

# Kilcronaghan Parish Church

## Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2023

The trustees present the annual report and statements of Receipts and Payments and Assets and Liabilities for Kilcronaghan Parish Church for the year ended 2023.

### Objectives and Activities

The charitable purpose of the Church of Ireland is the advancement of religion.

The principal function of Kilcronaghan Parish Church is to support the advancement of the Christian religion by promoting, through the work of Kilcronaghan Parish Church 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, Kilcronaghan Parish Church has custody of property and of records, materials and artefacts of significance to the cultural and religious heritage and maintenance of which is undertaken by the select vestry of Kilcronaghan Parish Church.

### Achievements, Performance & Public Benefit

Kilcronaghan Parish Church is under the incumbency of the Reverend Rosemary Diffin. As a church we provide a weekly service of Morning Prayer, Evening Prayer and a once per month service of Holy Communion. We also provide for baptisms, weddings, funerals and pastoral support.

The year began with the clearing of the parish hall in preparation for renovation work to be carried out. This began in early February and continued until September when the hall was finally opened on 30<sup>th</sup> September by the Rt. Revd. Andrew Forster, Bishop of Derry and Raphoe.

During this time our organisations met in the church, the Mc Kinney Hall or the Orange Hall

During Lent we had a Lenten service every Wednesday and special services during Holy Week. We were delighted to be able to resume our dawn service on Easter Sunday.

Our prayer fellowship meets on a Wednesday evening followed by a Bible study.

In June a special afternoon tea party was held in the grounds of the rectory to celebrate the Coronation of King Charles . We were entertained by Tamlaghtmore Silver Band. Bouncy castles were provided for the entertainment of the children.

The Connect group continues to meet every Thursday morning – a community coffee morning followed by a talk or activity one week and on alternate weeks a community soup lunch. An excursion took place to Dobbies new garden centre at Junction One.

The Sunday School excursion took place in June.

After the opening of the parish hall we had a Gospel Concert organised by Eric Drennan.

Our usual Harvest and Carol services took place and some special songs of praise services when we invited local bands to accompany the hymn singing. Evening services resumed with monthly café church, songs of praise, service of the Word and a communion service.

The GFS restarted with a Big Night back and in October a Lite Party was held.

Several special services were held during the year including one where the Revd Rosie was inaugurated as Diocesan Chaplain of the GFS and a fundraising service for the Air Ambulance by Knockloughrim Accordion Band.

Items of food were collected during the year and given to the local food bank.

The prayer fellowship resumed in September and this was followed by a number of different Bible courses.

The church continues to support 6 mission partners and other charities. Special collections were taken up for the Bishops' Appeal for Turkey/ Syria and donations were collected for Samaritans' Purse.

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A number of fundraising events were held during the year for our new hall fund. These included a sponsored walk by our rector and her husband Ronnie from Coast to Coast across England and a sponsored fast by a parishioner. At the end of November a very successful Christmas Tree Festival was organised and our annual Tractor Run was held in December. The tractor run donations went to the Bishops' Appeal for the Middle East

Our Child Protection Policy is in accordance with the Safeguarding Trust policies of the Church of Ireland.

### Financial Review

- The results for the year are set out on page 7, which the Trustees consider to be satisfactory
- The reserves of the Parish are held for the advancement of its charitable purpose, other than restricted reserves which are held for a designated purpose – see note 13

### Going Concern

The trustees have reviewed the budgets 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 December 2023 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 Select Vestry (Trustees)

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. Meetings of the general vestry are held at least once a 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.

#### Pay and Remuneration

The Rector is not paid directly by the Parish. A monthly assessment is paid to the Diocese which comprises Stipend, Locomotory Allowance, Employer's National Insurance and Employers Clergy Pension Contributions.

#### 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, 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 8 times during the year and the average attendance was 70%.

# Kilcronaghan Parish Church

## Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 2023 (continued)

### Compliance with Public Benefit

The Parish 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 and statement of assets and liabilities 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.

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

Reverend R Diffin  
Trustee



18 March 2024

Hilary Richardson  
Trustee



18 March 2024