

STANDING ORDER

It would greatly reduce expenses on the Parish if contributors could consider using a Standing Order instead of the weekly envelope to support the Parish. Standing Orders are available on line www.ashbourneparish.ie or at the back of the Church, or the Parish Office. This is a more secure way to contribute, it means you no longer need to remember a weekly envelope and it only needs to be set up once.

TAX REBATE

Ashbourne-Donaghmore Parish is a registered charity and the Revenue Commissioners allow tax relief on donations of over €250 per year made by parishioners to parish funds (this is the equivalent of €5 per week). We ask parishioners who are PAYE or Self-employed taxpayers, to allow the parish claim a refund from the Revenue Commissioners at no extra cost to you. This simply involves completing a form which will be sent to you and returning it to the parish office

Where your money goes in Ashbourne-Donaghmore Parish?

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

This collection is taken up during the Offertory at all Masses on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation. This assists with the day-to-day running costs of the Parish and is not for the upkeep of the priests. Weekly envelopes should not be placed in the Offertory Collection bags but in the brown boxes at the rear of the church.

WEEKLY ENVELOPE OR STANDING ORDER

This collection is used for the ongoing maintenance of Parish buildings and for Pastoral Care Services in the Parish. For those contributing by weekly envelope, these should be placed in the brown boxes at the exits of the church and are not part of the Offertory Collection.

OFFERINGS

Offering Sundays coincide with the different coloured envelopes in the boxes of envelopes. The offering envelopes are for the support of the Bishop & Priests of the Parish. This allows the Parish to pay our priests' weekly wage—standardised by the Diocese of Meath—the running costs of their houses and related expenses.

SECOND COLLECTIONS

In 2014, the Parish Finance Committee standardised the number of collections taking place in any given month in order to alleviate the financial burden on people when they come to Church. These Sundays are set at the beginning of the year, for a designated project, cause or appeal.

Thank you for your support during the year. If you wish to obtain a detailed record of your envelope or Standing Order Contributions to the Parish, please contact the Parish Office 01 8353149



Annual Financial Report 2017

Dear Fellow Parishioners.

We wish to express our deep appreciation and gratitude to all who financially support our Parish. Like all parishes we are under increasing financial pressure given the continued decline in financial contributions to the Parish while expenses in running the Parish increase. This means the financial burden is left to a few and we cannot thank you enough for your support and generosity, as it is you who are literally carrying our Parish - Thank you. To those not already contributing, please consider asking for a box of envelopes from our Parish Office.

This year's accounts show a surplus of €65,998 in the last 12 months. This is due to an increase in the offertory and the envelope/standing order collections, coupled with a significant reduction in expenditure (c.€50,000) on the previous year. The Tax Rebate (see back leaf) has dropped this year by €3,594. This is due to individual contributors not reaching the donation-threshold of €250 per year, and a decline in the number of parishioners supporting the parish through the envelopes/standing order. Thank you to all who supported the monthly 'Second Collections' throughout the year, which were taken to help reduce the outlay of Parish funds to Diocesan levies, various causes and charitable appeals. The Parish is levied twice annually by the Diocese, and this year the levies paid amounted to €22,220. In total, Ashbourne-Donaghmore Parish donated €15,031 to various causes and charitable appeals which marks a fall of €4,159 in our parish's charitable donations on the previous year..

Worryingly, we bring your attention to the continued decline in the Priest's Offerings. While their workload has increased considerably, our financial support of our priests has dropped by almost 30% in the last three years. As our priests have the lowest salary nationally, they rely on the generosity of parishioners at times of baptisms, weddings, Mass offerings etc., to supplement their income.

A sizeable drain on our resources is the servicing of our bank loans which amounts to €351,034 for 2017. These loans relate to the construction of the Parish Hall and accumulated legacy maintenance and improvements in the Parish. The annual interest on these loans amounted to €13,456.

The sacramental preparation classes provided by the parish for children attending non-Catholic schools necessitates a financial contribution from parents. These funds are used solely for the delivery of this service and are not directly at the disposal of the Parish.

Regrettably, falling numbers in Mass attendance in Donaghmore Church means it relies heavily on financial resources from Ashbourne to meet the costs of its annual expenditure. Donaghmore Church will require significant financial investment in the future in order to maintain, upgrade and refurbish the church. Parishioners are asked to be mindful of that when contributing to the envelopes or standing orders.

Finally, a sincere word of thanks to the members of our Parish Finance Committee for their time and expertise, our Auditors HSM, our Parish Secretary, the Collectors and Counters, without whose services as volunteers in our Parish we would not function.

