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DUBLIN DIOCESAN SYNOD

Elected 2020

President
THE MOST REVEREND DR MICHAEL GEOFFREY St AUBYN
JACKSON
Archbishop of Dublin

The order of names of lay members is that given in the
Easter Vestry Returns

The list of Synod members was revised by the Honorary Secretaries,
on behalf of the Diocesan Councils,
and signed by the Archbishop

CATHEDRALS

Christ Church Cathedral

Dunne, Very Rev Dermot P M
(Dean)
Sines, Rev Abigail
(Dean's Vicar)

Daly-Denton, Margaret
Refaussé, Raymond
Wynne, David

St Patrick's Cathedral

Morton, Very Rev Dr William W
(Dean)
Mullen, Rev Charles W (Canon)

Fenton, Albert
Hayes, Scott
Burleigh, Stephen
Houston, Kerry
Ruttle, Sandra
Kane-Carson, Pat

BENEFICES

Christ Church Cathedral Group:
United Parishes of St Andrew,
Grangegorman, St Michan,
St Paul, St Mary, St Werburgh

Pierpoint, Ven David A
(Vicar) (Archdeacon)
Styles, Rev Ross

Gorman, Helen
Kenny, Olive
Dawson, Paul

St Ann and St Mark with
St Stephen

Gillespie, Rev David I (Canon)

Morrow, Ruby
Vincent, Arthur
McCrodden, Peter

St Bartholomew with Christ
Church (Leeson Park)

McCroskery, Rev Andrew (Canon)

Ferguson, Traudi
Slattery, John
Molloy, Brian

Booterstown and Blackrock
(Carysfort) with Mt. Merion

Wharton, Rev Gillian V (Canon)

Morris, Stephanie
Daly, Marcus
Wallace, Clair

Bray

Stanley, Rev Baden T

Reynolds, Carol
Gray, Nicola
Corr, Julie

Bray Crinken (St James)

Stevenson, Rev Trevor

Scargill, Geoff
Gardiner, Stephen
Ellis, Andrew

Castleknock and Mulhuddart with
Clonsilla

Houston, Rev W Paul (Canon)

Devlin, Rachel
Raz, Victor
Fleeton, Elizabeth

St Catherine and St James
with St Audoen

Gardner, Rev Mark D (Canon)

Hackett, David
Kilbey, Jimmy
Vacant

Clondalkin and Rathcoole

Rufli, Rev Alan J

Sherwood, Mary
Armstrong, Sylvia
O'Callaghan, Barbara

Clontarf

Robinson, Rev E C Lesley

Lynch, David
Patten, John
Cunningham, Mary

St Columba's College

Owen, Rev Daniel J

No Return

C.O.R.E.

Heaslip, Rev Eoghan

No Return

Crumlin and Chapelizod

Noble, Rev Ruth

Heasley, Lavinia
Weekes, Les
Rusk, Shona

Dalkey

Hayes, Rev Bruce J

Miller, John
Tarleton, Don
Sweetnam, Georgina

**Drumcondra, North Strand and
St Barnabas**

Bunting, Rev E Garth

Kemp, Lorna
Denner, Jean
Forbes, James

**Dún Laoghaire (Christ Church
and Mariners')**

Ólafsdóttir, Rev Ása B

Wynne, Stephen
Woulfe-Flanagan, Terence
Rhodes, Jacki

St George and St Thomas

Under Diocesan administration

Glenageary

Dowd, Rev Garfield G

Webb, Michael
Heseltine, Mary
Wayman, Sheila

**Holmpatrick and Kenure, with
Balbriggan and Balrothery**

Kelly, Rev Anthony

Llywelyn, Morgan
Dilworth, Mairo
Hicks, Roy

Howth

Brew, Rev W Kevin M (Canon)

No Return

Irishtown and Donnybrook

Marchant, Rev John B
(Bishop's Curate)

Wheeler, Claire
Bell, Jonathan
Farmer, Lindy

Killiney (Ballybrack)

Olhausen, Rev Dr William

Cuppage, Martin
Crampton, Ronnie
Olhausen, Tanya

Killiney (Holy Trinity)

Hastings, Rev Gary (Canon)

Millar, David
Wolfe, Michael
Middleton, Helen

Kill o' the Grange

Breen, Rev Alan

Williams, Mary
Van Embden, Bert
Rooke, Peter

Kilternan

Clements, Rev Rob

White, Mary
Kennedy, Caroline
Maxwell, Nick

The King's Hospital

Campion, Rev Canon Peter R (Precentor)
(Chaplain)

Aiken, John
Ronan, Mark
UaBruadair, Cormac

Mageough Home Chapel

Kingston, Rev Robert G

Banks, Joanna
Houston, Joy
Stewart, Wendy

Malahide Union and St Doulagh

Gamble, Rev Dr Norman E C

Michael, Lucy
Barker, Patricia
Craig, Claire

Monkstown

Byrne, Rev Roy H (Precentor)

Duncan, Valerie
Oldham, Elizabeth
McEvoy, Denise

Raheny with Coolock

McCausland, Rev Norman

Jorgensen, Alice
Puirséil, Séamus
Basdeo, Sharee

Rathfarnham

Galligan, Rev Adrienne (Canon)

Whyte, David
Forsdyke, Joan
Middleton, Philip

Rathmichael

Vacant

Perrin, Geoffrey
Thompson, Anne
Thornburgh, Mark

Rathmines with Harold's Cross

Jones, Rev Robert D

Lewis, Edward
Kirk, Cecil
Evans, Scott

Sandford with Milltown

Gyles, Rev Sonia O (Canon)

McMahon, Helen
Richards, Graham
Potterton, Ruth

Sandymount (St John)

Barlow, Rev Paul

Shellard, Ken
Vacant
Vacant

Santry and Glasnevin with Finglas

Oxley, Rev David W (Canon)

No Return

Stillorgan with Blackrock

Gallagher, Rev Ian

Shaw, Malcolm
Bryan, Hilary
Orr, Michael

**Swords, Clonmethan and Kilsallaghan
with Donabate and Lusk**

Phair, Rev Neal

Goodwin, William
Vincent, Stephen
Minto, Niall

Tallaght

Deverell, Rev William R H (Canon)

Fryday, Laura
Hutchinson Edgar, David
Deverell, Amy

Taney

Warren, Rev Robert (Canon)
Pierpoint, Rev Nigel
West, Rev Christopher

Brooks, Roger
Connor, Peter
Rafter, Ivan
Dwyer Joyce, Linda
Hourie, Amy
Bloomer, Stan

Tullov

Tanner, Rev L John

Rhodes, Alan
Bowes, Paddy
Cooper, Barbara

Whitechurch

McKinley, Rev A Horace N (Treasurer)

Hislop, Harold
Sutton, Ivan
Burgess, Bruce

Zion Church (Rathgar)

Farrell, Rev Stephen A

McConnell, David
Healion, Margaret
Forrest, Andrew

GLENDALOUGH DIOCESAN SYNOD

Elected 2020

President

THE MOST REVEREND DR MICHAEL GEOFFREY St AUBYN
JACKSON

Archbishop of Dublin and Bishop of Glendalough

The order of names of lay members is that given in the
Easter Vestry Returns

The list of Synod members was revised by the Honorary Secretaries,
on behalf of the Diocesan Councils, and signed by the Archbishop

CATHEDRAL

Christ Church Cathedral

Dunne, Very Rev Dermot P M
(Dean)

Mulligan, Alan
Pender, Andrew
Toland, Ciarán

BENEFICES

Arklow, Kilbride and Inch

Vacant

Paul, Rosemary
Collier, Frances
O'Malley, Patricia

Athy, Kilberry and Fontstown

Donohoe, Rev Olive M R

Lazenby, Jennifer
McDougald, John
Burns, Jane

Blessington and Kilbride with Hollywood and Ballymore

Ruddock, Rev Leonard W (Canon)

Murphy, Tom
Cook, Paddy
O'Brien-Corry, Lisa

Castlemacadam with Ballinaclash

Vacant

Purser, Helen
Tottenham, Elizabeth
Agar, Sadie

Celbridge and Straffan with Newcastle-Lyons

Neill, Rev Stephen

Hardy, Thomas
Moody, Robert
McMaster, Geoffrey

Delgany

Waugh, Rev Nigel J W

Glanville, Brian

Beck, Julie

Walsh, Suzanne

**Donoughmore and Donard with
Dunlavin**

O'Raw, Ven Neal (Archdeacon)

Barrett, William

Salter, Trevor

Fisher, Ruth

Dunganstown, Redcross and Conary

Heaney, Rev J Roland (Canon)

Johnson, Joy

Bradshaw, Fiona

Burke, Charles

Grevstones

Mungavin, Rev David S (Chancellor)

Fitzgerald, Emma

Handy, Ruth

Keating, Stephen

Leixlip and Lucan

Peoples, Rev J Scott

Cooper, Inez

Pasley, Naomi

White, Gordon

**Narraghmore and Timolin with
Castledermot and Kinneagh**

Vacant

Ashmore, Leonard

Hendy, Philip

Gillat, Avril

**Newcastle and Newtownmountkennedy
with Calary**

Vacant

Dowling, Lucas

Norse, James

Neilson, Derek

Powerscourt with Kilbride, Bray

Hallissey, Rev Cathy

Cameron, Judy

Weldon, Tim

Fraser, Rachel

**Rathdrum and Derralossary with
Glencaly**

O'Reilly, Rev Brian M

Kilroy, Leo

McWilliams, Peter

Bradshaw, Hilary

Wicklow with Killiskey

Kinkad, Rev John (Jack) A H

Rue, Rev Ken

(Assistant Priest)

Daunt-Smyth, Stuart

Glanville, Lynn

Philips, Penny

Patton, Jonathan

Golden, Scott

Smith, Sally

OTHER CLERICAL MEMBERS

Clergy holding Licences to officiate or preach in the Dioceses at large, and for whom no Parish, Church or Chapel in the Dioceses shall be entitled to return Synod members (2020-2023)

Brunn, Rev Steve
Dean of Residence, Trinity College, Dublin

Elliott, Rev Maurice J (Canon)
C of I Theological Institute

Empey, Rev C Adrian (Canon)
Chaplain – Brabazon

Jones, Rev Robert D
Chaplain – TU Dublin

McGlinchey, Rev Patrick G
C of I Theological Institute

OTHER ARCHIEPISCOPAL APPOINTMENTS

Evans, Scott
Plant, Hilda
Lilburn, Rev Terry
Tanner, Rev John
Ryan, Patrick

Chaplain U.C.D.
Hospital Chaplain
Hospital Chaplain
Hospital Chaplain
Hospital Chaplain

**MEMBERS ELECTED BY THE LAY MEMBERS OF THE DIOCESAN
COUNCILS TO THE DIOCESAN SYNODS UNDER SECTIONS 10 AND
11 OF CHAPTER 2 OF THE CONSTITUTION**

Appleyard, Douglas
Byrne, Jennifer
Caird, David N
Chambers, Charles
Condell, Ron
Cuppage, Anne
Denton, Michael J
Deverell, Lionel
Fennelly, Ken
Fromholz, Greg
Halliday, Blair

Hastie, Vicki
Heggie, Sylvia
MacCann, Lyndon
McGuinness, Catherine
McKinley, Philip
Neill, Robert S
Perdue, Joyce
Read, Terence O
Ritchie, David
Webb, David

NON-STIPENDIARY MINISTERS IN THE DIOCESES

Alcock, Rev Terry
Baker, Rev Charles E
Bennett, Rev Avril E J
Ginnelly, Rev Yvonne
Harris, Rev Suzanne S H
Heaney, Rev Michael R
Lew, Rev Henry E A

Lilburn, Rev R I Terence
Marshall, Rev Robert D
O'Connor, Rev Martin
O'Farrell, Rev Ann-Marie
Shine, Rev Aisling A (Canon)
Stratford, Rev Niall R
West, Rev C Cecily

SELF SUPPORTING MINISTERS IN THE DIOCESES

Conroy, Rev Kevin
Guildea, Rev Rebecca

Lodge, Rev Prof Anne
O'Brien, Rev Tom

CLERICAL CHANGES (STIPENDIARY) since the last Report

INSTITUTIONS:

None

LICENCES:

Rev Christopher West	Curate of Taney	27.09.20
Rev Alistair Doyle	Deacon	20.09.20
Rev Leonard Madden	Deacon	20.09.20

RESIGNATIONS & RETIREMENTS:

Rev William Bennett	from Incumbency of Newcastle & Newtownmountkennedy with Calary	29.02.20
Rev Canon Nigel Sherwood	from Incumbency of Arklow, Inch & Kilbride	31.03.20

OBITUARY:

Rev Canon William S Gibbons	21.09.19
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DIOCESAN LAY READERS

Acheson, Mark
Armstrong, Sylvia
Black, Victor
Bowyer, Mark
Boyle, Thea
Byrne, Peter
Caird, Elizabeth
Casey, Carol
Connolly, Frank
Croly, Michael
Dean, Gillian
Doyle, Alistair
Drury, Fionnula
Evans, Scott
Fair, Rosemary
Forsdyke, Dr Joan
Gardiner, Dr Stephen
Gorman, Helen
Graves, Hazel
Gyves, Ruth
Halliday, Blair
Harvey, Daphne
Healion, Margaret
Healy, Tom
Hendy, Philip
Hill, Scott
Keatinge, Trilly
Kilbey, James

King, Bill
King, Thelma
Kirk, Joan
Lang, Cynthia
Lewis, Edward
Mackey, Ernest
McMaster, Geoffrey
Meyer, Harry
Moody, Myra
Obe, Stella
O'Brien Corry, Lisa
O'Callaghan, Barbara
Patterson, Addy
Phillips, Richard
Raab, Uta
Rea, David
Reynolds, David
Rhodes, Alan
Rusk, Shona
Sheahan, Brendan
Singleton, Derek
Taylor, Jackie
Tindal, Caroline
van Embden, Bert-Jan
Williams, Dr David
Woods, Bernard
Young, Irene

RETIRED DIOCESAN READERS

Bass, Ron
Heard, Ruth
Kidd, Golding
Smith, Audrey
Vincent, Berkeley
Winterbotham, Angela

HONORARY SECRETARIES OF THE SYNODS
(Elected by the 2017 Synods for three years)

DUBLIN

Tanner, Rev John
Caird, David (elected 08.10.19)

GLENDALOUGH

Neill, Rev Stephen
Neilson, Derek

Elections by the 2017 Synods for three years

The following names are listed in order of votes received except where, through a shortage of nominations, no election was necessary, and in such cases they are listed in alphabetical order.

EPISCOPAL ELECTORAL COLLEGE (Diocesan Representatives)

Clerical

Wharton, Rev Canon Gillian V
Morton, Vey Rev William W
Farrell, Rev Stephen A
Mungavin, Rev Canon David
Olhausen, Rev Dr William
Gyles, Rev Canon Sonia O
Jones, Rev Robert
Galligan, Rev Canon Adrienne
Bunting, Rev Garth
Pierpoint, Ven David A
McCausland, Rev Norman
Elliott, Rev Canon Dr Maurice

Lay

Milne, Kenneth
Perrin, D. Geoffrey
Neill, Robert
McGuinness, Mrs Justice Catherine
Handy, Ruth
Caird, David N
Webb, Michael J T
Dungan, Keith
Richards, Graham C
Hendy, Philip
Vincent, Arthur C
Scargill, Geoff

Supplementalists

Dunne, Very Rev Dermot P M
Dowd, Rev Gary
Ruddock, Rev Canon Leonard
Breen, Rev Alan
Clements, Rev Rob
Shine, Rev Canon Aisling

Supplementalists

Kilroy, Leo

COMMITTEES OF PATRONAGE
(Diocesan Nominators)

DUBLIN

Wharton, Rev Canon Gillian V
Morton, Vey Rev William W
Gyles, Rev Canon Sonia
Pierpoint, Ven David A
White, Mary (elected 08.10.19)

GLENDALOUGH

Kinthead, Rev Jack
Neill, Rev Stephen
Ruddock, Rev Canon Leonard
Dungan, Keith
Lilburn, Rev Terry

Supplementalists

Tanner, Rev John
Byrne, Rev Canon Roy H
McCausland, Rev Norman
Scargill, Geoffrey (elected 08.10.19)
Daley, Philip (elected 08.10.19)

Supplementalists

Wynne, David
Rue, Rev Ken
O'Reilly, Rev Brian
O'Raw, Ven Neal

GENERAL SYNOD REPRESENTATIVES

DUBLIN

Clerical

Morton, Vey Rev William W
Wharton, Rev Canon Gillian V
Farrell, Rev Stephen A
McCausland, Rev Norman
Tanner, Rev L John
Olhausen, Rev William
Brew, Rev Canon Kevin
Gyles, Rev Canon Sonia O
Bunting, Rev Garth

Campion, Rev Canon Peter
Gillespie, Rev Canon David I
Galligan, Rev Canon Adrienne
Jones, Rev Robert
McKinley, Rev Canon A Horace
Elliott, Rev Canon Dr Maurice
Dunne, Very Rev Dermot P M
Dowd, Rev Gary
McCroskery, Rev Canon Andrew

Supplementalists

Pierpoint, Ven David A
Stevenson, Rev Trevor
Byrne, Rev Canon Roy

Breen, Rev Alan
Robinson, Rev Lesley
Clements, Rev Rob

Lay

Appleyard, Douglas S
Burns, Jane
Caird, David
Campbell, Desmond
Cromer, June E
Doyle, Alistair
Duncan, Valerie
Evans, Scott
Fenton, Albert
Fromholz, Gregory M
Gorman, Helen
Graham, Sylvia
Halliday, Blair
Healion-Campbell, Margaret
Heasley, Lavinia
Heseltine, Mary
MacCann, Lyndon JW
McKinley, Philip

McNeile, Andrew
Middleton, Philip
Miller, John B
Morris, Stephanie
Obe, Stella T
Perrin, D Geoffrey
Plant, Linda
Richards, Graham C (Canon)
Rooke, Peter
Rusk, Shona
Scargill, Geoffrey
StLeger, Hugh
Webb, David
White, Mary E
Whyte, David
Williams, David
Williams, Mary
Woulfe-Flanagan, Terence

Supplementalists

None

GLENDALOUGH

Clerical

Neill, Rev Stephen
Rountree, Ven Ricky B

Ruddock, Rev Canon Leonard
Donohoe, Rev Olive

Supplementalists

Kinkead, Rev Jack

Lilburn, Rev Terry

Lay

Alexander, Henry J W
Neill, Robert S
Neilson, Derek
Woolmington, James

McMaster, Geoffrey W
Hendy, Philip
Kilroy, Leo
Connolly, Frank

Supplementalists

Mulligan, Alan
Golden, Scot

Middleton, Bruce

MEMBERS OF THE REPRESENTATIVE CHURCH BODY

(One representative elected annually by the Synods)

