

## **Armagh/St Marks/Armagh/Church of Ireland**

### **GENERAL INFORMATION**

Charity Name : Armagh/St Marks/Armagh/Church Of Ireland  
(commonly known as St Mark's, Armagh)

Charity Registration Number : NIC103959

Contact Address :-

St Mark's Church Office,  
44 Victoria Street,  
Armagh.  
BT61 9DT

Trustees :-

Rev'd Canon Malcolm Kingston  
Rev'd Sarah Parkinson  
Mrs Lynda Adamson  
Dr Bob Brown  
Mrs Heather Chambers  
Mr Arnold Courtney  
Mrs Wendy Davison  
Mr Michael Dickson  
Mr Donald Maclean  
Mr John McCann  
Mr Donald McKee  
Mrs Florence Magwood  
Mr Ian Millar  
Mr Samuel Megarity  
Mrs Linda Pierson  
Mr Keith Ruddy  
Mr Gordon Stewart  
Mr Mark Speers

Principal Office Bearers :-

Rector : Rev'd Canon Malcolm Kingston  
Treasurer : Mr Arnold Courtney  
Church Warden (Clergy) : Mr Gordon Stewart  
Church Warden (People) : Mr Samuel Megarity

Independent Examiner :-

Andrew Gilpin ACCA  
WHR Accountants Ltd  
26 The Square  
Moy  
BT71 7SG

Bankers :-  
Ulster Bank  
7 Upper English Street  
Armagh  
BT61 7BL

## **TRUSTEES' REPORT**

The trustees present the annual report and accounts for the Parish of Armagh (St Mark's, Armagh) for the year ended 31 December 2022.

### Objectives and Activities

The principal function of St Mark's Armagh is to support the advancement of the Christian religion by promoting through the work of the Parish of Armagh the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. Being open to and engaging with society as a whole and offering support for those needing help are fundamental to the practical delivery of the benefits of Christianity.

As a result of activity in the pursuit of the advancement of the Christian religion, St Mark's Armagh has custody of property and records, materials and artefacts of significance to the cultural and religious heritage and maintenance of which is undertaken by the Select Vestry of the Parish of Armagh.

### Achievements, Performance and Public Benefit

St Mark's Armagh has three Sunday Services of Public Worship, as well as Wednesday Evening Services (except July & August). Special additional Services take place during Holy Week, Easter and at Christmas. St Mark's Church is open during the daytime on Week Days allowing parishioners and visitors the opportunity to access the Church building for prayer and silent reflection.

A range of activities are provided by St Mark's Armagh including :- Sunday School, Creche, yF3 (Youth Fellowship), Glow (Youth Club), Bible Fellowship, Alpha Course (Introduction to Christianity Programme), Home Study Groups, Marriage Preparation Course, Marksmen (Retired Men's Group), 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday Club (Retired Ladies' Group), Alive (Informal Ladies Group), Ladies' Walking Group, Indoor Bowling Club and Parish Choir. During August St Mark's organises a week long Holiday Bible Club for children of Primary School age. During 2022 a voluntary Parish Nurse was commissioned and he offers additional pastoral support to Parishioners and members of our community.

Our Church Hall (Crozier Hall) is utilised by organisations external to our Parish including a local flower arranging club, the Royal School Armagh for netball, Cub Scouts and Nursing / Residential care facilities for training purposes.

Our Parish organises special events on an occasional basis such as concerts, coffee mornings and parish barbecues raising funds for the benefit Parish Funds and Charities both local and global. We have a monthly collection for the Armagh Food Bank and an annual Christmas Toy Appeal for distribution via Belfast Central Mission. We also have additional annual monetary appeals for Bishops' Appeal, the Southern Area Hospice and other Charities.

St Mark's greatly values an ongoing partnership with Shyogwe Diocese, Rwanda through the Church Mission Society Ireland. Prior to Covid, our Parish Catering Team offered their services for Funeral Teas following Funeral Services, which was deeply appreciated by bereaved families and funds raised contribute to our Parish Fabric Fund. It is hoped that this can be resumed in the future.