Parish Finance Committee

Fr. Derek Darby PP, Liam Mulvihill (Chairperson PFC),
Fr. Ciarán Clarke, Deirdre Mc Mahon, Evelyn Browne, Jan Buggie,
Declan Black, Philip Greene.

**ASHBOURNE/DONAGHMORE PARISH
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
FOR YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER, 2017**



| INCOME | 2017 | 2016 |
|--|----------------|----------------|
| | € | € |
| Weekly Offertory Collection | 94,055 | 91,110 |
| Envelope Collections | 92,416 | 82,075 |
| Offerings for Priests | 44,729 | 48,636 |
| Tax Refunds | 23,390 | 26,984 |
| Special Collections | 7,995 | 5,710 |
| Candles, Newspapers, Shrines, Missals | 48,907 | 33,625 |
| Cemetery Income | 15,480 | 15,300 |
| Mass intentions for missions | 20,908 | 15,127 |
| Trócaire Collection | 6,610 | 4,765 |
| Mission Sunday Collection | 2,370 | 1,679 |
| Vocation Sunday Collection | 1,520 | 1,405 |
| Peter's Pence Collection | 1,345 | 1,760 |
| Haiti Collection | - | 1,845 |
| Ukraine Collection | - | 1,960 |
| Kiltegan Collection | - | 3,515 |
| Good Friday Collection | 1,920 | 2,270 |
| Rental Incomes | 11,812 | 11,290 |
| Bank Interest earned | 55 | 40 |
| Miscellaneous | 1,386 | 195 |
| Sacramental Preparation | 12,365 | 9,313 |
| Donations—(roof, candelabra, JP II Chapel) | 2,825 | 20,910 |
| Bequests | 1,000 | 900 |
| Total Revenues | 391,088 | 380,405 |

CURRENT & LONG TERM LIABILITIES

| | 2017 | 2016 |
|--------------|----------------|----------------|
| | € | € |
| Loans - Bank | 351,034 | 383,837 |
| | <u>351,034</u> | <u>383,837</u> |

| EXPENDITURE | 2017 | 2016 |
|--|----------------|----------------|
| | € | € |
| Wages, Salaries, PRSI and Pension Costs | 38,597 | 40,638 |
| Priest's Salaries | 24,005 | 25,540 |
| Altar Bread, Wine & Liturgical Requisites | 19,899 | 14,385 |
| Insurance | 8,901 | 8,901 |
| Light, Heat and Power | 18,271 | 25,386 |
| Telephone | 7,562 | 7,681 |
| Postage Stationery, Printing & Envelope Boxes | 5,965 | 5,247 |
| Local Property Tax | 630 | 630 |
| Repairs & Maintenance | 22,487 | 37,419 |
| Furniture/Renovation Costs | - | 17,015 |
| Bulletins, Stationery & Office Supplies | 7,001 | 6,484 |
| Support & Maintenance of Clergy | 23,804 | 36,675 |
| Seminars & Resource Material | 3,114 | 4,823 |
| Parish Liturgy & Music Ministry | 11,943 | 9,609 |
| Charitable Donations | 9,849 | 7,422 |
| Cleaning & Waste Disposal | 1,557 | 1,918 |
| Sundry Expenses | 300 | - |
| Security | 1,271 | 3,662 |
| Mass Intentions for Missions | 20,623 | 15,127 |
| Trócaire Collection | 6,610 | 4,765 |
| Mission Sunday Collection | 2,370 | 1,670 |
| Vocation Sunday Collection | 1,520 | 1,405 |
| Peter's Pence Collection | 1,345 | 1,760 |
| Haiti Collection | - | 1,845 |
| Ukraine Collection | - | 1,960 |
| Kiltegan Collection | - | 3,515 |
| Holy Land Good Friday Collection | 1,920 | 2,270 |
| Order of the Holy Sepulchre (Holy Land) | 1,266 | - |
| Diocesan Office & Bishop's Conference | 12,793 | 13,364 |
| Parish Donation for Retired Priests of the Diocese | 9,427 | 9,693 |
| Bank Charges | 1,301 | 1,267 |
| Bank Loan Interest | 13,456 | 15,553 |
| Depreciation | 34,321 | 33,036 |
| Legal Professional Fees | 4,551 | 11,640 |
| Sacramental Preparation | 8,431 | 8,321 |
| Total Expenditure | 325,090 | 380,626 |
| SURPLUS OF INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE | 65,998 | (221) |