Perrin, D. Geoffrey – elected 2017 for three years
Pierpoint, Ven David A – elected in 2018 for three years
Neill, Robert S – elected in 2019 for three years

DIOCESAN TRUSTEES

The Archbishop of Dublin

DUBLIN

Hewat, Richard
Perrin, Geoffrey
Webb, Michael

GLENDALOUGH

Greenlee, Derek
Harrison, Peter
Seaman, David

DIOCESAN REPRESENTATIVE on the BOARD of the CHURCH OF IRELAND YOUTH DEPARTMENT

(Appointed by the Archbishop for 2020 – 2023 Triennium)

Rev Lesley Robinson

DIOCESAN COURTS

(Elected 2017 for three years)

Chancellor (appointed 2019): Ciarán Toland SC

Clerical

DUBLIN

Dunne, Very Rev Dermot P M
Marshall, Rev Robert D
Olhausen, Rev William

Lay

MacCann, Lyndon J W
Richards, Graham C
Graham, Alan

GLENDALOUGH

Dunne, Very Rev Dermot P M
Rountree, Rev Ricky B
Mungavin, Rev Canon D S

Felton, Mark D
Greenlee, Derek H
Harrison, Peter S

MEMBERS OF THE DIOCESAN COUNCILS
(Elected by the 2017 Synods for 3 years)

DUBLIN

Clerical

Pierpoint, Ven David A
(Ex-Officio)
Wharton, Rev Canon Gillian V
Gyles, Rev Canon Sonia O
McCausland, Rev Norman
Morton, Very Rev William W
Olhausen, Rev Dr William
Jones, Rev Robert
Tanner, Rev John
Galligan, Rev Canon Adrienne
Brew, Rev Canon Kevin M
Dunne, Very Rev Dermot P M

Lay

Appleyard, Douglas S
Bell, Jonathan
Caird, David N
MacCann, Lyndon J W
Milne, Kenneth
Perrin, D Geoffrey (resigned 01.07.19)
Rooke, Peter
Rusk, Shona
Scargill, Geoff
Teggin, Quentin
Vincent, Arthur C
White, Mary E
Williams, Mary E
Woulfe-Flanagan, Terence

GLENDALOUGH

Clerical

O’Raw, Ven Neal
(Ex-Officio)
Donohoe, Rev Olive
Lilburn, Rev Terry
Mungavin, Rev Canon David S
Ruddock, Rev Canon Leonard

Lay

Chambers, Charles
Hendy, Philip T R
Kilroy, Leo
Mulligan, Alan
Neilson, Derek
Wynne, David

= **Hon. Secretaries**

Under 35's co-opted for the Triennium

Clerical

Farrell, Rev Stephen A
Kinhead, Rev Jack

Lay

Basdeo Kelly, Sharee

Supplementalists

DUBLIN

Clerical

Dowd, Rev Gary
Shine, Rev Canon Aisling
Bunting, Rev Garth
Gillespie, Rev Canon David

Lay

None

GLENDALOUGH

Clerical

None

Lay

None

**DIOCESAN REPRESENTATIVES on the GENERAL SYNOD
BOARD OF EDUCATION 2019/2022**

Clerical

Olhausen, Rev William

Lay

Rusk, Shona

RURAL DEANS

DUBLIN

ST ANN (St Ann with St Stephen; St Bartholomew with Christ Church, Leeson Park; St Catherine and St James with St Audoen; Donnybrook with St Matthew, Irishtown; CORE; Rathmines & Harold's Cross Union; Sandford with Milltown)
Rev Canon Andrew McCroskery
12 Merlyn Road, Ballsbridge, Dublin 4.

FINGAL (Clontarf; Holmpatrick with Balbriggan; Howth; Malahide; Raheny with Coolock; Swords with Donabate)
Rev Lesley Robinson
The Rectory, 15 Seafield Road West, Clontarf, Dublin D03NX77

ST MARY (Castleknock & Mulhuddart with Clonsilla; Christ Church Cathedral Group of Parishes; Christ Church Cathedral; Drumcondra; St George & St Thomas; The King's Hospital; Santry & Glasnevin with Finglas)
Rev Canon William P Houston
Castleknock Rectory, 12 Hawthorn Lawn, Castleknock, Dublin 15.

MONKSTOWN NORTH (Boosterstown with Mount Merrion; Dun Laoghaire; Glenageary; Monkstown; Stillorgan with Blackrock)
Rev Ian Gallagher
The Rectory, St Brigid's, Church Road, Stillorgan, Co. Dublin.

MONKSTOWN SOUTH (Dalkey; Holy Trinity, Killiney; Killiney, Ballybrack; Kill O'The Grange; Tullow)
Rev John Tanner
Tullow Rectory, Brighton Road, Carrickmines, Dublin 18.

TANEY (Clondalkin & Rathcoole; Crumlin with Chapelizod; Lucan/Leixlip; Rathfarnham; Tallaght; Taney; Whitechurch; Zion; St Columba's College)
Rev Canon Adrienne Galligan
Rathfarnham Rectory, 41 Rathfarnham Road, Terenure, Dublin 6W.

RURAL DEANS (continued):

GLENDALOUGH

NORTH EAST GLENDALOUGH (Bray; Bray Crinken; Delgany;
Greystones; Kilternan; Newcastle & Newtownmountkennedy with
Calary; Powerscourt with Kilbride (Bray); Rathmichael)
Rev Nigel Waugh
8 Elsinore, Delgany, Greystones, Co Wicklow.

SOUTH EAST GLENDALOUGH (Arklow, Kilbride and Inch;
Castlemacadam with Ballinaclash; Dunganstown & Redcross with
Conary; Rathdrum with Glenealy; Wicklow with Killiskey)
Rev Jack Kinhead
The Rectory, Brickfield Lane, Wicklow, A67 Y478.

WEST GLENDALOUGH (Athy Union; Blessington Union; Celbridge &
Straffan with Newcastle-Lyons; Donoughmore & Donard with
Dunlavin; Narraghmore with Castledermot)
Rev Nigel Waugh (Acting Rural Dean)
8 Elsinore, Delgany, Greystones, Co Wicklow.

SECRETARY TO THE DIOCESAN SYNODS and COUNCILS

Sylvia A Heggie. Email: admin@dublin.anglican.org
Assistant Secretary: **Vicki Hastie.** Email: office@dublin.anglican.org

The Diocesan Office
Church of Ireland House
Church Avenue
Rathmines
Dublin 6

Tel: 01 4966981
Email: secretary@dublin.anglican.org

DIOCESAN COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER

Mrs Lynn Glanville

Mobile: 087 2356472
Email: dco@dublin.anglican.org

Diocesan Website:

www.dublin.anglican.org

DIOCESAN GLEBES ARCHITECT

Peter C Roberts, B. Arch., M.R.I.A.I., R.I.B.A., Dip. Arch.Tech.

6 Clarinda Park North
Dun Laoghaire
Co. Dublin

Tel: 01 2807364
Fax: 01 2841913
Email: peter@pra.ie

DIOCESAN (and PROVINCIAL) REGISTRAR

Rev Stephen A Farrell

The Diocesan Office
Church of Ireland House
Church Avenue
Rathmines Dublin 6

Tel: 01 4922365
Email: registrar@dublin.anglican.org

Deputy Diocesan Registrar: **Rev Robert Marshall**

DIOCESAN REGULATOR for SAFEGUARDING TRUST

Mrs Olive Good

43 Brookhaven Grove
Blanchardstown, Dublin 15

Mobile: 087 2451310
Email: olivecgood@gmail.com

MEMBERS OF COMMITTEES ELECTED BY THE DIOCESAN COUNCILS

(elected in December 2017 for three years)

GLEBES & FINANCE

Ex-Officio

The Archbishop *
Pierpoint, Ven David A
O'Raw, Ven Neal J
Ruddock, Rev Canon Leonard
Tanner, Rev John
Caird, David N
Neilson, Derek

Elected

Morton, Very Rev William
Mungavin, Rev Canon David
Vincent, Arthur
Appleyard, Douglas
Woulfe-Flanagan, Terence
Kilroy, Leo

* = Chairperson

PAROCHIAL ORGANISATION & DEVELOPMENT

Ex-Officio

Pierpoint, Ven David A *
O'Raw, Ven Neal J
Ruddock, Rev Canon Leonard
Tanner, Rev John
Caird, David N
Neilson, Derek

Elected

McCausland, Rev Norman
Mungavin, Rev Canon David
White, Mary
Wynne, David
Robinson, Rev Lesley

DIOCESAN COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

Milne, Kenneth (Chairman)
Waugh, Rev Nigel J W
Refaussé, Raymond
O'Raw, Ven Neal
Glanville, Lynn

REPORT of the DIOCESAN COUNCILS of DUBLIN and GLENDALOUGH to the 2020 DIOCESAN SYNODS

With thankfulness for the guidance of the Holy Spirit on their deliberations, the Diocesan Councils present this Report of their proceedings for the year ended 25th September 2020, together with the Financial Statements for the year ended 31st December 2019, to the first meeting of the 51st Diocesan Synods.

This report is intertwined with individual reports from various bodies who report to Diocesan Councils.

Archbishop of Armagh: The Councils send its congratulations and best wishes to The Most Reverend Francis John McDowell on his appointment as Archbishop of Armagh and Primate of All Ireland and Metropolitan.

Bishop of Derry and Raphoe: The Councils congratulate The Right Reverend Andrew J. Forster on his appointment as Bishop of Derry and Raphoe.

Bishop of Down and Dromore: The Councils congratulate The Right Reverend David McClay on his appointment as Bishop of Down and Dromore.

Bishop of Connor: The Councils congratulate The Right Reverend George Davison on his appointment as Bishop of Connor.

Bereavement: Councils were saddened by the news of the passing of David Tuohy S.J. and Ecumenical Canon of Christ Church Cathedral.

Archbishop's message to Synod members: This year we have the opportunity to gather in a very different way for The Joint Diocesan Synods of Dublin and Glendalough. Things everywhere have changed significantly for everyone since the coronavirus was identified in Ireland and across the world. The dioceses has adapted in many fruitful ways to changed circumstances and I want to thank everyone who has made this possible. What has come to be called 'the old normal' in church life is under tremendous strain and will not re-appear in its old form. The realisation that the coronavirus is with us worldwide in the present and into the future means that we have to do everything differently and will continue to have to adapt. The Synod 2020 is part of an adaptation that will be with us for many years to come.

In parishes and communities small and large, people have gone the extra mile to show kindness and positivity to others. We will need to continue to do this. We

will need to move with the times, thankful to God for goodness and for blessings as well as turning to God in sorrow and in grief. Local discipleship and personal responsibility have come together in a wonderful way. We need to keep this going. I know you will continue to play your part as you have done to date.

I thank you all for everything that you have done, seen and unseen, in the months past. I ask you to continue to care for the church as the church is now entrusted to you. I also ask you to embrace new ways of letting the church play its part in your communities and to remember the new ways of working and of giving and receiving that you have learned during The Lockdown and during The Easing of Restrictions.

I am very proud of what the people of these dioceses have done in response to a situation for which none of us could have prepared or been prepared. Specific thanks go to everyone who works in The Diocesan Office and to The Honorary Secretaries in steering a steady course for us with efficiency and helpfulness. May God bless you all as we receive The Reports of our activity for 2019/2020 and as we commit ourselves afresh to the work of God's Kingdom for 2020/2021 through the Diocesan Synods.

The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace. If we live in the Spirit, let us walk in the Spirit. Galatians 5:22

+Michael

MINISTRY TO YOUNG PEOPLE

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Diocesan Schools Service in Christ Church Cathedral: Last year, fifth and sixth class children were invited to attend the annual Diocesan Schools Service in Christ Church Cathedral. Our thanks to Rev Ross Styles and Rev Nigel Pierpoint for leading this year's service which focused on the bare necessities of life with particular attention given to God's presence and guidance. The address was interrupted by two full-sized bear characters who danced through the Cathedral's aisles and encouraged the children to participate in singing 'the Bare Necessities'. Our thanks to the Cathedral for hosting this event and to Christine Richardson from the Diocesan Board of Education and the team of willing volunteers who stepped forward to assist.

Building Blocks Children's Ministry Conference was hosted by Kilternan Centre this year. This annual conference supports, equips and encourages all those working with children and families in their local parish, community or school. The conference brings people together from various backgrounds and roles from across the country, and this year was no exception. It was encouraging to see so many parishes represented with a mix of clergy, children's and family workers, outreach workers and the all too often unsung heroes without whom children's ministry just wouldn't happen – volunteer leaders. The keynote speaker, Martyn Payne (a long-time friend of Building Blocks) brought a wealth of experience of working with children in schools, church and community. Sharon Maughtin-Mumby gave an overview and brief introduction to Diddy Disciples, the programme she has written and published for babies, toddlers, and young children. Diddy Disciples is designed to be very adaptable across traditions and across different settings. It can be used in toddler groups, schools, in all age worship, Sunday Clubs and across a range of church traditions. We are delighted with the continued success of Building Blocks and our thanks to Lynn Storey for her continued work and support in this area.

Our children during Covid-19 – A response from The Children's Ministry Network and The Sunday School Society: This has been quite a year for Children's Ministry in our United Dioceses and has called for the same amount of flexibility and creativity from all involved in this valuable ministry within our churches and beyond, as it has from our schools. When the schools closed in March of this year, at relatively short notice, a way forward was sought with regard to home-schooling in ways never considered before. Alongside this ran a team of willing volunteers who sought to provide creative ways to engage the children (already heavily-laden with school work) in the Word of God. They made it colourful and fascinating, compelling and different. Their contribution to the welfare of our children both in their faith and from a mental health perspective

is greatly appreciated and commended in this report. Our thanks to all teachers and youth workers in schools and Sunday Schools for this.

As the initial ‘novelty’ of being off school faded, particularly during lockdown, several Zoom meetings were held between the Children’s Ministry Network and the Sunday School Society, and a deep sense of outreach and collaboration identified in tracking a way forward. Concerns were raised regarding the mental health of children in the confines of their homes and without direct contact with their friends. Several ideas emerged as a result:

- *Ministry to Children through Facebook*

The Children’s Ministry Facebook page has carried resources and ideas for quite some time now and has been invaluable during these changing times. In addition to this a new Dublin & Glendalough Facebook Page was launched during Lockdown as a hub for creative ideas, and, similar to the CM Facebook page, weekly posts were made incorporating games, art and projects encouraging children to participate in the Sunday lectionary themes as the weeks progressed. We are grateful to Lynn Storey for her help in setting up this page and her regular and creative input. Prayer poems were written highlighting the challenges within children’s own lives during lockdown and offering an understanding approach to matters such as personal space and distancing from loved-ones at high risk. Links to this page were circulated throughout the United Dioceses to clergy and youth leaders and the feedback was most positive. It is our aim to keep this page open on a permanent basis.

- *Summer Kindness Magazine*

A bumper edition of the Children’s Ministry Magazine was published during the summer months and made available by email to all clergy and youth leaders. This summer’s theme was kindness which spoke directly into the close confines of the pandemic. Its pages were filled with creative and colourful ideas and we are most grateful to Lydia Monds for drawing this together and to all those who submitted articles and ideas for the magazine.

- *Monkey Business*

There’s nothing like a touch of madness when it comes to reaching out to children and from the depths of one Rectory garden emerged an effective communicator in the shape of an Orangutan puppet, Copperpot. Copperpot’s sole aim was to introduce many different themes and scriptures to pastorally assist children in the confines of their own homes during the depths of the pandemic and provide a regular link for them.

Future Training for Youth Leaders: Several valuable truths were observed during lockdown. Research is being done, and it is hoped that funding will be resourced for two new training possibilities for children's ministry, which encourage engagement with God through nature through Aurora Youth and Ministry Training, and Forest Church (Connecting with God in Nature).

All Churches Trust – Growing Lives Grant: During the Summer months All Churches Trust invited applications for their Growing Lives Grant which is a programme that aims to equip and empower churches and Christian charities to engage more young people more regularly, forging lasting relationships that would provide an opportunity for individual, family, church and community flourishing. Our thanks to Andrew Bass (All Churches Trust Grant Manager for ROI/NI) for making this available.

Hopes for a new merger: Exciting plans lie ahead and a new Board will be set up in November to oversee the new 'Children's and Family Ministry' which is a merger between the Sunday School Society of Ireland and the Children's Ministry Network. Our thanks to all who have been navigating this merger; in particular Reverends Niall Sloane and Rob Clements (representing SSSI), Peter Hamill (representing CMN and the Board of Education), Kate Williams (representing RCB and Allocations) and Ian Berry (representing Standing Committee).

Now, more than ever, we are presented with the opportunity to draw upon the lessons learned through Covid-19 with regard to creativity and communication in Children's Ministry. What has become apparent is a wide and increasing number of people who are willing to engage with Christianity online rather than within a church setting. Creativity around online services is now vital and invaluable in its connection not only with adults but children and particularly in the area of mental health from the earliest days of primary school through to the transitional care of those moving to Secondary Education. Beneath this focus and these challenges the message of Christ stands as a clear way forward into a new and exciting future for His youngest disciples!

Rev Cathy Hallissey
Diocesan Children's Ministry Advisor

DUBLIN & GLENDALOUGH YOUTH COUNCIL (DGYC)

Members:

Rev Lesley Robinson (Chairperson)
Susie Keegan (Diocesan Youthwork Co-ordinator)
Rev Ruth Noble
David Caird
Rev Jack Kinkead
Rev Alan Breen
Elke Koker
Lynn Glanville (Diocesan Communication Officer)
Jonathan Byford
Rev Abigail Sines
Stephen Byford

Contact Details:

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Websites: www.dgyouthcouncil.net

Mission Statement: To see all church communities in Dublin & Glendalough full of young people who are actively developing and growing in their faith in God.

This work is focused on supporting parishes - the clergy, youth workers and young people - in encouraging and developing the faith of our young people as well as organizing some events centrally, e.g. Pre-Confirmation workshops.

Personnel changes: We are pleased to welcome Rev Lesley Robinson into the role of chairperson and Susie's line manager. Rev Jack Kinkead has replaced Lesley as recording secretary of the committee.

We are delighted to welcome Stephen Byford as Area Youth Co-Ordinator working for the Deanery areas of Wicklow and North Dublin. Stephen was already working in the Wicklow Area before Covid-19 hit and was just about to start in North Dublin when we were put into lockdown.

DGYC Website & Instagram: Susie has been working on a website since January for the Youth Council. This website is there to signpost to various resources, youth groups and trainings. Susie felt it was important to provide this to youth leaders, clergy and parents.

