

ANNUAL REPORT – ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST, SLOAN STREET, LURGAN
for the year ending 31st December 2020
Charity Number NIC 101225

TRUSTEES

Rev. Raymond Kettle, Chris Anderson, Ivor Black, Patricia Black, Patricia Cush, James Crozier, Geraldine Crozier, Kathleen Dowey, Stephen Greenway, Samuel McCleary, Marion Lorimer, Ruth Mulligan, Julia Quaile, William Quaile, Ronnie Warren, John Wylie, Carol Wylie.

Patricia Cush sadly passed away in April 2020, Ivor Black, Patricia Black, Marion Lorimer and Ronnie Warren resigned as Trustees at the Annual Meeting in October 2020 and Norma Reynolds and Jill Girvan were elected in October 2020.

Trustees are members of the Select Vestry and are elected / re-elected each year at the Annual General Vestry meeting.

GOVERNING DOCUMENT AND CONSTITUTION OF THE CHARITY

Chapter 111 of the Constitution of the Church of Ireland governs Parishes and Parochial Organisation. The Select Vestry members are the Charity Trustees.

APPOINTMENT OF SELECT VESTRY

All members of the Church of Ireland who are over the age of 18 and are either resident within the Parish or live elsewhere but have been accustomed members of the congregation for at least three months, may register as members of the General Vestry of the Parish allowing them to attend and vote at meetings of the General Vestry and to stand for election to the Select Vestry. The General Vestry meets once a year and the Select Vestry is elected as part of this General Vestry meeting. The Select Vestry will hold their positions for a period of one year. Select Vestry members may be re-elected annually and there is no limit on the number of terms which may be served.

STRUCTURE

The Select Vestry is responsible for the day to day management of the Parish. The Select Vestry consists of the serving clergy, the Churchwardens, the Glebewardens and not more than twelve other members elected at the General Vestry Meeting. Vestry Meetings are chaired by the Rector and members are responsible for making decisions on matters of general concern and importance to the parish as well as how parish funds are to be used. Vestry meetings are held on a monthly basis and special meetings may be convened at any time by the Chairperson or the Churchwardens.

PURPOSE

The charitable purpose of the Church of Ireland is the advancement of religion. The principle function of St. John the Evangelist is to support the advancement of the Christian religion by promoting, through the work of the Parish, the whole mission of the Church.

ACTIVITIES OF THE CHARITY

WORSHIP

Our services during 2020 were affected and impacted due to COVID with our buildings having to close from March to September and again for two weeks at the end November and start of December. However, through the use of social media, YouTube, church website and a dial-in service we were able to ensure that people could access worship services remotely.

ORGANISATIONS

Our Mothers Union were unable to meet for the most part of 2020 due to Covid-19 and this was the case for the Craft Class, Rainbows, Brownies and Guides.

MISSIONS AND EVANGELISM

Several Missionary Societies are supported financially by Parishioners and these are The Leprosy Mission, S.A.M.S., Church Army, Crosslinks, Churches Ministry to Jewish People and Irish Church Missions. We also allocate 10% of our Free Will Offering each year and in 2020 this was given to Crosslinks, S.A.M.S., Open Doors, CAP, Royal British Legion and Operation Christmas Child. Our Harvest Services were held in September and Bishop McClay had requested that we support the Lebanon Appeal made by Open Doors. £1371 was sent to the Diocese to be forwarded by them to Open Doors. During Advent a further appeal was made by Bishop McClay. This was to be split 3 ways: 10% for the link Diocese of Maridi, 10% for local church planting and 80% for a Charity of our own choosing. CAP (Christians against poverty) was chosen and we were able to send £895 to them with the other 2 groups each receiving £111. Once again we took part in the Shoebox Appeal and although it was difficult with a lot of restrictions in place we were still able to pack over 70 boxes for onward forwarding by Operation Christmas Child.

FINANCES

The Finances are managed by the Treasurer who reports back to the Trustees at monthly Vestry Meetings. Security and safeguarding of all monies is important to the Trustees. All money is recorded, counted and banked under dual control.

The Financial Statement for the year ended 31st December 2020 was accepted by the Select Vestry.

PUBLIC BENEFIT

Charity Trustees have complied with their duties in line with the Commission's Public Benefit Statutory Guidance. Regular worship and reaching out into the community as well as other activities and fundraising have been carried out through the year to fulfil our statement of Public Benefit. Public worship is open to all and our halls are used by two external groups on a regular basis.

MITIGATION OF HARM

It is the policy of the Church of Ireland to set standards for the welfare of all children sharing in its ministry with a view to protecting them from physical, sexual and emotional harm. The Select Vestry adheres to the guidelines and a Safe Guarding Trust Panel is in place. All those who come into contact with the children who attend the various organisations have attended Safeguarding Trust training and are subject to Child Protection checks. Responsibility under Health and Safety legislation is taken seriously and measures are in place for the protection of those using the halls. Regular risk assessments are carried out and regular reports made to the Vestry by the Health & Safety Officers.

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES RESPONSIBILITIES

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustee's Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

The law applicable to charities in Northern Ireland with income of less than £250,000 requires the Trustees to prepare a Statement of Receipts and Payments and a Statement of Assets and Liabilities for each financial year.

Trustees are also responsible for keeping accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the Parish's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the assets and liabilities of the Parish. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Parish and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.


SIGNED ON BEHALF OF THE TRUSTEES

TRUSTEE 1



Julia Quaille – Secretary

TRUSTEE 2



Carol Wylie – Hon. Treasurer