

The Trustees present the annual report and statement of Receipts and Payments for St. Paul's Parish Church for the year ended 31st December 2023.

Objectives and Activities

The principal function of Killeshill Parish Church, Church of Ireland is to support the advancement of the Christian religion by promoting, through the work of the parish church the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. It is important that the Church is open to and engaging with society, offering support for those needing help and fundamental to the practical delivery of the benefit of Christianity.

As a result of activity in the pursuit of the advancement of the Christian religion, the parish church has custody of property and of records, materials and artefacts of significance to the cultural and religious heritage. The maintenance of this is undertaken by the Select Vestry of St Paul's Parish Church, Killeshill, Church of Ireland.

Achievements, Performance and Public Benefit

Worship and Prayer: All parish meetings are expected to open and close with prayers, eg. committees, choir practices, select vestry meetings, parish meetings. This applies to all parish organisations, but excludes community organisations using the Church premises and who are outside the parish insurance.

Services of worship are weekly (Sunday). There is a monthly evening prayer meeting.

Choir practices are regular to assist the worship. Children attend special and monthly family worship and Sunday School for Biblical teaching and Denominational education.

Other acts of education and instruction such as Confirmation, marriage preparation, Bible study and safeguarding occur on a regular basis.

Every Act of Worship is open to the whole of the community, this being particularly true at the main festivals including Christmas, Harvest, Easter and other significant occasions including Remembrance.

In worship and prayer, we meet to contribute to the spiritual well-being of the participants and the education and reinforcement of Christian values.

Pastoral Care: The Church of Ireland recognises the Rector and Parish Reader to offer considered or measured pastoral and prayerful care where need is identified and accepted. The wider Church also recognises 'all member ministry' where it is the duty and responsibility of all to offer such support to everyone. There are no limits through age, gender, social or family circumstances, religious affiliation or none. Typical areas of focus include serious illness, bereavement, hospitals, nursery, residential or sheltered accommodation and special units. In encouraging all our parish members to take their pastoral responsibilities seriously, we seek to reinforce Christian values and develop the mission of the Church.

Mission: The Parish is part of the worldwide Anglican Communion and as such supports several appeals including the Bishops appeal and other humanitarian responses. There are special services and appeals when collections are taken for a specific cause. Equally our branch of the Mother's Union, as part of a worldwide organisation, offers prayerful and financial support.

Outreach: Our outreach extends widely and is particularly effective through Rites of Passage ceremonies such as baptism, marriage and burial which often extend into wide areas of the local community. All are opportunities to reinforce Christian values and aspects of good citizenship. Both the Rector and Parish Reader have a sensitive involvement in the local community, as vehicles of community outreach. The Parish is active in making its records available free of charge to all with the aim of developing relationships outside of the normal Church community.

As part of our outreach, the Church Hall is made available to local community events. These are interdenominational organisations that are welcome to use our hall as a place to bring people from the local area together to carry out educational and recreational activities. The Church receives no income from these groups.

Beneficiaries: Our beneficiaries not only include those who attend worship in our church, (regularly or otherwise). The diversity of the beneficiaries includes their friends, families, neighbours and anyone and everyone in our locality who we can reach out to who wishes to avail of our services, prayer meetings, Sunday School, choir and community events. Therefore, we aim to connect

with and contribute to the spiritual well-being of all people of any age, creed, political persuasions etc., all are welcome.

Harm: St. Paul's Parish Church, Killeshill does not believe it has caused any harm through the course of its activities. In our activities, we are aware of the Child protection policy and matters of general public health and safety. We regularly assess the health and safety of the Church premises to ensure a healthy and safe environment for members of the community.

Financial Review

Points:

1. Our opening balance was £19,955.41. Total receipts for 2023 were £13,054.14. Total payments for 2023 were £12,845.10. Thus the closing balance is £20,164.45.
2. Restricted/non-restricted Funds: the Church does not hold any restricted funds.
3. Ability to pay costs in the coming year (day to day costs such as insurance, electricity, general maintenance): the Church has to date been able to use income from the freewill offering to meet the on-going maintenance costs.
4. Buildings: St Paul's Killeshill parish church and hall are in reasonable condition. There are on-going costs associated with the maintenance of the Church and the hall that are being considered by the wider membership of the Church. Grants are not forthcoming, so alternative approaches are being considered, such as fundraising events.
5. Contents of Buildings: The value of the contents of the Church Hall is £1650.

Ballygawley Rectory serves as the glebe house for the joint Church of Ireland parishes of Errigle Keerogue, Ballygawley and Killeshill but belongs to the Parish of Ballygawley only. Therefore, the Rectory is not dealt with as a parish asset in this report. The three parishes do divide glebe costs however, so as to not place a burden on Ballygawley Parish to cover all maintenance costs. Hence, glebe costs in relation to the Rectory building are included in this report.

Statement of Going Concern: The Trustees (Select Vestry) have reviewed the budgets for the next year ahead and are satisfied that there are adequate funds in place to cover the general running costs, to ensure that the Parish can

continue its activities for the year ending 2024. However, the Select Vestry recognises that substantial funds are required over the coming years in order to continue maintenance of the Church and to ensure that identified repairs are undertaken. As mentioned above, fundraising efforts will be used to cover the remaining costs and other possible funding avenues will be explored.

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing document and Constitution of the Charity: St Paul's, Killeshill Parish Church is constituted through the Church of Ireland Constitution: <https://www.ireland.anglican.org/about/the-constitution/the-constitution-in-full> Chapter III of the Constitution of the Church of Ireland governs Parishes and Parochial Organisation. The Select Vestry are the Charity Trustees.

Recruitment and Selection of Select Vestry (Trustees): All members of the Church of Ireland who are over 18 years of age 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. This allows them to attend and vote at meetings of the general vestry and to stand for election to the select vestry. Meetings of the general vestry are held at least once a year. The Select Vestry is elected as part of the 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.

Pay and remuneration: The Incumbent receives a stipend in accordance with figures approved by the General Synod of the Church of Ireland. St. Paul's Parish Church pays this Sustentation as requested to the Diocesan Office who then remunerates the Incumbent.

Organisational Structure: The Select Vestry is responsible for the day-to-day management of the parish. The select vestry consists of the members of the clergy serving in the parish, the churchwardens, the glebe wardens and generally not more than twelve other members of the general vestry elected at the General Vestry.

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 deciding how parish funds are to be applied.

The Select vestry meets at times fixed by the members or by the diocesan synod. Special meetings may be convened at any time by the chairperson or the churchwardens. In 2023, the Select Vestry met 3 times (April, August and October) and the attendance was always high.

Statement of Compliance with the Charity Commission for NI Guidance on Public Benefit: The Select Vestry has given careful consideration to the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland's guidance on public benefit to ensure that the activities entered into during the year have helped to achieve the Parish's objectives and activities, as well as providing public benefit.

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities: The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the statement of receipts and payments 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 for each financial year. 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 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 H. E. Stinson

Trustee 2 M. Black

Date 25/4/24