The Team led by Susie have been working on the DGYC Instagram. There was an awareness that young people may not go to a website to look for details but they will go to Instagram so we are making sure that we are maintaining the page so it has up to date information.

Pre-Confirmation Workshops: The Pre-Confirmation Workshops have been going well and it is hoped there can be workshops running simultaneously in the Dioceses. Susie has created a detailed schedule of the workshop so that if people want to run it themselves they can.

Susie ran a couple of workshops in the Dioceses before the Pandemic hit and looks forward to running them again when it can be done safely.

Rural Deaneries: Susie has continued to work with rural deaneries around youth work. She has been working with both the East Glendalough and North Glendalough deanery and the pilot area youth coordinator project. This has already begun in East Glendalough. Susie has also been in communication with the Fingal and St. Mary's rural deanery regarding the pilot project.

Youth Leader Training: CIYD hosted a day of training on disability awareness facilitated by Kathryn Grasham from the Diocese of Leeds. This was a fantastic day that had a huge amount of interactive learning and really practical elements to it.

St. Catherine's Church run a summer youth internship and this is the second year Susie has been asked to facilitate a workshop at it. The first year was on mental health and this year was reflecting on lockdown, seeing how the young people were coping, what they will be bringing with them in terms of learning as restrictions begin to ease in Ireland and how they can help shape society.

Over the years both Susie and The Young Church in the Archdiocese have worked together on a variety of projects. One of the programmes they run is called Teen Hope. Leaders must undertake relevant training to run this programme. Susie was asked to run a workshop to look at the fears and challenges leaders might face in regards to youth work and also to look at the importance of boundaries when working with young people.

Momentum Ireland has been running for three years now with 100 participants in the first year and a 130 in the second year. This conference is a big collaborative project involving several different organisations; Innovista, Tearfund, The Young Church St. Pauls, CIYD, Methodist Church, Scripture Union Ireland, CIY, and Youth for Christ. The weekend is designed to excite, equip and encourage both experienced and new youth leaders (paid and volunteers) in the work they are

doing. Momentum not only gives them tools for youth work but also equips them to take care of themselves. Susie has been on both the wider team and the programme team for the past two years and has facilitated workshops at the conference.

Mental Health Survey – Young People and their thoughts on Mental Health, Church and Faith: Susie and Tom Tate (WhyMind) have collaborated and compiled a survey for young people. Both Susie and Tom were asked to talk about mental health to youth groups, youth leaders and various other groups. After talking with some young people about mental health, their faith and the Bible, they came to the conclusion that it would be good to hear from a larger group.

Susie worked with Robert Dunne (Child Protection Officer in the RCB) to ensure that young people are not triggered by anything in the survey and an information sheet was provided to parents with telephone numbers to various helplines should they need it.

It is hoped that the results from the survey will indicate how church communities can be encouraged and resourced. It is also hoped that the survey will then be further circulated to older age groups.

All-Island Events: CIYD held its third Youth Forum in January. This event is about the voice of young people positively affecting change. The objective of the day was to debate issues affecting young people, to encourage and support youth participation, to facilitate change and to support young people on their spiritual journey. Our thanks go to the young people who came from Dublin and Glendalough; there were two from Holy Trinity Rathmines, three from Kill O'the Grange and one from Holmpatrick.

Susie runs a venue at Summer Madness called 'The Hatch' which is a creative arts and mental health venue. Unfortunately, Summer Madness 2020 was cancelled due to Covid-19.

Conclusion: The DGYC committee would like to thank Susie Keegan for all her hard work, skill and dedication.

Please don't hesitate to contact Susie if you need any help, support or advice in your parish or area.

MINISTRY TO YOUNG ADULTS

Greg Fromholz – Young Adult Co-ordinator

The **United Diocesan Young Adults Ministry** works with 18-35yr olds. Its objective is to form, innovate, grow, train, serve, network and build community and ownership of faith and mission among the young adults of our church; and to cultivate diocesan and national renewal through missional collaboration, leadership training, resource development, ecumenical networking and mentoring young adults. Greg Fromholz has been this ministry's coordinator since 2013.

Since the onset of Covid-19 the oversight and line direction has been conducted by Zoom and socially distanced coffees between the oversight team chair, Dean Dermot Dunne, and team member, Rev Alan Breen. We are grateful for their consistent access in the midst of this new abnormal. Rev Rob Jones is also member of the oversight team. The work of this ministry has only intensified as we work through Covid-19.

Mission Statement: Our passion is to creatively communicate the hope and love of Jesus and to inspire the church to engage in a deeper faith and collaborative mission alongside young adults.

Over the last year we have engaged in four main areas of collaboration – Missional; Resource Development; Local and Ecumenical.

1) Missional Collaboration

Rubicon: Rubicon 2019 on October 12th, in the Sugar Club, featured contributors Lisa Sharon Harper of FreedomRoad.us; Debs Walker of 7More; and UCD Black Studies lecturer Dr Ebun Joseph. The panel discussion included host Ann Mara of Rubicon; Evaleen Whelton of AUsume; Kate Bowen–Evans, theologian and trainer; and story teller and faith practitioner Jenn Clark. An interview of activist and playwright Dr Rosaleen MacDonagh was conducted by Greg Fromholz. Musician and storyteller Dana Masters closed out the gathering.

Lynn Glanville reported extensively on the event in the Church Review. An excerpt from Lynn Glanville's article "*Identity and Inclusion – Rubicon 2019 Offered a View Beyond the Comfort Zone*" follows:

This year's theme focused on identity, inclusion and intersectionality and was one of the most challenging yet. In an Ireland where increasingly uncomfortable questions are being asked of its citizens, where racism and racist attacks are on the rise, where vitriolic occupiers of the internet's comments sections call for

Ireland to be kept for the Irish, conversations that take place in spaces created by the likes of Rubicon are very important. The speakers not only challenged perceptions, they opened up opportunities for participants to see how others experience their lives and explore how inclusive Ireland is, even for the Irish.

All 122 resource videos from Rubicon 2019 and previous Rubicon conferences are free and online at wearerubicon.com.

The companion gathering Rubicon+ happens sporadically throughout each year. We were excited about a new and key partnership taking place with Christ Church Cathedral. On October 20th, having been invited to collaborate by Rev Abigail Sines, we ran a Rubicon+ conversation in the cathedral nave with Rev Douglas Gay, Lecturer in Practical Theology at the University of Glasgow, on the subject of Christianity and the Ethics of Nationalism. Table discussions were led by Dr. Mary Rambaran Olm, an independent scholar.

The Rubicon team is made up of Dr. James Gallen, Anne Mara, Scott Evans (Chaplain to UCD), Richard Carson (ACET), Rev Rob Jones, Emma Good and is directed by Greg.

The Graveyard Shift Podcast: The Graveyard Shift is a weekly podcast aimed at young adults and features conversations about faith and culture with Rev Alan Breen (Kill O' The Grange), UCD Chaplain Scott Evans and Greg.

The Graveyard Shift Podcast, after hitting the #1 spot in the Irish charts in its genre, including #30 in mainstream charts, now has over 185 episodes, with over 132,000 total downloads since beginning in 2017 and up to 2000 unique weekly downloads. This Podcast tackles the collision of faith and culture for youth and young adults head on. The Graveyard Shift continues to gain momentum during Covid-19 as they moved to a full video format.

This podcast continues to be a source of debate and distillation of areas we are facing as a culture, church, and individuals, predominately in the area of faith exploration and development.

Recently, this included an important conversation on justice. Following the global movement of outrage, heartbreak and protests after the murder of George Floyd in Minneapolis, Alan, Greg and Scott talked about what they are learning about systemic racism, justice and what it means to be allies to those who are victims of oppression. This episode is called 'The First Of Many' because they were conscious that three white men talking about race is nobody's ideal, but they wanted to speak up rather than be silent, and were committed to using their platform to amplify those whose voices the world needs right now. They hope this

will be the first of many such conversations that will include people of colour and others from marginalised groups. Join them weekly on this digital road.

2) Collaboration in Resource Development:

“Welcome Back” Public Service Announcement: On 29 June 2020 churches were allowed to reopen once again for public worship. As part of the planning for the re-opening of churches in these United Dioceses a “Welcome Back” video was produced aimed at encouraging parishioners to return to church safely

In the first part of the video, RTÉ's Bryan Dobson guided churchgoers through the general steps being taken to ensure their safety and the safety of their fellow worshippers. It also supported clergy and select vestries in the measures they were putting in place locally as every church is different.

“Welcome Back” is also the title of a four minute mini-documentary looking at how we have continued to develop our faith during lockdown as well as what we can learn and take to our churches. This video looks at who we are becoming as a community and church.

Greg was honoured to be asked to direct these by Archbishop Michael Jackson. He was assisted by Joshua Fromholz and by Director of Photography and Editor, Joseph von Meding. The videos were produced by Lynn Glanville. Thank you to Rev David Gillespie and St. Ann's for the incredible assistance and for opening their doors to filming the public service announcement. Thank you also to all the volunteers who participated with a masked and gloved camera crew to make “Welcome Back”.

Our desire is to continue to create multi-media resources that train and encourage youth, young adults and their leaders, as well as churches and communities in the mission of reaching others with the transformational love of God. With your continued and generous assistance we know we will.

The Irish Blessing: The Irish Blessing (Beannacht uile-Éireann) is a project inspired by the many international recordings of “The Blessing” (by Cody Carnes, Kari Jobe and Elevation Worship) which have been made during this time of pandemic. To honour that inspiration, whilst at the same time, honouring the unique history and culture of our island a song that would resonate across the island was chosen “*Be Thou My Vision*” a hymn written over 1000 years ago. It reminds us of the One to whom we should look in this time of pandemic, whose presence is our light, the source of our wisdom, in whom we find our treasure and where we find victory. Individuals from 300 Christian churches and organisations located in every county on the island submitted self-recordings of vocals and

instruments which have been compiled by our creative team to produce this music video.

Greg was invited on this project by its Executive Producers, Philip McKinley and Fr Martin Magill. Additional producers were Pauline Alton, Caren Collins and Paul McNeilly.

The video, which has reached 925,000 views at the time writing (July 2020) and was #2 in the UK Christian Charts, was directed by Greg Fromholz and edited by Joseph von Meding. Drone Footage Courtesy of George Griffin, Jonny Somerville, Sam Kwan. The Music was produced and mixed by Stu Reid, mastered by Drew Lavyne, and engineered and edited by David Walker. Music arranged and orchestrated by Jonathan Rea. Additional instrumentation arranged by Stu Reid. Original melody for St Patrick's Breastplate composed by Jonathan Rea.

An Irish Sign Language video of 'The Irish Blessing' was released.

Profits from 'The Irish Blessing' supported Christian Aid Ireland, Trócaire and Tearfund Ireland in equal measure.

Find out more about the Churches and Ministries/Organisations contributing and dedications included from contributors at <https://theirishblessing.com>

NUA Film Series:

Since the launch of NUA in March 2017, NUA has been used in over half of the secondary schools in Ireland with an approximate reach of 20,000 Irish students year on year.

Approximately 300 churches/parishes/youth groups use NUA in Ireland with a reach of 4,000 youth and adults year on year. We have reached an audience of up to 100,000 viewers of NUA in the United States, mainly through the media platform RightNow Media. They have a subscription of approximately 30,000 churches.

NUA is being distributed in Canada, UK, New Zealand, Australia, Finland, Malaysia, and Singapore, France, Spain, Russia, Brazil and South Korea. With its partnership with Jesus Film, NUA has a further reach of multiple tens of thousands through the app Voke. Through this partnership NUA will be translated into ten further languages. So far NUA has been translated into French, Spanish, Portuguese, Korean, Russian and Finnish.

The eight part film series NUA "Origins", a faith exploration film series for 11-14 year olds, began filming in June 2019 with hopeful release in late 2020, Covid-19 depending. Greg is again directing.

Life and Soul TV Television Series: This RTE television series was awarded the prestigious Wilbur Award, winning national TV (RTE) Faith Series “Life and Soul”. The show is a mixture of positive stories, testimonies, prayers, scripture passages and religious music. Greg also directed the sung worship music videos and continues to work in national TV/radio. It was produced and directed by Liam McGrath of Scratch Media on RTE, with Roger Childs, the Senior Production Executive & Genre Head of Religious Programmes at RTE.

3) Local Collaboration:

Greg is always happy and available to speak throughout the United Dioceses in local parishes, secondary schools and universities. Over this year he spoke both physically and virtually in Christ Church Cathedral and Kill o’ the Grange, as well as in Howth and St. Columbas College. If you’d like him to come and speak in any capacity, just ask, he’d love to join you.

Greg interviewed Archbishop Justin Welby in St Catherine's Church as part of the United Diocesan initiative Come&C. This gathering also featured Eddie D'Arcy, Solas Project; Rev Abigail Sines, Christ Church Cathedral; Dr Maria Feeney, Come&C; and Rev Rob Clements, Gathering Grounds. The gathering was curated by Rev Eoghan Heaslip, Rev Alan Breen and Archbishop Michael Jackson.

The resource video. *“United Dioceses of Dublin and Glendalough Missional Initiatives, Presented to Archbishop Justin Welby”* was developed and is available on the United Dioceses’ youtube channel.

Greg hosted the Church Innovation panel interview at Synod 2019 unpacking the incredible work of “social and spiritual enterprises”. Featuring interviews with Rev Cathy Hallissey, Rev Lesley Robinson, Rev Rob Clements, Rev Brian O’Reilly and Maria Feeney, all of whom expressed the reasons for their children’s work, coffee shops and community outreach as creating places for community to belong, gather, engage and connect and hopefully experience something of the love of God.

4) Ecumenical Collaboration:

The Foundational Leadership Programme: In partnership with the Office of Evangelisation we have trained over 100 young adult leaders over the last five years, launching our 5th year of ecumenical leadership training in September, 2019. The Foundational Leadership Programme is run over eight weekends during the year and offers participants a unique opportunity to explore and develop Gospel centred transformational leadership skills. These skills can be readily applied to the participant’s own context. The programme is a mix of input from highly experienced experts, reflective practices, mentoring, journaling,

spiritual accompaniment, workshops and social immersion. If you have any young adult leaders who are interested, please have them contact Greg.

Due to Covid-19 we had to change our approach to how we completed the 2019/2020 Foundational Leadership Programme, completely reimagining our final two sessions moving our training online.

As well, we embarked on a national survey looking at how young adults have connected with their faith during lockdown. The survey was conducted online throughout May 2020. It was designed by the coordinators of the Foundational Leadership Programme for young adults which has representatives from the United Dioceses of Dublin & Glendalough, the Archdiocese of Dublin, and other ecumenical organisations. The target audience was young adults who connect with and engage in faith based activities. A total of 256 people responded to the 10 question survey and 84% of those were under the age of 34.

In the Church Review article, *“New Ways Needed for Young Adults to Express Faith”* by Lynn Glanville the online survey finds young adults are connected online but not necessarily to church or faith. This is one of the findings of a survey of young adults and their faith experiences during the Covid-19 Pandemic.

“In the conclusions to the report, the authors note that the public square of the internet and online Church and faith expressions are now part of a joint reality. However, they add that young adults in their faith lives use online resources for entertainment but not to publicly communicate their faith.”

We plan further analysis of the responses to the survey over the coming months. The full article is available at July/August Edition of The Church Review, with the full report on www.evangelisation.ie.

For continued updates go to our web portal, www.dgyoungadults.com

MINISTRY to THIRD LEVEL STUDENTS

Report from ACT3 (Anglican Chaplaincy Team at Third Level)

Our ACT3 (*Anglican Chaplaincy Team at Third level*) is now two years old and is going from strength to strength. It is a new team in our Diocese, championed by Archbishop Jackson and led by Rev Rob Jones and composed of all the Church of Ireland chaplains serving in the four main universities in Dublin. There has been much to celebrate and learn in these very changing and challenging times. One of the great successes this past year is that our Diocese was awarded the recent public sector tender to provide University chaplaincy in TU Dublin (formally D.I.T) for the next three years. This is a joint venture with the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Dublin and the Dublin Interfaith Forum. This is a pioneering project on many levels, not only because we won the tender against tough competition, but also it is a wonderful sign of collaboration and a practical example that healthy ecumenism is alive and well in Ireland today.

Additionally, we have learnt much. I would like to thank my fellow University chaplains for all their incredible work during Covid-19, especially throughout the lockdown, where they had to relearn, adapt, develop, invent and serve both students and staff in very new ways. You can read about one of these creative ventures in this year's diocesan book of reports that was an initiative under GATEWAY, as part of our Diocesan Mission plan 2020. Our ACT3 Diocesan University chaplaincy ministry is something very exciting and you can read about some of what is going on in the following reports, from the chaplains placed in UCD, TCD and TU Dublin. DCU is currently vacant and the Archbishop is working hard to appoint someone to fill this position.

Rev Rob Jones

Reports from individual chaplains:

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The Tender: As already mentioned, we are thrilled to be successful in gaining the tender in what was a long process! As a team, we all feel this is an exciting and momentous step forward for the Church, particularly given its ecumenical nature and the times that we live in. Our sincere thanks goes to the Rev Rob Jones and Fr Alan Hilliard who worked tirelessly in bringing us to this point.

Pastoral Care with Students: This year students have continued to come to our Chaplaincy office and share their lives with us, their fears, joys, and their concerns and all aspects of student life. Many students were referred from our medical service, lecturers, and other services within TU Dublin, and many more drop in to see us themselves. As a team, we have great relationships with the other services within our university, and in particular, we have been able to partner with the counselling and medical services to support some of our very vulnerable students. For example, together with the other University services, we have worked to transfer some students over to the public psychiatric services, as we deemed they needed additional professional support. This was an immense privilege to accompany them during an incredibly vulnerable and distressing time. We were able to pray with one of the students, which was a tangible blessing for both involved.

We have also worked with some students this year who are homeless or are under threat of becoming homeless. For some we helped to provide vouchers for food, helped with storing and moving their belongings, gave ongoing emotional support, and advocated for them within their course and with other services. We have worked with students this year whose family are in crisis or breakdown, students who face a crisis of faith, and some students who face very serious health issues themselves or of a family member. Due to the isolating nature of the times many of the students that we had begun to see from the beginning of the semester, particularly those who needed a higher level of care, we continued to support throughout lockdown via phone or skype. Some of these students were in need of more regular contact, via phone or skype whether a couple of times a week, weekly or fortnightly.

We also had new students reaching out to us during the lockdown. Some students found this time particularly distressing for reasons varying from, being stuck at home with a chronically dysfunctional family, having limited resources at home to engage with studies, or finding that the isolation and uncertainty of lockdown brought about an anxiety and mental or emotional distress that many had not had to deal with before.

It has been an immense privilege to journey with many of our students all year long and see them benefit and grow from receiving ongoing support and care.

