

Parish of Carrickfergus & Whitehead



Finance Report for year ending 31st December 2021

Dear Parishioner,

I take this opportunity to thank you for your commitment to and continued support of the work of the Parish. This includes your contributions through Standing Orders, Collection Envelopes and donations.

These are strong indicators of commitment to the Parish during these difficult times. This Report addresses the key points in the accounts, especially considering the impact of Covid on the finances of the Parish.

The effects of Covid are still far-reaching and life has changed to some degree, and we will have to address further change in our parish community.

One thing however needs to remain constant and that is our faith in Jesus Christ and trying to live the Gospel.

Yours sincerely,

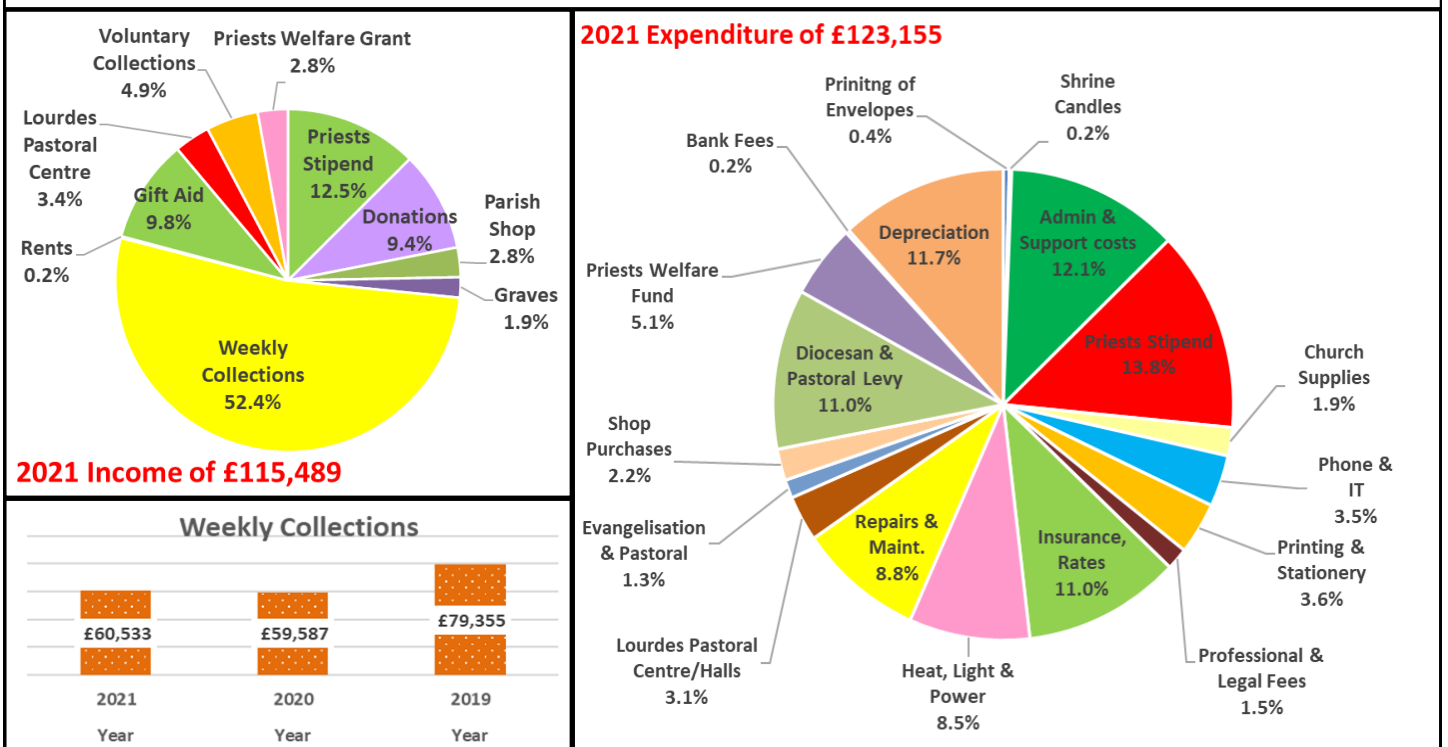
Very Rev Peter Owens.
Parish Priest.

Key Points

- ◆ **Debt & the Parish Solidarity Account** - We currently have a surplus in our Solidarity account of £24,924. Back in 2017, the Parish debt stood at £920,059. This debt was cleared after selling properties in Minorca and from land proceeds in Greenisland.
- ◆ **Weekly Offerings** - Weekly offerings fell during Covid by 23.7% (to £60,533) in 2021 and by 24.9% (to £59,587) in 2020, from the 2019 year, which had income of £79,355 from the weekly offerings. The weekly collection is the main income stream for covering parish running costs.
- ◆ **Parish Profit & Loss.** - Given the lower weekly collections, overall expenditure has exceeded income for the last two years. In 2021 our deficit was £7,666 and in 2020 our deficit was £24,193. The year before Covid (2019) we had a surplus of £3,511.
- ◆ **Monthly Stipends** - Each month the Parish pays a fixed stipend for our Parish Priest of £1,420 (salary). This is funded by the collection from the pink monthly offering envelope. However, we as a parish have been unable to fully fund our Parish Priest and each month we must call upon a Diocesan Grant to make up the Stipend payment. Last year the parish contributions from the monthly offering envelopes averaged £1,199, a shortfall of £221 per month. In other words, we as a parish are not providing our priest with his basic monthly salary.
- ◆ **Gift Aid** - Income from Gift Aid and the Small Donations Scheme dropped in 2021 to £11,271, this was a reduction of £3,146 from the previous year figure of £14,417.
- ◆ **Parish Expenditure** - In 2021, our parish expenditure was £123,155. The largest individual items were for - Insurance £11,854 and the Pastoral Services Levy £12,155. Energy costs for our two Churches and the Parochial house increased to £10,449 in 2021.

