



TAMLAGHTFINLAGAN PARISH CHURCH

Rector Canon H. Given.

Finlagan Rectory, 77 Ballykelly Road, Limavady, BT49 9DS. Telephone 028777 62743

The Trustees present the Annual Report and Statements of Receipts and Payments and Cash and Investments balances for the Parish of Tamlaghtfinlagan for the year ended 31st December 2019.

Objectives and Activities:

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

The principal function of the Parish of Tamlaghtfinlagan is to support the advancement of the Christian religion by promoting, through the work of the Parish 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.

Review 2019:

The Parish strives to engage with the local community and a variety of clubs run in the Church hall throughout the year.

1. 2 Youth Clubs (mixed boys and girls) took place from September to May, both groups include children from outside the parish.
Primary 4 – Primary 7 children meet on a Tuesday evening.
Primary 1 – Primary 3 children meet on a Wednesday evening.
2. Sunday school has 55 children registered.
3. Rainbows, Brownies and Guides run one night a week.
4. Mothers' Union – mostly comprising of more mature ladies.
5. Bowling Club runs on a Wednesday afternoon under the supervision of Jim Ferris.
This is a cross community club.
6. Slimming World Club started on 22nd May 2019 – community club.
7. Dry Arch Centre "Stay and Play – Messy Play" for 0-4 year olds – also a community club.

Normal Sunday and midweek Services take place in both Tamlaghtfinlagan Parish Church, Ballykelly and in St John's Church, Myroe – with plenty of opportunity given for Informal Praise throughout the year. The fundraising committee planned and executed many events which incorporate both churches throughout the year and they raised a total of £12,248.88 (£2490 of this went to various outside charities). These events include the following:

- January – the Cantemus Chamber Choir sang in aid of Limavady Grammar School – Kenya Project.
- February and October – 2 x Car Wash/Breakfast/Craft Stalls in aid of Church Funds.
- March – an Irish Stew Night with entertainment took place in aid of Church Funds.
- May – Girls' Night Out Fashion Show and Supper event for members of the Mothers' Union.
- May – Social Dance in Coast Road Inn was held for Church Funds.

- June – Hervey Heritage Group – Peace IV “Understanding our Area” cross community event to celebrate the erection of an Information Board regarding Earl Bishop Trail.
- July – 3rd Annual Summer Fair - £500 proceeds to Macmillan NI and the remainder to Church Funds.
- August – Community Breakfast in The Drummond Hotel – proceeds split between St Finlough’s Church and Tamlaghtfinlagan.
- September – the Annual Walk from the Parish Church in Ballykelly to St John’s Church in Myroe – proceeds to Community Search and Rescue.
- October – Family Quiz Night in aid of Church Funds.
- October – Vintage Ploughing Match in aid of Foyle Hospice and Church Funds.
- November – Strabane Players presented “Separate Beds” play in aid of Church Funds.

The activities outlined above demonstrate how Tamlaghtfinlagan continues to implement its charitable purposes (ie the advancement of religion) and meets the public benefit requirement. Benefits to members of the public include contributing to spiritual well-being of participants and the reinforcement of Christian values. Tamlaghtfinlagan implements the Church of Ireland Safeguarding Trust Policy regarding children and adults.

Financial Review:

A review of the Receipts and Payments Account provides a comprehensive and clear overview of the Parish’s financial position. Income and Expenditure is classified into unrestricted (General Fund) and restricted funds (Building Fund). Restricted funds are those which must be used for a specific purpose (maintenance of the churches, graveyard, rectory, church hall and Sexton’s house) and unrestricted funds are those for which no such restrictions apply (running costs).

Income:

The Parish’s main source of income continues to be derived from the freewill offerings and donations from parishioners with the level of freewill giving in 2019 remaining in line with that in recent years at £34,028. The vestry is extremely grateful to all parishioners who give so generously and sacrificially to sustain the mission and Ministry of the Parish.

The Parish offers a standing order system to facilitate the freewill offering of parishioners and continues to encourage parishioners to consider this as a method of giving. The Gift Aid scheme is a valuable source of income to the Parish. The scheme allows the Parish to reclaim 25p for every £1 donated as long as the donor has appropriately signed a Gift Aid declaration and paid a sufficient level of tax to HMRC in the year to cover 25p reclaim on every £1 which they have donated. In 2019 the Parish received £5775 of income from HMRC. The scheme is open to everyone who pays tax to HMRC and the Parish would urge parishioners to consider whether their giving could be gift aided (if appropriate) if this is not already the case.

Fundraising continues to be a valuable source of income for the Parish – a full list of these activities can be found in the Statement of Accounts. Thanks are extended to all who have been involved in the planning and execution of the many functions run throughout the year. Whilst there is the obvious financial benefit of fundraising, there is also a very important social aspect as the sense of community is fostered.

Expenditure:

The Diocesan Assessment is the largest item of expenditure which the Parish is required to meet. The standard basic assessment levied on parishes in the Diocese of Derry is in the region of £55,000. Given the size of our Parish, the assessment which this Parish was required to meet in 2019 was £43,511.

As at 31 December 2019 the Parish is considered to be financially viable, (with a closing balance of £11,199) holding an adequate level of funds in reserve and showing no present cause for concern. However, it would be prudent for consideration to be given to upcoming generations and ensuring that funds are managed carefully so that adequate funds are available for future years.

Going Concern:

The trustees have reviewed the plans 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 2019 can be signed off as a going concern.

Approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf by:

Canon Harold Given
Rector

H. R. Given
28/10/20

Rhonda Taggart
Secretary

R Taggart

Date: *28. 10. 2020*