Peer Mentoring: This year we managed to facilitate Peer Mentoring for eight courses, partnering with Head of Schools and lecturers to organise training and supporting our new peer mentors to meet the incoming first years. The peer mentors then went on to provide invaluable connection, encouragement, reassurance and tips to these new students!

In addition to this, we have expanded Peer Mentoring to include a couple of other schools since last September. Therefore, we are now working across all five schools in the Aungier St Building (Retail, Law, Accounting and Finance, Management, and Marketing) which is brilliant! Going forward, we will be facilitating Peer Mentoring across 10 different courses, which will be a lot of administration and organisation, but the rewards and benefits are wonderful and it is such a blessing to the Campus.

This coming year, much of our Peer Mentor training may be on line, but we are hopeful that come September we will be able to meet with our students and host face-to-face meetings. This is, of course, so important to be a warm and welcoming presence, for the incoming first years especially, in this surreal season that we find ourselves in.

Ash Wednesday Gathering: Once again, our Ash Wednesday Gatherings were a great success with staff and students finding it such an encouragement to be able to reflect and engage in prayer at such an important point in the Christian calendar, and with the distribution of Ashes on their own campus. Students and staff called into our office for Ash throughout the day and chatted about different aspects of their faith journeys.

Guided Retreats: This year, we were able to run three guided retreats in autumn, Advent and spring. We were particularly grateful that our spring retreat happened, as the Retreat Centres closed the following week. The retreats are a real ‘spiritual shot in the arm’ for those that attend and provide deep replenishment and inspiration for tired and weary souls. We had to cancel our summer retreat in June, but we are hopeful that our retreat in the autumn will go ahead as planned and going forward we are exploring putting together on-line retreats, in the coming months.

Coffee Mornings and Fundraising Coffee Mornings with university staff: Staff coffee mornings play a crucial and strategic role in how we support staff and students, how we get a sense of what is happening on campus, as well as helping to influence a culture of connection and care on Campus. By bringing together many colleagues who would otherwise be “ships passing in the night” on a busy campus, staff are encouraged to connect and support one another and, many times, as chaplains, it is in the informal and casual conversations where more important

issues organically arise, helping us gauge the campus and issues in the lives of staff and students.

As you can imagine, lockdown proved challenging to connect with staff on such a big scale as a coffee morning, however, we continued some smaller staff virtual coffee mornings between groups to keep connected with staff and for them to keep connected with one another.

International lunches: We have organised and hosted regular lunches for international and Erasmus students over the last year (Sept to March). This is to encourage students to get to know one another but also so that we can get to know them and them us. Building relationships with international students is an important part of our work as they can be a more vulnerable group and may need additional support, whether it be emotional, practical or spiritual, as they are far from home, from family, friends and faith communities. Following on from these lunches, we have seen an increase in students availing of our company or assistance.

Chaplaincy in Lockdown and preparing for 2020: During lockdown we prioritised connecting with our students and staff virtually. In order to achieve this we continually circulated our information, making sure that staff, Heads of Schools and lecturers knew of our continued availability and support for students. We split our focus between making efforts to check in with people we would ordinarily see on campus and then facilitating one on one sessions with staff and students in need of chaplaincy support.

Other community initiatives we embarked on during lockdown were our daily zoom mindfulness sessions, and our weekly online worship gatherings that proved very popular.

Due to Covid-19 we anticipate many new challenges this new academic year, particularly for the welcoming and settling in of our new students at Orientation! We play a key role in this time of year and, because of this, we are working hard to keep informed on new developments, to stay connected with other key players in the orientation process, and to think of creative ways to respond to the challenges. As a team, we have already put together material for online orientation. This material helps students to familiarise themselves with who we are and what we do, within the campus as well as offering advice on thriving in this new chapter of their lives.

This has been a very challenging year. Our presence on the CN3 executive team (national Chaplaincy for 3rd level) has allowed us to partake in lots of brainstorming, idea sharing, and communal learning, which we facilitated over

fortnightly Zoom sessions for Chaplains all over Ireland. This became a great community to support one another and acted as a trusted sounding board providing an opportunity to learn from one another about how we could all better serve our students and universities in our changing world. Our presence on this executive team has also meant that we have been able to be a part of the planning and organising of events and training throughout the year, aimed at equipping us especially for the times we are in.

Despite the challenges it has been a rewarding year, especially to be a part of an inventive and life-giving response to those who were isolated and suffering at this difficult time. During lockdown, we pulled together as a chaplaincy team, met regularly, and felt closer and more effective as a result. What was especially powerful was carving out time together weekly, for prayer, reflection and contemplation; reconnecting ourselves with the prophetic voice of our Maker at this time.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE DUBLIN

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The following report describes my ministry as Church of Ireland chaplain to University College Dublin over the last year in key areas:

Pastoral Care and Support: Chaplains continue to play a crucial role in UCD Student Services as part of the network of care provided to our students and staff. Alongside the Student Advisers and UCD Health and Counselling, we create space for students seeking pastoral care, spiritual guidance and positive mental health. One of the most encouraging markers of the importance of this care for me was that the vast majority of students that were meeting me in person before the Covid-19 lockdown continued to meet me online when it was no longer possible to meet on campus.

Outreach and Events: Alongside the daily responsibilities of pastoral care, the chaplaincy team also prioritises outreach and community building through a variety of events and programs:

- *Student Leadership Development:* Over this year, we have reached out to build relationships with key student leadership groups on campus. In September, we hosted a dinner for the Senior Residential Assistants so

that they could find out more about the supports that we offer, particularly for students living on campus who may be in need of pastoral care. I also delivered training to the Orientation Guides whose role is to welcome students onto campus and help them to feel at home.

- *Student Societies:* UCD Student Societies are a crucial element of community life on campus, particularly for students of different faiths. In September, the chaplains met individually with the auditors of the Christian societies (Newman Society, Livingstones and the Christian Union) to offer partnership and support for their initiatives on campus. We also hosted a meeting with the auditors and key society members to see what ways we could work together ecumenically through events like *Table Fellowship*.
- *Table Fellowship:* *Table Fellowship* is an ecumenical service followed by a community meal that gathers students together from across the Christian denominational spectrum. This monthly event draws together Catholic, Anglican and other Protestant students from around Ireland, the US, the UK, Nigeria, Malaysia, Singapore and many other countries to worship together and learn from each other. This year we explored themes of justice and what it means to live faithfully in a post-Christian world.
- *InterFaith Gatherings:* UCD Chaplaincy continues to run our monthly inter-faith gatherings as we bring together Muslim, Baha'i, Buddhist, atheist, agnostic and Christian students into dialogue about themes like gifts & talents, desire, education, self-discipline, and trust. These events are a crucial part of increasing inter-faith and intercultural understanding and celebrating religious voices on campus as well as breaking down prejudices like Islamophobia. Our final inter-faith gathering was held over Zoom which may become part of our new reality when we return to campus in September 2020.
- *Outreach Events & Retreat Spaces:* As many students don't know about the availability of the chaplains and the variety of services we provide, it continues to be important that we raise our profile on campus and reach out to students who don't know about our ministry. This year, we developed a video promotion of our work that was made available on our website and over social media. In September, we hosted our annual 'Meet the Chaplains' event during Orientation Week and ran a pizza party with the FOCUS team who work with us. During the December Study Week, we built a week-long retreat space in partnership with the Student Centre where students could rest and be refreshed in the build-up to assignment deadlines and exams. On Shrove Tuesday, we hosted a 'Pancake Night' that was open to students from all faiths and none. When the Covid-19

lockdown went into effect, we pioneered a ‘Virtual Cafe’ open to students and staff over Zoom, an initiative that was replicated by other areas of campus life as we sought to support students during the pandemic.

- *One-Off Events:* As well as our regular events, we also run one-off events in response to moments of religious significance or cultural change. On October 9th, we celebrated the canonisation of UCD’s founder, John Henry Newman, with a lecture from Professor Ian Ker, an internationally recognised Newman scholar from Oxford University. On October 10th, I partnered with UCD’s Africa Society to run an event called ‘Our Heads, Our Hearts, Our Skin’ about how racism and racial stratification affects the mental health of people of colour. It was a fantastic event with Dr. Ebun Joseph and Lisa Sharon Harper (both of whom were speakers at the 2019 Rubicon Conference) and expertly chaired by UCD student and Africa Society auditor, Aghogho Okpara.

Digital Innovation:

- *Social Media, Newsletter & Website:* Ministry in the digital age requires creative ways to use the new tools available to us to draw students towards engaging with church and faith. Over the last year, we have continued to develop our use of online platforms like Instagram, Facebook, Twitter and our website to reach out to students.
- *RevoLectionary:* For the last four years, I have continued to develop a lectionary blog called the *RevoLectionary* that releases weekly reflections written by students and young adults on the Gospel readings for the coming Sunday.
- *Podcasting:* I continue to record and release *The Graveyard Shift* Podcast with Rev Alan Breen (*Kill O’ The Grange*), Greg Fromholz (*D&G Young Adults*). We have released over 190 episodes, have over 130,000 total downloads and the show is now also available on video via YouTube.

Chaplaincy at a National Level: UCD Chaplaincy continues to play a significant role in the development of best practice in student affairs and chaplaincy at a national and international level. I continue to serve as the secretary and treasurer of the Chaplaincy Network at Third Level (CN3) which held its annual conference in Galway this year. The theme was 2020 Vision and welcomed keynote speakers Rev Dr. Jeremy Law (Canterbury Christ Church University) and Prof. Mathew Guest (Durham University) who were part of a team that released a deep and comprehensive study into third-level chaplaincy in a UK context. We are grateful to Fr. Ben Hughes and his team at NUI Galway who were fantastic hosts to chaplains from all over the island of Ireland.

Conclusion: 2020 has unquestionably been one of the most challenging years of the twenty-first century and the academic year of 2019-20 has been the most unusual year of my ministry. By the time this report is being read and responded to, we will still be coming to terms with what third level education looks like as a result of Covid-19 and, consequently, what it means to be a chaplain in a world still reeling from a global pandemic. We are proud of the innovative ways in which we were able to support students spiritually, emotionally and academically during the Covid-19 crisis and hope to continue to find ways to carry out this crucial ministry in 2020-21.

UNIVERSITY OF DUBLIN (TRINITY COLLEGE)

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Campus and Community: The Trinity College community comprises over 21,500 people of whom 17,646 are students and 3,400 are staff (2016/17 figures). 89% of the students are full-time and 27% are postgraduates. 82% of the students are from Ireland with 9% from other EU countries and the balance from elsewhere. The student population is 42% male and 58% female. All students are invited to indicate their religious affiliation at registration, and contact details for the students who register are given to the respective chaplains. The denominational / religious mix of students corresponds generally to that of the wider Irish society.

The Liturgical Life of the Chapel: During Lecture Term, there are eight Church of Ireland services each week in the College Chapel.

Ecumenical Chaplaincy: Chaplaincy in Trinity College is a fully formed ecumenical and shared endeavor. The Anglican Chaplain is accompanied in his work by other Christian chaplains – two Roman Catholic chaplains (Fr Peter Sexton SJ and Fr Alan O’Sullivan OP) and a part-time Chaplain representing the Methodist tradition (Rev Julian Hamilton).

Student Orientation and Hospitality: Each year, the week before lecture term begins is devoted to welcoming new students. The chaplains are included in the various orientation programs, which the college offers to help students negotiate the complex processes of enrolment and of finding their way in a new and strange environment. New students are made aware of the many support services, including the Chaplaincy, which are available to offer help during their time in college. The Chaplaincy has a presence in the concourse where the orientation sessions take place, and Chaplaincy hospitality is also on offer for all. In addition

the Chapel Choir has a stand in Front Square where it vies with the many other student societies as they all try to sign-up as many “Freshers” as possible.

Welcome and hospitality for students and staff is central to the ministry of the chaplains within the university community. The Chaplaincy common room is adjacent to the House 27 offices and is open each day during lecture term. There are facilities for making tea and coffee, daily newspapers, together with a generous supply of chocolate cookies. Each Tuesday a free lunch is provided which is availed of by a wide variety of students of different nationalities and disciplines.

Chapel Choir: In January of this year I accompanied the chapel choir for a weekend trip to Omagh. The Choir sang evening mass at the local Catholic Church and then morning Eucharist at the Church of Ireland parish.

Christmas: Once again the carol service was a huge success with a full capacity of approximately 500 people in attendance. On the Thursday of this week we repeated the service for the invited Alumni. Christmas 2020 obviously may have to be a totally different scenario due to Covid-19.

Due to the early lockdown of Trinity College, Trinity Monday was celebrated with a remote service. All the chaplains were involved and Dr Houston played the chapel organ.

Dublin University Mission to Chota Nagpur: Again because of the recent pandemic I have not been able to go to India this year to follow up work for the DUMCN. I am in regular contact with representatives there.

Lockdown: This has been a difficult time for everyone and the effects are far reaching on communities. I celebrate the diverse ways worshipping communities have come together at this time of crisis. Since lockdown, I have held a service via Zoom of compline every evening at 9pm. In some ways this has held our community together.

The Financial Basis of the work: The RCB very generously gave a grant of €3,000 in 2017/18 to the work of the Church of Ireland Chaplaincy in TCD. This constitutes the only regular and dependable source of income. Other financial support is received through fundraising with a number of parishes donating small but very welcome amounts of money to the Chaplaincy. Without these contributions, the work of the Chaplaincy could quite simply not continue. The Chaplaincy spends money in the following ways:

- Subsidising student trips, pilgrimages, seminars and courses.
- Provision of free student lunches (every Tuesday) and a free coffee room, open daily.
- Sponsoring groundbreaking chapel events.

- Publicising the life of the Chapel and Chaplaincy.
- Travel and accommodation for select preachers, lecturers and other visitors.
- Profile college hospitality.
- Charitable donations.

DUBLIN CITY UNIVERSITY

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LAY MINISTRY

Training and Accreditation

Negotiations have now been concluded on a new 'Certificate in Christian Theology and Practice' with accreditation from the School of Religion, Trinity College Dublin. This course is a replacement for the 'Foundation Course in Ministry' and by extension, will be the new Lay Ministry Course. The first cycle of the course will commence in January 2021 and the clergy of the Dioceses were asked in July to refer suitable candidates for training. Since then, an Enquirers' and Discipleship Morning has been held as part of the selection process.

Guild of Lay Ministry

The aim of the Guild is to provide support and information for all commissioned Lay Ministers and those in training for lay ministry. This includes Parish Readers, Lay Chaplains, Diocesan Readers and Prayer Ministers.

Guild Activity

As with much of Church life, the activities of the Guild have been severely affected by the Coronavirus Pandemic and the associated social distancing requirements. At the time of writing we are awaiting the further easing of restrictions before resuming physical meetings. Our last event was a preaching workshop in January under the direction of Canon Ginnie Kennerley. This took place in Tullow Church, Carrickmines and was also attended by Methodist Local Preachers from the Southern province. This followed participation by members of the Guild in a Methodist organised event in Wesley House towards the end of 2019.

Support for Parish Clergy and Parishes

There is a list of Commissioned Diocesan Lay Readers/Ministers elsewhere in this Book of Reports – and another list with contact details may be found in the Diocesan Directory. With parishes returning to a 'new normal' they are encouraged to make extensive use of this resource if Service cover is required,

keeping in mind that Diocesan Readers/Ministers are commissioned to function in the United Dioceses and not simply in their own local areas.

Dedication and Commitment

Many thanks are due to all the dedicated Commissioned Readers/Ministers throughout the United Dioceses for all their continuing hard work week by week. Also, thank you to Mark Acheson for his role as Secretary of the Guild.

MINISTERIAL TRAINING

EXPLORING MINISTRY REPORT FOR DIOCESAN SYNOD 2020

Like most church activities, Exploring Ministry has moved to an online platform since March 2020. The myriad of theological themes posed by the pandemic have given us much to discuss. This meant exercising in particular the knowledge, faith, prophesy and wisdom gifts of the Holy Spirit (1 Cor 12) as we reasoned out the dilemmas, ethics, scriptures and theology posed. Examples of the themes are: how sacramental is spiritual communion; how effectively faith can be built without community gatherings; on being incarnational; Anglican liturgy in the spotlight; blended home worship. On average there are seven participants, some of whom have been in the group for two years now. Of these participants, three attended the “It’s your call” Retreat in Dromantine 7-9 Feb 2020 and found it most helpful in the process of discerning God’s will for their ministry. Two have been accepted to undertake the Foundation Course. We continue to use as our base text Richard Burridge ‘Four Ministries, One Jesus.’ CITI have advised that the Foundation Course from 2021 will be provided and accredited by Trinity College Dublin and that the course will run from Jan –Dec.

We would be naïve to expect ministry to remain as it was pre-pandemic. Recent communications from the House of Bishops regarding the Sacraments, Funerals and Weddings raise the issue of evolving patterns of worship which retain the integrity of these liturgies and theologies. Pastoral ministry too is being re-formed by concerns spanning the reality of restrictions and more prevalent existential quandaries. Exploring Ministry is but one means by which those seeking to serve God can grapple with these themes and the relevance of the Christian Church in these days of change, adaptation and evaluation. I expect much will be debated this coming season! The main dates for 2020-2021 are Thursday 17th Sept 2020, 19th Nov 2020, 21st Jan 2021, 18th March 2021 and 20th May 2021. Other dates by arrangement with participants. Please do remember in your prayers all who are considering ordained ministry and all who are in training.

Canon A. Galligan
Director of Ordinands

DIOCESAN OUTREACH

DIOCESAN GROWTH REPORT 2020

Diocesan Programme for Disestablishment 150th Commemorative Anniversary: The Church Act 1869 saw the separation of the Church of Ireland from the State political institutions of that time. We now look back on these developments as a positive and liberating event in the history of our Church. An early strategist of the disestablished church said that the Church of Ireland was ‘free to shape her future course, independent of state control’ and focus on its own personal and spiritual mission. Disestablishment has seen a renewed focus on ourselves as a spiritual community. It enabled the Church to regain its independence and mission. It has conferred freedom for laity and clergy to enter into partnership as church life and worship is pursued on a national basis. A group led by Canon Roy Byrne, at the request of the Archbishop, has been meeting since March 2018 to put together a programme of events at diocesan level, entitled ‘Free to shape our future’, straddling 2020 and 2021 in order to enable members of the United Dioceses to commemorate this in our generation.

Diocesan Disestablishment 150 Lecture Series: Christ Church Cathedral hosted a lecture series, looking at perspectives on the disestablishment of the Church of Ireland 150 years on, over four Fridays in January 2020. The first lecture was given by Mary E. Daly, former professor of Modern Irish History at UCD, and who served from 2014-2017 as the first female president of the Royal Irish Academy. She gave an overview of the governmental perspective on the disestablishment of the Church of Ireland, given that Gladstone was largely the architect of the legislation. Later speakers included, Professor Alan Ford with a historical perspective on disestablishment, Dr Colin Barr of the University of Aberdeen who gave a view from the perspective of the Roman Catholic Church and Archbishop Richard Clarke who concluded the series with his insight into the Church of Ireland. The lecture series was a highly successful series with excellent attendance and feedback.