The activities above demonstrate how St Mark's Armagh continues to implement its charitable purposes (i.e the advancement of religion) and meet its public benefit requirements. Benefits to members of the public include contributing to spiritual well being of participants and the reinforcement of Christian values.

All of our Services of Public Worship and Parish Activities are publicised on our Website : [www.stmarksarmagh.org](http://www.stmarksarmagh.org). Our weekly 10.30am Service is livestreamed on YouTube, as are special additional services.

#### Safeguarding & Health and Safety

St Mark's Armagh adheres to the Church of Ireland's 'Safeguarding Trust' policy the protection of children and vulnerable adults. Further details about this policy are available from <https://safeguarding.ireland.anglican.org>

A member of the Select Vestry attended training to assist the Select Vestry with matters of Health and Safety. Appropriate procedures are followed and Health and Safety is a standing item on the Select Vestry Agenda where necessary actions are implemented.

#### Financial Review

- The principal sources of income for St Mark's Armagh continues to be Donations and Plate Collections
- The principal expenses for St Mark's Armagh is in respect of payments regarding Diocesan Assessment, Staff Salaries and Property Maintenance.
- In 2022 St Mark's Armagh had an deficit of income over expenditure on its General Fund of £15,608,62 and an excess of income over expenditure on its Fabric Fund (restricted) of £4,490.58.
- St Mark's Armagh continues to be in a healthy financial state as at 31 December 2022 with a total cash funds of £80,853.74.
- St Mark's, Armagh aims to retain sufficient reserves to meet its expected future expenditure requirements as well as futures capital projects.
- It has been our custom over many years for all households on our Parish Register to receive a hard copy of our audited Parish Accounts.

#### Going Concern

The trustees have reviewed its planned expenditure for the year ahead and are satisfied that there are adequate funds in place to ensure that the Parish can continue its activities and the financial statements for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022 can be signed off as a going concern.

## Structure, Governance and Management

### *Governing Document and Constitution of the Charity*

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

### *Recruitment and Appointment of the 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 the meetings of the General Vestry and to stand for election to the Select Vestry. Meetings of the General Vestry are held at least once per year. 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.

### *Organisational Structure*

The Select Vestry is responsible for the day to day management of the parish. The Select Vestry consists of the member of the clergy serving in the parish, any curate assistant ('the curate'), the Church Wardens, the Glebe Wardens and generally not more than twelve other members of the General Vestry elected at the General Vestry Meeting.

The Select Vestry is chaired by the incumbent or other member of the clergy officiating in the parish. Select Vestry members are responsible for making decisions on matters of general concern and importance to the Parish including how Parish Funds are to be applied.

The Select Vestry meets at times assigned by the members or by the Diocesan Synod. Special meetings may be convened at any time chair or the Church Wardens. During 2022 the Select Vestry met ten times (in person and online).

### **Statement of Trustees Responsibilities**

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

The law applicable to charities in Northern Ireland requires trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the trustees have prepared the financial statements in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Practice in the United Kingdom (accounting standards issued by the Financial Reporting Council in the UK, including Charities SORP (FRS 102) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) "and promulgated by the Institute of Chartered Accountants in the United Kingdom and United Kingdom Law). Under that law the trustees must not approve the Financial Statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of the affairs of the charity and of the statement of financial activities of the charity for that period.

In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether the financial statements have been prepared in accordance with applicable Accounting Standards and identify the standards in question, subject to any material departures being disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Parish will continue as a going concern.

The trustees are 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 financial position of the Parish and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2008 and the provisions of the Constitution of the Church of Ireland. 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.

### Statement as to disclosure to our examiners

In so far as the trustees are aware at the timing of approving our trustees' annual report:

- There is no relevant audit information of which the charitable examiner is aware;  
and
- The trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant examination information and to establish that the charity's examiner is aware of that information.

### Independent Examiners

The examiners, WHR Accountants Ltd, have indicated their willingness to continue in office and a resolution concerning their reappointment was proposed at the Annual Easter Vestry Meeting.

On behalf of the Trustees

Trustee 1 :- 

Trustee 2 :- 

Date :- 27/6/2023.