Changes for 2022

- ◆ **How we contribute** - During Covid, many parishioners took the step to making their contributions electronically using Standing Orders. This year we have 61 parishioners using Standing Orders and 155 using envelope boxes. Before Covid, we had only 6 parishioners using Standing Orders.
- ◆ **Uncertain times with Energy costs** - The Finance Committee will be reviewing our current 2022 budget, in light of further increases in energy costs, which are due to take affect in the Autumn.
- ◆ **Essential Maintenance** - Remedial and Health & Safety works will continue to be carried out in both Carrickfergus and Whitehead as cashflow permits.
- ◆ **Financial updates** - In January 2022 the Diocese issued revised procedures to all parishes to ensure compliance with the Charities Act and Financial Reporting. In the Loughshore Pastoral Community, the Parish Priests and Chairpersons from each parish convened to discuss the effect that these revised procedures will have on the administration of our parishes.



The Finance Committee

Under Canon Law every parish is required to have an active Finance Committee to act as an advisory body to the Parish Priest/Administrator in the sound administration of the temporal goods of the Parish.

The Finance Committee assists the Parish Priest/Administrator in his task of administering the Parish finances, maintaining the Parish properties, planning for future capital works and formulating strategies for raising funds.

The operation of the Finance Committee is guided and governed by the recently updated Down and Connor Diocesan Trust Parish Finance Manual.

Compliance with the Finance Manual including maintenance of our charitable status, is ensured via regular audit checks and returns throughout the Diocese.

Membership

Patrick Quinn (Chair)	Marian Frampton (Secretary)
Fr. Peter Owens	Paddy Stewart
Patrick O'Donnell	Eamonn McAllister
	Margarita Sloan
	Patricia McKeown

**Carrickfergus Parish
Financial Report
Year ended 31st December 2021**

Income	Year 2021	Year 2020	Year 2019
Parish Activities			
Weekly Offering (White Envelope), Loose Plate, Candle Shrines	60,533	59,587	79,355
Monthly Offering (Pink Envelope)	14,385	11,679	13,612
Voluntary Collections (Yellow Envelope) for Priest Welfare Fund	5,656	2,083	5,323
Tax reclaim from Gift Aid	11,271	14,417	14,287
Donations Legacies and Bequests	10,896	820	4,398
Rents	176	154	156
Parish Shop Sales	3,229	3,494	5,852
Lourdes Pastoral Centre Income	3,880	1,748	1,689
Stipend/Priest Salary Top up (Grant from Priest Welfare Fund)	3,252	7,862	4,526
Sale of Graves	2,210	1,570	2,280
Furlough Grant	-	2,790	-
Total Parish Activities	115,489	106,203	131,479
Non Parish Activities			
3rd Party Collections (Blue Envelope) (Youth Col., Holyland, Needy Parishes, etc.)	3,650	3,291	5,746
Trocaire, Special Collections	4,375	1,053	8,777
School Receipts	22,656	84,309	1,063
Total Non Parish Activities	30,682	88,653	15,586
Total All Income	146,170	194,856	147,064

Expenditure	Year 2021	Year 2020	Year 2019
Parish Activities			
Printing of Envelopes	515	1,204	1,694
Purchase of Shrine Candles	215	212	639
Staff & Admin costs	14,932	15,825	17,419
Priests Monthly Stipend (Salary)	17,040	17,040	18,040
Church Supplies (Altar Bread, Wine, Cleaning, Flowers, etc)	2,391	1,212	1,847
Telephone, IT & Postage (Telephony, Alarm Lines, Website, etc)	4,360	5,656	3,261
Printing, Stationery & Publications (Bulletins & Connection)	4,405	3,786	3,153
Legal, Professional Fees	1,869	7,784	823
Insurance, Rates	13,572	13,894	14,826
Heat, Light & Power (for 2 Churches & Parochial House)	10,449	8,760	8,053
Repairs & Maintenance (Across the Parish Estate)	10,789	8,886	6,340
Lourdes Pastoral Centre & Parish Halls (Running costs)	3,869	6,949	7,661
Evangelisation & Pastoral Outlays	1,560	1,598	3,125
Shop procurement (Stock and Religious Papers/Magazines)	2,658	2,693	4,374
Diocesan Pastoral Services Levy (Parish annual contribution to Diocese)	13,559	14,057	15,511
Priests Welfare Fund Payment (Proceeds from Yellow Envelope)	6,254	4,583	5,421
Bank Fees	296	1,685	2,127
Depreciation (Annual Charge for Capital purchases)	14,422	14,572	13,653
Total Parish Activities	123,155	130,396	127,967
Non Parish Activities			
School Payments	22,656	84,309	1,063
3rd Party Payments from Blue Envelopes (Youth Col., Holyland, Needy Parishes, etc.)	3,650	3,291	5,746
Trocaire, Special Collections	4,375	1,053	8,777
Total Non Parish Activities	30,682	88,653	15,586
Total All Expenditure	153,836	219,049	143,553
Net surplus/(deficit) for year	(7,666)	(24,193)	3,511