Diocesan Disestablishment 150 Exhibition: The Dublin & Glendalough Disestablishment 150 exhibition was launched in February 2020. It featured a fascinating array of items associated with Disestablishment. Launching the exhibition, Archbishop Jackson congratulated the cathedral on hosting the event. He said the exhibition pointed to the trauma of the Church of Ireland’s transition from one state, or one status, to another, in what was then the Second City of Empire. “We now need to grasp and to use the freedom offered in 1870 to be ‘Free to shape our future’ as the expression of our Disestablished identity in 2020,” he stated. “Respect for all generations; leniency for the alien, the fatherless, the widow and all whom they carry and represent; a remembering that, however much we think of ourselves, we were slaves in Egypt ... It may not be a pretty picture,

but it is an honest and an honourable place to begin.” The exhibition featured numerous items which helped to tell of the journey of the Church of Ireland towards and following Disestablishment. Among the unusual artifacts on show was the table on which Gladstone drafted the Disestablishment legislation which was presented to the Archbishop of Dublin by Lady Ardilaun in 1916. There was also a scroll from the bishop, clergy and laity of the Diocese of Norwich expressing their sympathy and regret at the passing of the Irish Church Act in 1869. The exhibition was a great success and, although it had to close early due to the pandemic, those who visited it thoroughly enjoyed it. We also managed to have a fantastic morning with some of the deans of the Church of Ireland who came to view the exhibition just before the lockdown.

Open Church for Culture Night: It was envisaged that every Church of Ireland church in Dublin & Glendalough would be open to the public on Culture Night 2020 to mark the 150th anniversary of Disestablishment. To facilitate this, the Disestablishment 150 committee organised an open information morning. A member of clergy and two representatives of each parish of the dioceses were invited to attend the information morning and report back to their select vestries. They were provided with a wide range of resources. Over 70 parish representatives from all over Dublin & Glendalough came to hear about Open Church. The committee has taken the decision to postpone the diocesan Open Church event which was to take place on Culture Night 2020. While parishes are still welcome to take part in Culture Night 2020 on an individual basis, either online or offline, the committee is planning to hold its official Open Church event as part of Culture Night 2021.

2021 Commemorations: In light of recent Covid-19 restrictions, some of the 2020 events have been deferred to 2021. Projected events for 2021 include a special diocesan evening with guest preach Bishop Ragnar of Upsala and the official launch of Open Church for Culture Night 2021.

GATEWAY Project 2020

Under the Diocesan Mission plan for 2020, three new mission pilot projects were approved for funding under *GATEWAY*, which was launched at Diocesan Synod 2018. It has at its centre a vision to promote pioneer ministry in the United Dioceses of Dublin and Glendalough. It is looking to help build the Church in new ways, by networking, training, praying, talking together, equipping, sharing, releasing and supporting. Here are the three projects:

Firstly, to organise and run a Disestablishment-150 retreat, to reflect on, pray about and discuss modern culture in Ireland today. Also to compare how the church, similar to the times of Disestablishment, is once again learning many important lessons as we all experience great societal change. This retreat was

supposed to happen in early 2020, but had to be postponed due to Covid-19. It is now planned for November 2020.

Secondly, ACT3, our Diocesan Anglican Chaplaincy Team for Third Level, received funding for new outreach initiatives into the four main universities in Dublin. These went ahead and are going from strength to strength. They involved providing leadership and initiating direct pastoral contact and active outreach with students, particularly those who are transitioning into university life, assisting international students to help adapt to a new culture and also providing assistance to those with other specialist needs. A facility was provided for students where any issue or need can be discussed safely and advice given as appropriate. There is huge potential for new outreach and innovative mission in this area, and we're looking forward to expanding similar projects in 2021.

Thirdly, a new learning community for pioneer ministry was set up in the dioceses. To foster mission and help create a sustainable plan, the Archbishop gathered a diverse group of leaders from across the United Dioceses to pray and discuss how we might expand pioneer ministry by exploring new connections, support local mission, and encourage fresh leadership. To this end, a new diocesan pioneer leadership committee has now been set up, which brings together *The-new-housing church planting initiative*, “GATEWAY” and “Come & C.” This committee is chaired by Rev William Olhausen and was agreed by Diocesan Councils. The committee met late in 2019 and early 2020, but, due to the Covid-19 outbreak, meetings were postponed and the original plan reordered. However, the strategy now is to meet again in the autumn and continue the best we can, in a different format if necessary. This learning community is being set up to encourage and equip leaders, both lay and ordained within these diocesan initiatives, to explore and pioneer new ministry within their context for the 21st century. Learning communities are designed to take small groups of about ten leaders through a change process that asks them “*what is/what could be/what will be*” in looking to the future. Learning communities gather leaders in a confidential setting where they commit to shared learning, mutual support, strategic partnership and praying for each other. This new learning community will invest in helping a group of ten leaders to grapple with unique issues that are presenting themselves within their current parish situation. This diocesan learning community will be launched this autumn and will combine the benefits and learnings of *The-new-housing church planting initiative*, GATEWAY and “Come & C”, to create a process for dynamic change. The plan is to build on this initial learning community, which was unfortunately very disrupted by the Covid-19 outbreak, shape what we have learnt to date and run subsequent yearly pioneer ministry learning communities in our United Dioceses, as we invest in growing crucial areas of mission.

CHILD PROTECTION - Safeguarding Trust

Training

It has been a busy year for training with a total of 16 training events taking place between September 2019 and March 2020 – 14 sessions for clergy, staff and volunteers and two sessions for panel members. All these sessions have been very well received and will help to equip those who attended to protect not only the children in their care but also themselves as they carry out their roles within their parishes.

Between September and December 2019 the new members of the Diocesan Support Team, Ruth Hughes, Laura Mahon and Leo Kilroy, underwent their induction training as trainers to deliver the Clergy, Staff and Volunteer training module. In the spring each of them undertook their first training session under supervision, but then Covid-19 put their first solo delivery of the training on hold for a couple of months. Unfortunately, with the outbreak of Covid-19, a number of scheduled training events had to be cancelled. Due to the ongoing restrictions it was decided to recommence training in June with trainings being offered online via Zoom. During June and July four training sessions were held for clergy, staff and volunteers facilitated by Laura Mahon, Leo Kilroy and Ruth Hughes, whilst three trainings sessions were held for panel members facilitated by Olive Good. This training format has proved to be very successful and the feedback from participants was very positive.

Parishes who have leaders to be trained, or wish to host a training session or a refresher training session once Covid-19 restrictions allow, should contact Olive Good at 087-2451310 or by email at olivecgood@gmail.com to make arrangements.

Compliance

During the year, Olive Good completed seven of the fifth triennial audits. All these audits have been completed in line with the requirement for audits now to be evidence based to ensure compliance. Due to the outbreak of Covid-19, a number of audits had to be postponed as they had been scheduled to take place during lockdown and this also resulted in the delay in training of the new Diocesan Support Team members in conducting audits.

After discussions at diocesan and national level, Dublin & Glendalough Dioceses conducted a pilot audit via Zoom in June to see if it was possible to undertake this compliance work via Zoom due to ongoing restrictions. Whilst this involved some adjustments to the audit form and the evidence process, the pilot audit worked very well. At the time of writing this report, eight parishes have scheduled their audits

to take place via Zoom during July and early September and it is hoped to schedule the remaining ten audits to take place this way before mid-September. Each audit conducted via Zoom will require a short evidence verification visit at a later stage by the Diocesan Support Team.

In addition to the training and audits, the Diocesan Regulator, Olive Good continues to provide support, advice and assistance in relation to Safeguarding Trust to parishes and the dioceses.

Policy

During the year changes were made to the Garda vetting process in relation to retention of documents. The Guidance on Garda Vetting Procedures document was updated and circulated to all parishes.

In April 2020 the Safeguarding Board produced new guidance on Social Media and Video Conferencing with Young People to support children's ministry which was now largely taking place in virtual spaces due to the Covid-19 pandemic. This was also circulated to clergy and panel members to assist those continuing with children's ministry during the lockdown and ongoing restrictions.

A dedicated Safeguarding website, <https://safeguarding.ireland.anglican.org/>, was launched in July 2020 which provides detailed information on safeguarding policies and procedures.

ADULT SAFEGUARDING

The Church of Ireland adopted a new Adult Safeguarding Policy in 2018. The full policy can be found here:

<https://safeguarding.ireland.anglican.org/adult-safeguarding-roi/>

As required from the Church of Ireland Safeguarding Board, on the nomination of the Archbishop and ratified by the Diocesan Councils at their meeting on 6th December 2018, Ven Neal O'Raw, Rev Canon Sonia Gyles, and Ms Susie Keegan were appointed as members on the Diocesan Adult Safeguarding Panel. This Panel have undertaken several training sessions with Robert Dunne and are the first point of contact should you have a concern regarding the safeguarding of adults. The Panel can be contacted initially by email adultsafeguarding@dublin.anglican.org which will then be followed up in confidence.

DIOCESAN REGISTRAR

Covid-19

At the beginning of lockdown (28th March 2020) the Archbishop lifted from clergy their canonical duty to hold an act of public worship in church each Sunday. In addition, the requirement that a Celebrant have at least two others present at each Service of Holy Communion was also lifted. In the same communication it was stressed that *‘where a service is being live-streamed those watching in their homes ought to be encouraged to make a spiritual communion (see page 440 of the Book of Common Prayer). It is not possible for a Celebrant to consecrate elements remotely through live-streaming.’*

At the time of writing not all Churches in the United Dioceses have reopened and the aforementioned permissions have not as yet been rescinded. At present all clergy are required to adhere to all government regulations pertaining to public gatherings insofar as these apply to public worship. Regulations for worship continue to be different to those for the use of parish halls or other facilities.

The Diocesan Chancellor

I would like to record my appreciation to the Hon Catherine McGuinness, who for two decades served as Chancellor to the United Dioceses. She was kind and encouraging to me as a new Registrar and we all owe her a debt of gratitude for all she has done and continues to do for these dioceses and for the Church of Ireland. I have heard her described as Ireland’s RBG. I prefer to think of Ruth Bader Ginsburg as America’s CMcG. I would also like to extend greetings from the Registry to the Worshipful Ciarán Toland SC, our new Chancellor and judge in the Diocesan Courts.

Alteration to Church Buildings

For a list of the steps to be taken before making alterations to Church Buildings please see Form P5 on the ‘Parish Resources’ section of the Church of Ireland website. Before submitting Form P5 to the RCB it is necessary to seek and obtain a Faculty. Information on Faculties is available from the Registrar.

Solemnization of Marriages

The Church of Ireland Marriage Regulations can be found on the Diocesan website. Whilst there has been debate at the Diocesan Synods and at the General Synods about clergy conducting marriages in places other than churches, it remains a part of our regulations that marriages take place within a church or chapel of the Church of Ireland consecrated for public worship. It is possible to seek an archiepiscopal dispensation from this requirement in emergencies, such as where a party is nearing death.

Rev Stephen Farrell
Diocesan and Provincial Registrar

CHURCH MUSIC DUBLIN

Executive Committee:

Rev Jack Kinead (Wicklow and Killiskey) (Chairperson)
Jacqueline Mullen (Rathfarnham) (Hon. Secretary)
David McConnell (Zion) (Hon. Treasurer)
Philip Good (Castleknock) (Safeguarding Trust Administrator)
Judy Cameron (Powerscourt) (Minutes Secretary)
Tom Hicks (Killiskey)
Donald Maxwell (Killiney, Ballybrack)
David O'Shea (Sandford and Milltown)
Kevin O'Sullivan (Kiltiernan)
James Pasley (Lucan)
Raymond Russell (Monkstown)
Valerie Twomey (Lucan)

Website: www.churchmusicdublin.org
Facebook: www.facebook.com/churchmusicdublin/
Email: info@churchmusicdublin.org

Set up in 1991, Church Music Dublin continues to train, mentor and equip parish musicians in the Dioceses of Dublin and Glendalough. We were pleased that Tom Hicks and Kevin O'Sullivan agreed to join the Executive Committee, thus widening the combined experience of the members.

Our training scheme, the Archbishop of Dublin's Certificate in Church Music (ACCM), continues to attract those who seek to become good liturgical organists. The syllabus reflects the need for church musicians to lead and accompany congregations in worship. As a result, a number of hymns must be learned for each year of the course and material chosen reflects both *Church Hymnal 5th Edition* (2000) and *Thanks & Praise* (2015). The Foundation course remains an option for those who wish to learn at an introductory level.

An important part of the training of church musicians includes liturgical principles and musical practise and in November 2019, in St Philip's Church, Milltown, a session of Living Worship was held. David O'Shea introduced students from the ACCM course to the restored organ and each had the opportunity to play items from the ACCM syllabus while those gathered listened or sang, as appropriate. Early in 2020, a workshop for small choirs, with particular emphasis on music for the Eucharist was held. This was led by John Dexter, Organist and Choir Director at Whitechurch Parish Church, and former Organist and Master of the Choristers at St Patrick's Cathedral. Members of many parish choirs enjoyed a morning of singing and exploring new material together.

In September 2019 we launched Psalms Online as part of our website:

<https://www.churchmusicdublin.org/psalms/>

This resource offers Psalms for each Sunday, to an Anglican chant that is accessible to choirs and congregations alike. Aside from providing a useful resource for parish musicians, this library of psalmody highlights a key aspect of Church of Ireland worship.

In recognition that churches lack independent advice about organs, at the request of the Archbishop, we compiled a useful guide for parishes, also available on the website: <https://www.churchmusicdublin.org/pipe-organ-care/>

As the Covid-19 emergency closed our churches and pushed much of our worship online, Church Music Dublin used our mailing system, both postal and online, to encourage and support our colleagues. The pandemic also meant that the ACCM exams, scheduled for the end of May, were postponed and, at the time of writing, are planned for early to mid-September.

Plans for the future include a guide to copyright. This is in train at the moment but, being a vast subject, will be distilled down to necessary knowledge for parish musicians. The website is always a work in progress. Necessary refreshing took place recently.

Previous reports have referred to the importance of good governance practice as regards the employment of church musicians. We urge select vestries to review the employment status of their organists to ensure compliance with current legal and revenue guidelines. Church Music Dublin strongly advises that all new organist appointments should be on a contract of service basis.

The deputy organist list continues to be included in the diocesan directory and a regularly up-dated version is on the church music website. All deputy organists are Garda Vetted in line with the policies of Safeguarding Trust.

The library of training videos continues to attract interest. The latest videos on registering (selecting appropriate stops) on both a parish organ and a larger instrument were uploaded in late 2018. All videos may be viewed on the website. Additional videos will be published in the near future.

COMMUNICATIONS & BROADCASTING

Communications in the Midst of a Global Pandemic: 2020 has been a year like no other. The global pandemic suddenly catapulted everyone into a brand new way of operating. Communications was no exception and in parishes throughout the length and breadth of the United Dioceses of Dublin & Glendalough people scrambled to find ways to communicate with their parishioners when churches closed their doors for public worship in mid-March.

If you look at the diocesan website (www.dublin.anglican.org) you can see the marked change from pre-Covid to Covid times. Before mid-March there were stories and photographs featuring the usual diverse mix of events that take place in the dioceses. These stories came to a sudden halt and were replaced with advice and guidance to the people of the dioceses along with resources for worship at home and information how to access the many online church services that were available from parishes throughout the dioceses.

The first Church of Ireland guidance appeared on the website on 28 February 2020 and encouraged parishes to follow all public health guidelines published by the state authorities as well as information given by the diocesan bishop. On 29 February Archbishop Michael Jackson issued his *Prayer in the Time of the Coronavirus* which was widely shared throughout Ireland.

On 12 March the Government announced the closure of all places of education. On the same day there was a message from the Archbishop saying that the dioceses was preparing for a time when vulnerable people felt they could not attend church or when services might be cancelled and asking parishes to ensure that they stick to the government guidance restricting indoor gatherings to 100 people.

The first online resources for worship at home, the text for Morning Prayer and information on online and broadcast services appeared on the website on Sunday 15 March. These resources, which included a weekly podcast sermon and links to hymns, were prepared every week up until the end of August by the Rev Ken Rue. Church of Ireland Chaplain at UCD and ordinand in CITI, Scott Evans, provided much needed technical support in creating and maintaining the podcast website (www.dublinandglendaloughsermons.com).

On St Patrick's Day 2020 An Taoiseach Leo Varadkar gave a historic address to the nation asking people to come together by staying apart. That evening, the Archbishop issued a statement to the people and clergy of Dublin & Glendalough saying there was wisdom now in suspending public worship in parish churches in these dioceses, in line with State advice.

From that point on digital communications took centre stage with services being broadcast on social media and via parish websites. Throughout that time the Diocesan Communications Officer endeavoured to provide support to clergy in their efforts to film and broadcast services. A weekly directory was published on the diocesan website (with a link published on the Church of Ireland website) to ensure that as many people as possible knew where they could find online worship and links were provided to every parish offering online opportunities either with pre-recorded services or livestreams.

Many parishes continue to produce an online service weekly. Others have invested in equipment to enable services from their churches to be livestreamed. Details are available locally or from the diocesan website.

As we continue to live with Covid-19, the DCO is happy to provide support to parishes seeking to communicate with parishioners. She is also, as always, delighted to receive news stories from parishes and parishioners in Dublin & Glendalough. She can be contacted at dco@dublin.anglican.org or (087) 8230665.

Welcome Back Short Films: As parishes were preparing for the return to in-church worship, the dioceses commissioned a series of high quality short films aimed at supporting parishes and Select Vestries in reopening and reminding parishioners who had been worshiping outside church buildings for almost 16 weeks what was enjoyable and important about gathering together as church communities.

The ‘Welcome Back’ films, directed by Greg Fromholz and produced by Lynn Glanville, come in three parts. The first is a public service announcement film presented by RTE’s Bryan Dobson who very kindly gave his services to the project. He guides church goers through the general steps to be observed to ensure safety in our churches while noting that people should also acquaint themselves with whatever steps have been put in place in their own parishes.

The second, ‘Life and Faith in Lockdown’, features parishioners from throughout Dublin & Glendalough who talk about how they maintained their faith during lockdown when churches closed for public worship in mid March 2020 and what they missed about gathered worship. The third film is a combination of the two.

You can watch and share all three short films on the United Dioceses of Dublin and Glendalough YouTube Channel
(<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCJQH1IpNHCI2ue7S782OIFw>).

