communion
11.8.24	Holy Communion	Sunday AM with HC	Holy Communion	
18.8.24	Family Service	Sunday AM		Wild Church Outdoor, All Age Service
25.8.24	Holy Communion	Sunday AM	Morning Prayer	