The Church Review: The *Church Review* was having a good year until Covid-19 disrupted the printing process and parish events ground to a halt. However, like many others, we had to rise to the occasion and learn new skills. The resulting changes will have long-lasting benefits for the future of the Review.

As churches were not open for public worship, there was no possibility of being able to distribute the *Review* in our usual manner. We decided to publish the magazine as a PDF on line. We further decided to make it widely available, without cost, to the whole Diocese and further afield. Every parish was advised of its availability and links were placed on the Diocesan website.

This undoubtedly resulted in a higher readership but those readers who prefer the hard copy or who did not have access to a computer or tablet were inconvenienced. As a result we decided to issue refunds of 25% of the cost of an annual subscription to all subscribers. The September 2020 issue will see a return to print.

In the course of these changes, we moved the publishing process from Belfast to a different firm in Dublin and commissioned a new layout and format in full colour. We expect the full colour layout to be very attractive by comparison with the previous format. We have also opened a new collection station in Delgany to serve parish collectors based in the southern part of the Dioceses. This shortens our delivery line. The change of printer will also result in cost savings over the course of the year.

While the changes are comprehensive, the regular news articles and features, the parish notes and parish photographs will continue as before. Though the number of subscribers continues to reduce, year on year – the consequence of a predominantly older readership – the *Church Review* continues to be self-sustaining and is produced without incurring any cost to the dioceses. There has been no increase in cover price this year and the editor is grateful to those who subscribe and to those who place advertisements.

Councils are grateful to the editor, business manager Mrs Charlotte O'Brien and editorial assistant Mrs Noleen Hogan for their excellent work. Thanks is also due to those throughout the United Dioceses who assist in the collection and delivery of the *Church Review* and without whose help substantial costs would be incurred in distribution. Gratitude is also expressed to the Rector of Taney and the staff of Taney Parish Centre, and to the Vicar and staff at St Ann's Church, Dawson Street, which (now along with Delgany) act as the collection points for the magazine within Dublin & Glendalough.

Diocesan Website: The Diocesan Website (www.dublin.anglican.org) continues to be the main online source of news and information within the dioceses. It contains important information about the dioceses including the location of all the churches in Dublin & Glendalough and service times, resources for clergy and details of all the ministries operating in the dioceses. As always, the DCO welcomes contact from parishes and diocesan organisations with news and photographs of events and celebrations and is delighted to feature them on the Diocesan Website where possible. The DCO can be contacted by email at dco@dublin.anglican.org.

Social Media: Our social media platforms continue to be a strong element of diocesan communications. The United Dioceses continue to improve their reach on Facebook (facebook.com/DublinandGlendalough) and Twitter (@UnitedDioceses), thus enabling contact with new audiences. The United Dioceses of Dublin and Glendalough YouTube channel is another important source of information. Please subscribe so that you don't miss out on our video content.

Broadcast Services on RTÉ: During lockdown RTÉ continued to broadcast church services from a range of denominations, as well as church related organisations such as the Church's Ministry for Healing: Ireland, every Sunday. In addition, thanks to RTÉ's Commissioning Editor for Religious Programmes, Roger Childs, there were services broadcast on RTÉ News Now. A number of Church of Ireland parishes and organisations featured.

Generally, Church of Ireland parishes from around the country feature regularly on RTE's broadcast services. This is coordinated for the Church of Ireland by Jacqueline Mullen. If your parish would like to take part, you may even have a parish occasion which you feel might be of interest, please contact Jacqueline Mullen on broadcastservicesrte@ireland.anglican.org. Choirs may also participate, particularly if they have a member of the clergy or a lay minister who they can call upon to lead the service.

Livestreaming of Services: Services from both Christ Church Cathedral and St Patrick's Cathedral are streamed live on the internet via the cathedrals' webcams. People from Ireland and all over the world can log on to www.christchurchdublin.ie and www.stpatrickscathedral.ie to see the service webcast schedules. This service was particularly important when public worship was suspended. Christ Church Cathedral continued the Cathedral Eucharist every Sunday morning for a virtual congregation who tuned in from their own homes.

Communications Committee Members: The committee members are:

Dr Kenneth Milne (Chairman)

Dr Raymond Refaüssé (Church of Ireland Correspondent to the *Irish Times*)

Ven Neal O’Raw (Diocesan Councils and Glebes and Finance)

Rev Nigel Waugh (Editor of *The Church Review*)

Ms Lynn Glanville (Dublin Communications Officer)

The Diocesan Communications Committee was established by Diocesan Councils and meets regularly. Its remit is, with the Diocesan Secretary, to provide support for the Dublin Communications Officer in the performance of her work which involves providing an efficient communications and administration system for the generation, gathering and disbursement of news and information to the people of the dioceses, the wider Church of Ireland family and the Anglican Communion. The work of the Church in Dublin & Glendalough is also communicated to the broader community through local, national and sometimes international media.

Apart from contributing articles and photographs to *The Church Review*, the *Church of Ireland Gazette* and acting as web-editor for the Diocesan Website and content manager for social media, the DCO acts as press officer for the dioceses. She also works closely with the Archbishop of Dublin on media issues and plays a role in supporting communications matters relating to the wider Province of Dublin.

The committee is committed to supporting the communications needs of the United Dioceses. Anyone with suggestions on how communications can be developed or improved in Dublin & Glendalough should contact the committee.

ARCHBISHOP’S CHAPLAINCY TO HOSPITALS

Diocesan Hospital Chaplaincy Oversight Group:

Rev Canon Robert Warren (Chairperson)

Dr Melissa Webb

Mrs Joan Kirk

Rev Cathy Hallissey

Rev Canon Dr Daniel Nuzum (Consultant to the Group)

In common with other aspects of the Church’s Ministry, Hospital Chaplaincy has been impacted by the current health emergency occasioned by the Coronavirus Covid-19 pandemic. In most cases chaplains no longer have access to patients in hospital wards – except in exceptional circumstances, including end of life situations. As restrictions took hold in March, the Chaplains developed a system whereby new admissions receive a card (delivered via the hospital’s internal mail system) containing a message from the Chaplain and giving a number that the patient or a family member may contact the chaplain on to discuss any issues or

concerns. All of our contracted Chaplains have been issued with guidelines to assist them in the execution of their work and ministry to ensure their safety and the safety of the patients and other members of the hospital staff with whom they interact. Indeed, a large part of their work is now ministering to front-line staff, many of whom are exposed to infection and who are fearful for themselves, their families and colleagues. Please do pray for all healthcare workers including our Chaplains.

There have been a number of changes to our team of accredited Chaplains over the past year. Patrick Ryan was appointed in February to take the place of Alex Morahan, who left the team in August 2019 to take up a position in Kilkenny College. We are so fortunate to have secured Patrick on our chaplaincy team. He brings a huge wealth of experience and professionalism to the role and has settled in very well. Rev Terry Lilburn was stood down from active chaplaincy duty as the pandemic emerged due to his requirement to cocoon. He is greatly missed as an active member of the team and it is deeply regretted that the current crisis has necessitated the cessation of this aspect of his ministry for which he is truly gifted. Ms. Olwen Lynch tendered her resignation to the Archbishop in March. Olwen had been providing chaplaincy service on behalf of the Church of Ireland in Beaumont Hospital and Connolly Hospital over the past three years. She leaves us to take up a chaplaincy post with the St. Francis Hospice Foundation. We wish her well in her new position and wish to thank her for her years of service to the Diocese.

Unfortunately, we also had to stand down the system whereby clergy have provided emergency cover for our chaplains in out-of-hours situations. This was necessitated, not just for their own protection bearing in mind that their primary role is that of parish priest, but because only those with hospital passes are now admitted to hospitals. Thankfully, emergency call-outs are still very rare.

These changes have necessitated a re-organisation of the chaplaincy provision to the acute teaching hospitals in the Dublin area. Currently, Ms. Hilda Plant, Rev John Tanner and Mr. Patrick Ryan are providing chaplaincy as follows:

HILDA PLANT

St. Vincent's University Hospital
St. Vincent's Private Hospital
Beaumont Hospital
Connolly Hospital

JOHN TANNER

National Rehabilitation Hospital (NRH)
Leopardstown Park Hospital
St. Columcille's Hospital, Loughlinstown

PATRICK RYAN

Tallaght University Hospital
St. James's University Hospital
Mater Misericordiae University Hospital

"Do not be afraid. 2020 is the year that everything changed. In March, with hesitation and genuine concern, as a healthcare chaplain, I engaged with the 'cloud of unknowing.' Covid-19 had permeated a fear which was tangible, worrying, and justified. I found myself travelling alone on the Luas, walking through a city emptied of people, on arriving at work, to engage, along with all the other services, the Covid-19 virus, immense fear, and palpable distress. Not just Covid-19 but all the other illnesses and procedures which our patients were/are dealing with alongside loneliness, uncertainty and fear.

The beauty of it all is that I was not alone. I had my healthcare chaplain peer, Hilda, who offered support and assurance. I became a We. With the support from the Church of Ireland, we, as a team, have delivered 24/7 care to the most vulnerable in our community. We continue to do so. Is it difficult? Yes. Am I afraid? Yes. I do not wish to get Covid-19. It is a miracle that neither Hilda nor I have contracted the virus.

In my faith, I am not called to dwell in empty tombs. I struggle with a belief in a God of flesh and blood, a covenant which remains unbroken. As I continue on my journey, I remind myself daily to lean into the light a little more. Here lies my strength. I am grateful for it."

Patrick Ryan

As Chairman of the Oversight Committee, I am in constant communication with the chaplains and indeed we have set up a Whatsapp group whereby statistical data is shared on a daily basis as to the current and up-to-date situation in each of the hospitals. We are so indebted to these chaplains for shouldering the extra workload and responsibility. At the time of writing, Chaplains are now in their seventh month working under the very difficult and constantly changing circumstances that the arrival of Covid-19 has brought. Despite this, there has been an admirable determination to deliver the level of service and care required by the Chaplaincy Accreditation Board.

The Chaplains wish to assure patients, their family members and their Clergy that they are always available to discuss concerns. Indeed, they would welcome being informed when family members or parishioners are admitted to hospital as the religious denomination of patients is not always recorded on admission, especially in this time of heightened stress surrounding the admissions process.

The Chaplains can be contacted through their designated mobile phone number 087-449 8432. Chaplains would ask that they are not contacted via their personal phone numbers.

Robert Warren
Chairman – Oversight Committee

Remuneration towards the cost of chaplaincies in Public Hospitals is received from the Department of Health & Children (through the Health Service Executive) under the *Archbishop's Chaplaincy*.

HOMELESS INITIATIVE – Irish Refugee Council

A Place to Call Home **Diocesan Refugee Housing Appeal** **Final Report**

The 'A Place to Call Home' Diocesan Refugee Housing Appeal drew to a close in December 2019, finalising the united dioceses' three-year fundraising commitment to the Irish Refugee Council (IRC). Over the three years, across our united dioceses, 55 parishes, national schools, secondary schools and private individuals, participated in this joint effort, raising in total €222,165.82. During this time the appeal committee worked hard to raise awareness and develop resources for use as part of services, Sunday clubs, and school assemblies, focusing not only the fundraising appeal itself but also the broader issue of the refugee crisis across Europe. Numerous parishes not only gave, but also invited speakers from the IRC to services or parish events in order to hear directly about their work. **Thank you to everyone who has contributed and supported the appeal.**

From 2017-2019, 'A Place to Call Home' funding has helped resource the IRC to accomplish the following:

- Renovated and managed 17 donated properties, providing stable, quality accommodation for 81 people;
- Seen 22 people into further education, 11 people in employment, and 4 babies born into a family home;
- Assisted 94 people into private rented accommodation, including navigating the HAP system and interacting with landlords or rental agencies;
- Provided housing advice and support to 1,125 people around housing issues or who found themselves in precarious living circumstances.

Nick Henderson, CEO of Irish Refugee Council, at the conclusion of the appeal wrote: 'This appeal has allowed us to both accommodate people trying to leave direct provision and also give advice and support to more than a thousand people who are struggling to find a place to call home. We would also like to thank the religious congregations who supported the project through donations of property for people to live in. The programme is an excellent example of faith communities coming together to support people seeking asylum.'

The IRC's work in this area does not end with the close of this appeal. IRC will continue to grow and develop the work, including tasking maintenance and repair to a specialist organisation, adding new properties to the programme if appropriate, developing better social supports and working with residents on transitioning on into permanent accommodation. The IRC is also developing community sponsorship work and continuing to advocate.

WHO CARES FOR THE CARERS?

Who Cares for the Carers? is the initiative that resulted from a report compiled by a group chaired by Rev John Tanner. The Archbishop used this report as the basis for providing sensitive and discreet care and support to clergy in acute and specific need.

The initiative offers support to clergy in a number of areas. Mentoring is available to new incumbents. Mediation, spiritual accompaniment, professional counselling and retreats are available to all clergy.

The Pastoral Support team consists of external professionals in the areas of counselling and mediation along with a team of mentors, spiritual attendants and the availability of retreats at two excellent retreat centres in Ireland.

Clergy wishing to avail of any of these supports can do so by contacting the Archbishop's secretary in the strictest confidence.

CLERGY REMUNERATION & BENEFITS

(Facts on clergy remuneration and benefits are included in the Report not just for the information of Synod members, but as a historical reference source.)

Stipends: The General Synod Minimum Stipend and the Diocesan Minimum Stipend in 2019 were €37,855 and €39,521 respectively.

There has been no change in the rules applying to the calculation of curate stipend. In 2019 the Standing Committee agreed an increase of 1% be applied to the Minimum Approved Stipend for 2020 in the Republic of Ireland.

Locomotory Allowances: It was agreed by the Representative Body in 2016 that from 1 January 2017, the rate of locomotory allowances be set at Revenue authority approved rates, plus an additional rate which would be subject to social insurance payments. The Dioceses made no adjustments to the rates payable in 2018 or 2019 which continued to be based on the following:

• Curates Assistant	9,750 km	=	€6,350
• City & Suburban Rectors	17,000 km	=	€9,100
• Rural Rectors	21,000 km	=	€10,600

To ensure compliance, from 1 January 2019, locomotory rates payable to clergy are calculated on the following basis for social insurance purposes:

Distance bands		Engine capacity up to 1200cc	Addtl rate	Engine capacity 1201 - 1500cc	Addtl rate	Engine capacity 1501cc & over	Addtl rate
1	0-1,500km	37.95c	40c	39.86c	40c	44.79c	35c
2	1,501-5,500km	70.00c	18c	73.21c	15c	83.53c	7c
3	5,501 - 25,000km	27.55c	15c	29.03c	13c	32.21c	8c
4	25,001km & over	21.36c	14c	22.23c	12c	25.85c	8c

As can be seen from the above table, to calculate the correct allowance, it is necessary for each member of the clergy to inform the Diocesan Office of their car's engine capacity and approximate annual mileage. Clergy changing their cars should inform the office. All parishes, groups and unions are assessed for the same amount of contribution towards the Locomotory Allowance (€9,350) and it is not envisaged that this will change for 2021.

It is essential that clergy keep good records of motoring expenses incurred in the carrying out of their duties thus enabling accurate claims for motoring expenses as part of the completion of their Income Tax returns.

Office Expenses Allowances: The Office Expenses Allowance for 2020 remains unchanged at €1,500, with curates assistant continuing to receive an allowance which is 50% of that payable to incumbents.

Standard Assessments for Clergy Costs: The standard assessment on parishes, groups and unions for a rector in 2020 is as follows:

	€
Diocesan Minimum Stipend	39,916
Locomotory Allowance	9,350
Office Expenses Allowance	<u>1,500</u>
	50,766
Clergy Pension - Cure	4,970
Clergy Pension – Member	3,824
Pay Related Social Insurance	<u>2,742</u>
Standard Assessment	
(for incumbents and vicars)	<u>62,302</u>

Pension Schemes for Stipendiary Clergy: The Representative Church Body (RCB) acts as Sponsor of clergy pension arrangements.

The Clergy Pensions Fund (CPF), a defined benefit scheme, closed to future accruals and new members on 31 May 2013. From 1 June 2013 the Church of Ireland Clergy Defined Contribution Pension Scheme (CDCP) was implemented. The total contribution rate to pension schemes is 32% of MAS and is broken down as follows:

2020

CPF levy (to meet deficit under funding proposal)	13%	€4,970 (on each cure and recognised office)
CDCP (diocese/parish)	8%	€3,059 (per member for member's pot)
CDCP (diocese/parish)	2%	€ 765 (death in service benefit)
Total diocesan pension contribution	23%	
CDCP (clergy)	9%	(deducted from stipend)
Total pension contributions	32%	

The CPF levy of 13% is payable in respect of all cures and recognised offices to assist in meeting the CPF deficit over the period to 2023 as agreed with the Pensions Authority. As stipendiary positions have benefitted from the service of CPF members in the past the responsibility of funding the deficit is a shared responsibility.

The scheme rules were amended during 2016 to permit contributions from clergy continuing in service after Normal Retirement Age, following Statute Ch. IV of the General Synod 2016.

Diocesan Shares Scheme: In accordance with the Diocesan Financial Plan, those parishes which participated in the original “Shares Scheme” (set up in the 19th century) continue to receive the standard contribution (€18,750 overall) towards the stipend. In addition, in 2017 those parishes involved are receiving a pro-rata share of a surplus of €25,985 (Total €44,735) resulting from the re-investment of the capital in 1992.

Assessments for Diocesan Obligations: The Diocesan Obligations Contribution (DOC) covers Diocesan costs other than the stipends, allowances and contributions in respect of parochial clergy and those of Christ Church Cathedral. In addition to the Central Episcopacy Assessment on the Dioceses, the share of the fund needed by the Priorities Fund and the cost of the Child Protection Officer, the DOC covers the outlay for diocesan youth work and communications, office costs, dignitary payments, post-ordination and non-stipendiary clergy training and Diocesan grants, among a wide range of other items.

The assessments are issued after the Councils’ meeting in December each year. Parochial honorary treasurers are given details as to how the overall assessment is made up. This information should then be passed to their select vestries so that they are clear and concise about what is covered by the assessment each parish has to pay to the Councils, emphasising that the maintenance of the ministry must be the first financial priority.

Clergy and Ministry Protection Fund: The Severance Fund was established under Statute Chapter XVI of 2003 to enable financial settlements to be made to clergy agreeing to withdraw permanently from stipendiary ministry following a process of mediation. Funding was by means of a diocesan levy. As the Fund was not accessed for many years, the levy has not been collected since 2008. General Synod in 2015 agreed to broaden the scope of circumstances in which the Severance Fund could be accessed to include provision for cases of permanent incapacity on medical grounds. The Fund was also renamed the ‘Clergy and Ministry Protection Fund’. Collection of the levy was reintroduced in 2017 and is paid from those monies collected by way of Diocesan Obligation.

OUTSTANDING ASSESSMENTS

Parishes with assessments outstanding at 31 December 2019:

Glasnevin (paid July 2020), Wicklow (paid January 2020).

VACANCY & RELIEF DUTY (including holiday) RATES and PASTORAL CARE ALLOWANCES

The rates payable to retired and non-parochial clergy taking services during **vacancies, illnesses** and **holidays** for the triennium commencing January 2017 until year end 2020 are as follows, but see also the notes below:

<u>Services:</u>	One	€60
	Two (or more on the same day in the same parish/group/union)	€100
<u>Mileage:</u>	(including Non-Stipendiary Ministers and Lay Readers)	€0.80(k.m)

- Notes: (i) Without prejudice to existing situations or customs, select vestries are required to bear the cost of relief duty for reasonable periods of holidays except where a parish, group or union also has a curate assistant.
- (ii) On the basis that they will continue to receive the full stipend and allowances for up to six months of sickness - thereafter the situation depends on individual circumstances - clergy are required to bear the cost of Sick Duty Relief; this can be afforded out of either their Disability Benefit or out of a State pension where they have reached the age at which this is payable. See page 71 – sections a) and b).
- (iii) While Non-Stipendiary ministers and lay readers may not receive payment for taking services, they should in all cases be adequately recompensed for out-of-pocket expenses such as travelling, meals, telephone calls, stationery etc. A minimum payment applies in these cases. Those concerned should seek reimbursement from the Diocesan Office.

During a vacancy, the Archbishop appoints a priest to be in Pastoral Care of the vacant parish. The Pastoral Care Allowance is €100 per week.

In most dioceses a vacant parish continues to pay an assessment for clergy costs throughout a vacancy, and the diocese pays for the vacancy duty. However, in the United Dioceses of Dublin and Glendalough, a **vacant parish does not pay the assessment for clergy costs** while it is vacant, but it does bear the costs of Vacancy Duty and the Pastoral Care Allowance. While this provides a substantial

saving to a vacant parish, the Councils allow this to happen on the basis that in a vacancy there is inevitably expenditure needed on the rectory.

Stipendiary Clergy: are not entitled to payment for services taken, though they are entitled to travelling (etc.) expenses.

Non-stipendiary Ministers & Lay Readers: a minimum payment applies for expenses at €50.00 unless the expenses incurred exceed this amount then the higher amount will be paid.

SICK PAY PROCEDURES

The cost of payments for Relief Duty is the responsibility of those on sick leave but will be administered by the Diocesan Office.

- a) Clergy who have not reached the State pensionable age should be able to avail of Disability Benefit under their Social Welfare entitlements. Those who are ill for more than one week should apply for this benefit without delay and on receipt of the benefit forward it in full to the Diocesan Office. The Diocesan Office will in turn pay for all relief duty.
- b) Clergy who have already reached the State pensionable age while still in the stipendiary ministry will not be able to claim under Social Welfare, but should already be in receipt of additional income by way of state pension: it is considered equitable that from this should be borne the cost of Relief Duty, and the appropriate amount forwarded to the Diocesan Office.

To avail of disability benefit a doctor's certificate should be forwarded to the local Social Welfare Office.

- c) In the event that an illness extends beyond a six-month period locomotory and office expense allowances will normally cease.
- d) Relief duty rates and travel expenses as laid down by Diocesan Councils will apply.
- e) During any period of illness parishes will continue to pay their full assessment to the Diocesan Office. Any over-payment in relation to locomotory and office expense allowances will be credited to the parish at the end of each calendar year, or on the resumption of full ministerial duty.

RECOVERY OF INCOME TAX ON DONATIONS TO PARISHES

With effect from 1 January 2013, tax relief for donations to approved bodies under Section 848A of the Taxes Consolidation Act 1997 is applied as follows:

- All donations of €250 or more from individuals (PAYE and Self-Assessed) are treated the same, with the tax relief in all cases being repaid to the charity.
- Tax relief is available at a blended rate of 31% in respect of all taxpayers, regardless of their marginal rate.
- An annual limit has been introduced of €1m per individual, being the amount which can be tax relieved under the scheme.

Further information is available from Church of Ireland House, Dublin.

CHARITIES LEGISLATION

Registration of remaining parishes in Republic of Ireland to commence

In August 2020, the Charities Regulatory Authority (CRA) approved the Church of Ireland Constitution following the submission of the letter from the Assessor in respect of the Constitution's compliance with charities regulation. Following this approval, permission was given to commence registration of the remaining parishes in the Republic of Ireland.

The CRA has now issued a template of required documentation for registration, the majority of which will be centrally agreed between the CRA and the Charities Registration Monitoring Working Group, which will be convened within the next month.

A pilot registration involving a small number of parishes will precede full registration and it is hoped that this will take place in October. Parishes will be contacted directly.

The CRA will review the pilot scheme and identify any issues requiring further work before initiating registration of all remaining parishes.

As with previous registrations, Diocesan Secretaries will be familiarised with the registration process and will co-ordinate registration within their dioceses supported by a team from Church House.

Approval to bring proposal to insert a Charities Chapter in the Constitution to the General Synod

Both Charities' Regulators have now approved the proposal to insert a Charities Chapter into the Constitution of the Church of Ireland. This draft bill may now proceed through the normal processes to the next meeting of the General Synod.

Governance Code

Once all parishes in the Republic of Ireland are registered, they will be expected to report on compliance with the Governance Code issued by the Charities Regulatory Authority RI. A sub-group of Diocesan Secretaries has been working on materials to support parishes (and dioceses) in making this report with the assistance of a team from Church House. Parishes should not try to develop an independent report at this stage in response to information campaigns being run by the Charities Regulatory Authority, as much of the material required will be common to all, and, as with registration, will be directed through Diocesan Offices once registration has been completed.

While the Governance Code is a significant item, in itself, the CRA was pleased to find that work was already in hand in this respect, and that it would be co-ordinated across the parishes and dioceses active in the Republic of Ireland.

Parish Trustees

The charity authority has identified Select Vestries as trustee bodies of the parish. As the Select Vestry is responsible for lay employment in the parish and as employment legislation precludes one to contract with oneself, it follows that an employee of the parish cannot be a member of the Select Vestry. No employee of the parish should be nominated or elected to the Select Vestry. Paid organists, youth workers, parish secretaries, church sextons etc. are among those who cannot serve as members of the Select Vestry.

PAROCHIAL ACCOUNTS

In accordance with the Diocesan Financial Plan parishes continue to send to the Councils copies of their audited annual accounts; the Councils require to be made aware of any parish which fails so to do. Due to Covid-19 it was agreed that, as Easter General Vestry meetings were unable to take place at the prescribed time, once the parish accounts were audited and signed by relevant members of the Select Vestry the Dioceses were willing to accept them.

PROPERTY

Since disestablishment most of the real property of the Church of Ireland has been held in trust for dioceses and parishes by the Representative Church Body. This has provided a consistent approach in the management of Church property.

Guidelines for Renovation or Repair of Parochial Property

This procedure should be observed by any parish intending to undertake works of repair, renovation, or alteration to churches or other parochial property. This does not apply to work which could be regarded as normal routine maintenance. However, Councils does need to be informed of any expenditure on Churches which exceeds €25,000 and in all cases where structural changes are being made a recommendation from the Dioceses must be obtained together with RCB approval before any work can commence.

1. A written request for approval to carry out the work must be submitted by the Honorary Secretary of the Select Vestry to the Diocesan Secretary for the consideration of the Glebes Committee.

The following documentation should also be submitted:

- i. Plans and/or specifications which adequately and clearly illustrate the proposal. These should be prepared by a suitably qualified professional person/practice and should indicate the identity of the designer.
 - ii. Copies of all statutory approvals. (If these are not to hand at the time of application they must be submitted as soon as they are available.)
 - iii. Details of the estimated cost of the work and a financial plan.
 - iv. Details of any grant applications being made.
2. On the recommendation of the Glebes Committee, the matter will be processed through the Diocesan Council and, if appropriate, the Representative Church Body for approval.

Note that application to the Glebes Committee should be lodged with the Diocesan Secretary not later than two working weeks before the meeting of the Glebes Committee which is normally held in February, April, July, September, and November.

LOCAL PROPERTY TAX

This tax came into effect from 1st July 2013, and is a tax payable on the market value of residential property as determined on 1 May 2013. Residential property was scheduled for revaluation on 1 November 2016 but this changed following the

announcement in Budget 2016 that the revaluation date was being postponed until 1 November 2019. The form of valuation is under review by an all-party budgetary oversight committee in consultation with the Revenue Commissioners and the manner in which the tax will be re-evaluated and calculated was not yet clear at the time of going to print.

Residential properties within parishes are not exempt under the Finance (Local Property Tax) Act, 2012 and parishes are liable to pay the Local Property Tax in respect of these properties.

The tax is collected by the Revenue Commissioners and is initially paid by the Representative Church Body to ensure compliance with Revenue deadlines. The Representative Church Body in turn charge the Dioceses who then collect the tax from the parishes, the beneficial owners of the property.

GRANTS

Marshal Beresford Fund - grants for repairs to churches. The allocation of the income is made by the Archbishop of Armagh who does so in conjunction with his recommendations for grant assistance from the Church Fabric Fund. Full details are available from Church of Ireland House, Dublin.

Church Fabric and Development Fund: Since 1930, the Church Fabric Fund has been held for the repair of certain church buildings. The Fund is governed by Chapter X Part IV of the *Constitution of the Church of Ireland* and managed by the RCB. In May 2016, the General Synod approved amendments to the Constitution, renaming the fund as the 'Church Fabric and Development Fund' (CF&D Fund), amending Section 20 to extend the scope of the Fund to include the development of initiatives supporting the longer term mission of the Church, and specifying that income of the Fund post 1 July 2016 may be applied to this broader purpose. Rules to regulate the amended provisions have been approved by the Standing Committee of General Synod and are now in force. The changes allow the Fund to be used more widely than before, in order to more effectively serve the wider life, outreach and witness of the Church into the long term. Applications for use of local CF&D funds require Select Vestry, Diocesan Council and RCB approval with priority given to applications supporting initiatives that develop church and mission which impacts the locality and are sustainable in the medium term. Further details on the regulations governing the Church Fabric and Development Fund are at www.ireland.anglican.org/parish-resources/parish-finance.

All Churches Trust Limited

All Churches Trust Limited provides grants to Christian churches for initiatives with an emphasis on heritage, care and the community. It supports projects for the repair of and improvement to historic buildings, preservation of heritage, and initiatives around training, mission and church growth. Grants are made out of income derived from All Churches Trust Limited's wholly owned subsidiary, Ecclesiastical Insurance Office Plc. Full information and application forms may be obtained from the website www.allchurches.co.uk.

Built Heritage Investment Scheme and Historic Structures Fund

These are two schemes that are jointly managed by the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht and Local Authorities. They run from year to year with a limited application window, usually between November and February. Details are available from your local authority.

LEADER Funding

LEADER is a European funding initiative which is managed by the Department of Rural and Community Development. It enables local development by devolving decision-making to many different companies throughout rural areas in the republic of Ireland. Each LEADER organization administers a particular rural development fund and will have different priorities based on their local plan and the needs of the area. The Church of Ireland has benefitted from grants for building works which fall into relevant criteria, such as the upgrading of rural heritage and renewal and development works.

Further information on LEADER 2014-2020 may be found on the following websites:

www.pobal.ie/FundingProgrammes/LEADER/Pages/LEADER.aspx
<http://drdcd.gov.ie/about/rural/rural-development/leader>

Country Air Association

The association was originally formed in the late nineteenth Century to enable needy parents, children and the unemployed to have a holiday in Ireland or perhaps a fare to England. There may be people in the parish who could avail of some assistance in planning a break. Please contact your Rector for more information.

CARE AND SHARE

In 2015 Councils agreed to set up a Care & Share Project. This project is aimed at providing support to struggling parishes; parishes who are willing to train curates yet cannot afford the full cost and those trying to establish new ministry initiatives.

The initiative is to reach out to those parishes that have reasonable surpluses beyond their own needs and are willing to provide support to those parishes who are struggling. This is not a new central fund but a year on year mechanism of support.

No applications seeking funding for 2019 were received.

Donations received during 2019 amounted to €6,900 and together with a carry forward of €1,150 from 2018 the total amount presently in the fund is €8,050.

Councils are most grateful to those parishes that have supported this project.

DIOCESAN FINANCIAL PLAN

The Plan of Financial Arrangements adopted at the 2013 Diocesan Synod sets out the strategy for the management of the finances of the Dioceses. Copies of the Plan are laid on the table at Diocesan Synods.

MISSION PLAN

In accordance with the Financial Plan agreed by Synod in 2013 a Diocesan Mission Plan is to be drawn up annually.

The purpose of the Plan is to clearly set out the United Dioceses aspirations for the year ahead duly budgeted. Diocesan Councils at their September meeting make decisions where costs are involved on how such Mission can be incorporated within Diocesan budgets. This Mission Plan is to be laid on the table at Synod annually, setting out the vision/mission of the United Dioceses for the coming year. The Mission Plan for the year commencing 1st January 2021 will be available at the 2020 Diocesan Synods.

GENERAL DATA PROTECTION REGULATIONS (GDPR)

On 25th May 2018 the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) came into effect and placed responsibilities upon how organisations, including Church of Ireland dioceses and parishes, manage personal data.

There is a wealth of information available on GDPR on the Church of Ireland Parish Resources website: www.ireland.anglican.org/parish-resources. Individual data protection queries can also be sent to dataprotection@rcbdub.org.

VALUE ADDED TAX (VAT) COMPENSATION SCHEME

In Budget 2018 the government introduced a VAT Compensation Scheme for Irish Charities. The scheme aims to reduce the VAT burden on charities and to partially compensate for VAT paid by the charity. The first year of eligibility was the calendar year 2018 and the claims process was facilitated through the Revenue Online Service (ROS). Claims can be submitted between 1 January and 30 June each year. For example, VAT paid on expenditure in 2020 can be claimed between 1 January and 30 June 2021. Charities can submit one claim per year which should relate to VAT paid in the previous year only. The scheme is currently capped at €5m per annum and will be reviewed after three years in operation. It is likely that the total amount of claims in each year will exceed the capped amount and refunds due will be paid to charities on a pro-rata basis.

In 2020, parishes with their own Charity Number were able to make claims themselves direct through ROS. The Diocesan Office made a consolidated claim on behalf of those parishes without a Charity Number. Repayment of claims is expected to take place towards the end of 2020.

CHURCHES & PARISH BUILDINGS

GENERAL

The Representative Church Body (RCB): The RCB, the corporate body appointed to represent the Church of Ireland at disestablishment, is the legal owner of the vast majority of churches, graveyards, halls and parish centres, glebes and other parish properties. The RCB holds properties, endowments and other funds in trust for parishes, the dioceses and the Church as a whole. However, the RCB, a trustee body in perpetuity, is precluded from carrying out any transactions on property or financial assets vested in it for parishes unless the local diocesan council has given a recommendation so to do. Parishes may carry out repairs to and re-decoration of properties without permission, or in certain circumstances by completing a “Form

of Consent to Alterations”, but structural work on any property vested in the RCB must be approved by that body - following a recommendation from the relevant diocesan council - before it is undertaken. Similarly, any transaction requested by a parish involving its funds or endowments held by the RCB must first also be recommended to that Body by the Diocesan Council. The use of proceeds arising from the sale of glebes or glebe lands is covered in the Constitution of the Church of Ireland (Section 4 of Chapter 13) under what are known as the “Glebe Rules”. The rules stipulate that, where a satisfactory residence has been provided, or it is unlikely that a residence shall be required in the future, it may be possible, with a recommendation of the diocese and approval of the RCB, for capital sums to be expended by the parish on a capital project. There is no provision that such sums expended need be replaced, although in particular cases a parish may decide to do so, if possible, as a matter of prudence.

CHURCHES

Material Expenditure on Churches: Whether or not a recommendation to the Representative Church Body is required for approval of planned expenditure on churches, the Councils continue to require to be informed of any planned expenditure on a church in excess of €25,000. During the year the Councils were notified of the intention of Dun Laoghaire to spend in excess of this amount.

Church Inspection Scheme: Established in 1988 a scheme which laid down that in 1995 and every ten years thereafter a professional inspection of each church in the United Dioceses was to be carried out by an Architect. Councils agreed that Chartered Building Surveyors and Chartered Engineers, acting in their professional capacities, could be added to Architects as the professionals acceptable for the carrying out of the inspections doing so in a professional capacity. In the fifth year after each full inspection, the Councils require an Infestation Inspection on each church to be carried out.

**COUNCIL'S RECOMMENDATIONS to the
REPRESENTATIVE CHURCH BODY
2019/2020**

Recommendations – Churches

St. Ann with St. Stephen: A recommendation to enter into an arrangement with Dublin City Council acquiring the use of St. Stephen's Church, Mount Street as a cultural venue for the City of Dublin with the normal leasing agreement, terms and conditions in place. Under the agreement the Church will continue to be used as a place of worship.

St. Andrew' Church (Former): A recommendation that the former Church and Hall of St. Andrews now owned by Dublin City & County Regional Tourism Organisation Limited be allowed to relocate the statue of St. Andrew to the north transept on the first floor of the refurbished church and the resurfacing of the existing tarmacadam with a decorative 15mm pebble overlay and granite paving slabs in accordance with plans submitted.

Boooterstown: A recommendation to allow the Board of Management of the National School to install a Trim Trail in the ground of St. Philip and St. James' Church.

St. Bartholomew's and Christ Church, Leeson Park: The extension of the licensing agreement with the Romanian Orthodox Church and Christ Church, Leeson Park for a further two years from 1st February 2020.

Donnybrook: That St. Mary's Church, Donnybrook be closed due to the structural instability of the Church and a recommendation for the sale of this Church.

Taney: A recommendation for the planned route of the sewer and water services connection to St. Nahi's Church.

Recommendations – Ecclesiastical Residences & Glebe Lands

Athy: A recommendation for an extension to the former Parish Hall and for the lease of this building for 5 years subject to the normal leasing agreement.

Castlemacadam: The use of the funds from the sale of the old rectory situated at Castlemacadam, Avoca to procure a new Rectory.

Castleknock & Mulhuddard w Clonsilla: Part of the boundary wall in the graveyard is in danger of collapsing. The owner/developer of adjoining land has agreed to remedy the situation.

Clonsilla: The drawings for the creation of ground based niches for the burial of ashes in St. Mary's graveyard.

Coolock: A leasing agreement with St. John's Ambulance Ireland and Tamara Harte, T/A Dance for the use of the parish hall.

Crumlin & Chapelizod: That the allocation of the balance of proceeds arising from the sale of the plot of Parish Land situated at the rear of St. Mary's Church, Crumlin Village, Crumlin be used towards the cost of repairs to the roof of the Parish Hall, Crumlin Village.

Donabate: Permission to allocate part of the proceeds from the sale of glebe land for payment in respect of expenses incurred in the completion of the sale, additional expenses for preliminary preparations for the construction of the New Hall including engagement of a quantity surveyor.

Donnybrook & Irishtown: The formation of a Union of Parishes.

Dunganstown: The formal regularisation of a right of way via a private roadway owned by the adjoining landowners.

Killiney, Ballybrack:

a) That the RCB enter into a licence agreement with Three Ireland (Hutchison) Ltd. for 15 years for telecommunication equipment in the tower of St. Matthias Church, Church Road, Killiney, Co. Dublin.

b) The revision of the current license agreement with the Montessori School.

Kilternan: A recommendation to the RCB for a licence agreement for the use of rooms in the Church Cottage to the Incorporated Society, Glorney Foundation and POS Children's Education Fund.

Narraghmore & Timolin w Castledermot & Kinneagh: The formation of a Union of Parishes.

Rathmichael: A strip of land owned by a neighbour to be transferred to Rathmichael Parish as part of the Glebeland.

96 Drumcondra Road Lower: A leasing agreement with Christ Church Cathedral for this property.

Tullow: That the parish carry out proposed renovations to the Sexton's House to rental standards and further agreed that the property be rented with the normal rental agreement in place.

Wicklow: The granting of a wayleave for the installation and maintenance of a water pipeline and electricity supply line, across Glebeland.

Other Matters

7 Newlands Park: Agreement to renew the lease for a further 12 months.

Easter General Vestries: The time scale for the original meeting of Easter General Vestries had lapsed due to the restrictions imposed by the Covid-19 pandemic. Diocesan Councils at a specially convened meeting in July agreed as in accordance with Section 16 of Chapter III of the Constitution of the Church of Ireland that all parishes in these United Dioceses of Dublin & Glendalough proceed and hold Easter General Vestry meetings from 6th August 2020 to 6th September 2020 and return the necessary declaration to the Diocesan Office by Friday 11th September 2020.

Graveyard Charges and Garden of Remembrance: Revised charges were agreed for Rathmichael.

Vacancy Commission and Quinquennial Inspection Reports: Reports were received on the rectories of Arklow, St. Ann's, St. Bartholomew's, Crumlin, Donnybrook, Taney, Newcastle, Rathfarnham, Whitechurch, Rathdrum, Rathmichael, Redcross, and Timolin.

Church Music Dublin: Diocesan Councils accepted the guidelines for the care and maintenance of pipe organs in parish churches published by Church Music Dublin.

Priorities Fund: The Councils supported a number of applications to the Priorities Fund before the end of October 2019.

RB General Unit Trust (ROI): The unchanged dividend payment rates for RB General Unit Trust Holders for 2020 were noted.

Going Back to Church Video: As part of the planning for the re-opening of churches it was agreed to produce a 'Welcome Back' video. This task was undertaken by Greg Fromholz and Lynn Glanville to encourage parishioners to return to church safely.

THE BISHOPS' APPEAL

Set out below are the totals received from parishes within the Dioceses by the RCB (including emergency and special appeals) in 2019 and notified to the Dioceses:

Dublin

	€	€
Balbriggan	200.00	
Boooterstown	1,000.00	
Castleknock & Mulhuddart	2,369.90	
Chapelizod	50.00	
Christ Church Cathedral	2,000.00	
Clondalkin & Rathcoole	250.00	
Crumlin	575.00	
Drumcondra	150.00	
Dun Laoghaire	1,110.00	
Finglas	80.00	
Holmpatrick	465.00	
Howth	982.00	
Irishtown	250.00	
Kill	1,000.00	
Killney Ballybrack	130.00	
Killiney Holy Trinity	2,035.00	
Malahide	1,850.00	
Monkstown	1781.40	
Raheny	1,000.00	
Rathfarnham	1,800.00	
Rathmichael	3,120.95	
Santry	260.00	
Stillorgan	250.00	
Swords	400.00	
Taney	4,000.00	
Whitechurch	1,818.08	28,927.33

Glendalough

Arklow	400.00
Calary	500.00
Castledermot & Kinneagh	648.00
Celbridge	430.00
Dalkey	1,500.00
Delgany	4,539.19

Donoughmore & Donard	833.80	
Greystones	3,311.00	
Inch	540.00	
Leixlip	1,500.00	
Narraghmore & Timolin	496.00	
Newcastle Lyons	549.00	
Powerscourt	5,000.00	
Tinahely	2,051.00	22,297.99
Other parish donations	76.20	76.20
Total from parishes		51,301.52
Other donations		
Individual donations	2,347.00	
Castle Park School	500.00	
Mageough	935.00	
St Patrick's Cathedral	3,163.39	
	58,246.91	

Collection and recording of funds

The Bishops' Appeal endeavours to ensure that monies, given with generous spirit and desire to help, finds its way without delay to those who are so desperately in need.

Parishes are reminded that all contributions are now to be forwarded directly to the Bishops' Appeal at Church of Ireland House indicating the parish from which the donation is made as speedily as possible. The Representative Church Body has given assurances that procedures are in place which enable them to identify and analyse accurately all donations received.

Please note that the books close on 31 December, and all donations should be received prior to 31st December in order to be recorded in the Report for that year.

Full details of the procedures are available from **Church of Ireland Bishops' Appeal, Church of Ireland House, Church Avenue, Rathmines, Dublin 6. Telephone 01 4125639.**

Dioceses of Dublin and Glendalough

Charity No. CHY 7249

Financial statements

Year ended 31 December 2019

Dioceses of Dublin and Glendalough

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Dioceses of Dublin and Glendalough

Joint Diocesan Councils' report

The Joint Diocesan Councils present their annual report together with the financial statements of The United Dioceses of Dublin and Glendalough ('the Dioceses') for the year ended 31 December 2019.

Principal activities

The United Dioceses of Dublin & Glendalough is one of 12 dioceses of the Church of Ireland. The Dioceses encompass both urban and rural areas in Dublin, Wicklow and part of Kildare and this is reflected in the broad range of parishes and worshipping communities. The activities of the Dioceses are regulated by the Diocesan Synods and where relevant, by the General Synod of the Church of Ireland. These activities consist of the administration of stipend, other provisions under rules determined by the Diocesan Synods and the collection of parochial assessments and levies towards the ministry of the Church at a diocesan and central level. The cost of maintaining the central administrative function of the Dioceses is recovered from parishes on an annual basis.

Structure, governance and management

The provisions relating to the *Constitution of the Church of Ireland* ('the Constitution') lays down the requirement on Diocesan Synods to enact business for the specific dioceses.

The Diocesan Synods is the overall administration of the Dioceses under the Archbishop which meets once a year. Delegates to the Diocesan Synods are all serving Clergy, plus three elected lay persons from each parish/group of parishes, (in line with Chapter 2, Part 1 of the Constitution), plus additional members that can be elected under sections 10 and 11 of Chapter 2 of the Constitution of the Church of Ireland. Each diocesan synod spans a period of three years and each three years the Diocesan Synods are required to elect members of the Diocesan Councils which have responsibility for the overall management of the United Dioceses. The Councils hold four meetings during the year.

Dioceses of Dublin and Glendalough

Joint Diocesan Councils' report (continued)

Structure, governance and management (continued)

Diocesan Councils elect the Glebes and Finance Committee and delegate power to that Committee to make decisions and recommendations to the Representative Church Body ('The RCB') on its behalf. The RCB is the body with whom the vast majority of churches/cathedral and other parish properties are vested.

In the United Dioceses of Dublin and Glendalough there are 59 cures including Christ Church Cathedral, which is the Diocesan Cathedral, and Saint Patrick's Cathedral which also sits within diocesan boundaries but is the National Cathedral of the Church of Ireland. There are 78 parishes with 105 active churches. There are 60 stipendiary clergy, 2 curates, 4 self supporting ministers and 19 other licensed clergy giving a total of 85 licenced clergy for these United Dioceses and 60 licensed Lay Ministry/Readership, with 3 vacant parishes.

Day to day administration for the Dioceses is carried out from the Administrative Office for the United Dioceses at Church of Ireland House, Church Avenue, Rathmines, Dublin 6. A Diocesan Secretary and an assistant are employed to:

- provide the necessary secretarial services for the Diocesan Synods, the Diocesan Councils, and the various committees of both
- prepare annual assessments for parishes to meet costs of clerical stipends, allowances and ongoing-costs, central levies and other liabilities to the Dioceses and manage monthly direct debit collection of same
- manage income and expenditure and prepare accounts for audit
- ensure activities are in compliance with Charities Regulation

Dioceses of Dublin and Glendalough

Joint Diocesan Councils' report (continued)

Objectives and activities

The primary function of the Dioceses is to support the advancement of the Christian religion by promoting 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 is fundamental to the practical delivery of the benefits of Christianity.

The Dioceses is committed to carrying out the work detailed in its Mission Plan which clearly sets out the United Dioceses aspirations for the year ahead, duly costed where appropriate, and to facilitate mission in all aspects of Diocesan life.

- *Missio Dei* – It is God who has a mission to turn the hearts of the children back to the Father and we are seeking to catch him at work and join in...
- "...which faith the Church is called upon to proclaim afresh in each generation"

Book of Common Prayer 2004

- We want every aspect of our approach to mission to be rooted in the discipline of prayerful discernment and listening.

Diocesan Councils met four times during the year 2019 and the Glebes & Finance Committee met five times. In addition to regular items of business, Diocesan Councils enjoyed presentations throughout the year from Greg Fromholz on Young Adult Ministry in the dioceses, Susie Keegan on the work of the Youth Council and Olive Good on Safeguarding Trust. Archbishop Suheil Dawani was a guest at the June meeting of Councils whilst on a joint retreat between clergy of the United Dioceses and clergy from the Diocese of Jerusalem.

Following a survey circulated to Diocesan Synods members, Diocesan Councils agreed to allow the Honorary Secretaries the power to make necessary

Dioceses of Dublin and Glendalough

Joint Diocesan Councils' report (continued)

Objectives and activities (continued)

changes to the format of Diocesan Synods to allow greater opportunity for social interaction and engagement. As a result, Diocesan Synods which took place in October included both a Panel Discussion and a 'break-out' session in which members discussed one of four key areas – Church and the Environment; The Church and other faiths; Social Justice; and Young People – with a summary of the discussions presented by Dr Maria Feeney. Feedback on the new format was extremely positive.

Parish Assessments were paid in full by all but two parishes in 2019. Having noted that there had been no increase in Diocesan Obligations since 2013, Councils agreed a 1% increase to parishes for the year 2020.

Donations of €70,032, raised through the diocesan "A Place to Call Home" Appeal, were transferred during 2019 to the Irish Refugee Council (IRC) which helped resource their crucial work in providing transitional supports for those moving on from the direct provision system. Grateful thanks were received from the IRC to all parishes, organisations and individuals who had contributed throughout the year.

Provision of hospital chaplaincy continued to be funded by grants received from the HSE, Tallaght Hospital and St Vincent's Private Hospital.

Grants and Allocations totaling €173,969 were expended in 2019. These were allocated based on the Mission Plan for 2019 which was considered by Diocesan Councils in September 2018. Analysis of the Grants and Allocations is provided in Note 3(b) of the Financial Statements.

During 2019, institutions of two new incumbents took place and there was one retirement. Three curate assistants resigned to take up other posts.

Dioceses of Dublin and Glendalough

Joint Diocesan Councils' report (continued)

Financial review, results and performance

The Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA) of the Dioceses of Dublin and Glendalough is shown on page 15 of the Financial Statements.

The SoFA for 2019 and for the prior year shows the income, expenditure and investment gains and losses of the financial activities and funds of the Dioceses of Dublin and Glendalough. The accounts are formatted to show separately unrestricted funds and restricted funds. Unrestricted funds are those funds derived from assessments, investment income and other income which can be applied against general administrative functions of the dioceses. Restricted Funds income and outgoings are those derived from income and expenditure relating to specific purposes.

The full value of funds and the movements in funds in the year are shown on the SoFA and reflected in the Balance Sheet.

- **Incoming resources**

Net incoming resources for the year are €4.756k being made up of €4.445k unrestricted and €311k restricted. Total income shows a decrease on the prior year of €69k (see note 2 of the Financial Statements).

Voluntary income of €4.164k is made up of assessments on parishes and other voluntary income and shows a decrease of €153k on the prior year due to parish vacancies.

Investment income of €88.6k includes interest on cash held in the RCB and remains level with prior years.

Income from charitable activities at €354k shows an increase of €45k on the prior year. This increase was mainly due to an increase in chaplaincy income and also Care and Share donations being higher than the prior year.

Dioceses of Dublin and Glendalough

Joint Diocesan Councils' report (continued)

Financial review, results and performance (continued)

- **Incoming resources (continued)**

Other incoming resources at €125k show an increase of €35k, mainly due to a refund received under the VAT Compensation Scheme. This income was distributed to parishes and the corresponding expenditure is included in 'Other Resources Used'. Other receipts of €25k are made up of receipts from parishes in respect of vacancy and relief duty and contra expenditure is included under other parish payments (note 3).

- **Resources expended**

The expenditures for the year, summarised by function on the SoFA, are analysed by overhead category on page 22 (note 3 of the financial statements). Total resources used at €4.673k sees a decrease of €61k on the prior year.

The cost of generating funds at €3.754k for the year shows a decrease on the prior year of €81k. Costs include ministerial stipends and related costs, administration costs (which are made up of payroll & associated social insurance costs, office costs, insurance, etc.) and child protection costs. Where voluntary income sees a decrease as a result of vacant parishes there will be a corresponding decrease in the cost of generating funds.

The cost of charitable activities at €707k sees a decrease of €8k on the prior year. These costs include grants and allocations of €104.6k, a Priorities Fund donation of €69.3k, central levies of €135.8k, costs relating to youth work of €85.6k, a Care and Share grant of €2.9k and chaplaincy expenditure of €238.6k. The expenditure of €70k against the Housing Appeal is a transfer out to the Irish Refugee Council of funds raised in 2018/2019.

Dioceses of Dublin and Glendalough

Joint Diocesan Councils' report (continued)

Financial review, results and performance (continued)

- **Resources expended (continued)**

Other resources used of €187.2k shows an increase on the previous year of €23.2k largely as a result of the inclusion of the VAT Compensation Scheme distribution to parishes in this category. Other payments of €24.8k show an increase on 2018 of €4.7k and relate to payments made in respect of vacancy and relief duty.

The total of resources expended of €4.673k is made up of €4.415k which is chargeable against unrestricted funds and €258k against restricted funds.

- **Total funds movement**

The SoFA shows a total increase of €713.5k which is represented by an unrealised gain on revaluation of invested assets of €630.9k and an excess of incoming resources over expended resources of €82.6k.

Going Concern

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis, which the Joint Diocesan Councils believe, having reviewed the position carefully, to be appropriate in the circumstances of the Dioceses.

The Joint Diocesan Councils have assessed the impacts to date and the potential further impacts of the Coronavirus on the activities and cash flows of the Dioceses and its parishes having regard to the impact of public health restrictions on activities across the Dioceses and within individual parishes together with the significant increase in the level of prevailing uncertainty regarding the timeframes for the easing and elimination of such restrictions.

Dioceses of Dublin and Glendalough

Joint Diocesan Councils' report (continued)

Going Concern (continued)

The pandemic has resulted in Church closures for prolonged periods and the cancellation of many other events which has impacted on voluntary incomes and certain income from charitable activities. However, the Dioceses continues to have sufficient liquid resources which the Joint Diocesan Councils expect to be sufficient to meet all obligations as they fall due.

The Joint Diocesan Councils have a reasonable expectation that the Dioceses has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. On that basis, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.

Post Balance Sheet Events

The Coronavirus outbreak and the related impacts are considered non-adjusting post balance sheet events for the purposes of the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2019. Consequently, there is no impact on the recognition and measurement of assets and liabilities as at 31 December 2019. The Joint Diocesan Councils are monitoring developments around Covid-19 and while there is uncertainty in that regard, they will continue to evaluate the situation and are confident that the Dioceses will be in a strong position to respond to the resulting challenges.

As a result of the social distancing guidelines issued by the government, the diocesan offices closed and alternative working arrangements were implemented. The staff began working from their homes and the dioceses very much appreciate the assistance of all staff and their families in adapting to this change in circumstances. The direct impact on the provision of services to parishes will continue to be reviewed and are, from a diocesan office perspective, assessed as low due to the nature of the services provided. The diocesan office has actively engaged with the parishes of the Dioceses to ensure that as much assistance as possible was, and continues to be, delivered during this period and into the future.

Dioceses of Dublin and Glendalough

Joint Diocesan Councils' report (continued)

Future developments

In accordance with the Financial Plan agreed by Synod in 2013 a Diocesan Mission Plan is drawn up annually. The purpose of this Plan is to clearly set out the United Dioceses aspirations for the year ahead and budget accordingly. Diocesan Councils, at their September meeting, will make decisions where costs are involved on how such Mission can be incorporated within Diocesan budgets. This Mission Plan will to be laid on the table at Synod, setting out the vision/mission of the United Dioceses for the coming year. The Mission Plan for the year commencing 1 January 2021 will be available at the 2020 Diocesan Synods.

Relevant audit information

The trustees believe that they have taken all steps necessary to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and have established that the Dioceses' auditor is aware of that information. In so far as they are aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the Dioceses' auditor is unaware.

On behalf of the Joint Diocesan Councils



D.N. Caird

Lay Honorary Secretary of Dublin Diocesan Council



D. Neilson

Lay Honorary Secretary of Glendalough Diocesan Council

Dioceses of Dublin and Glendalough

Responsibility Statement

The Plan of Financial Arrangements passed by the Diocesan Synods of Dublin and Glendalough on 15th October 2013, requires the Joint Diocesan Councils to prepare financial statements for each financial year outlining the state of affairs of the Joint Diocesan Councils as at the end of the financial year and of the increase or decrease in funds of the Joint Diocesan Councils for that year. In preparing those financial statements, the Joint Diocesan Councils are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate.

The Joint Diocesan Councils confirm that they have complied with the above requirements in preparing the financial statements.

The Joint Diocesan Councils are responsible for keeping proper books of account which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Dioceses. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Joint Diocesan Councils and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities and for the employment of competent financial management.

On behalf of the Joint Diocesan Councils



D.N. Caird

Lay Honorary Secretary of Dublin Diocesan Council



D Neilson

Lay Honorary Secretary of Glendalough Diocesan Council



KPMG
Audit
1 Stokes Place
St. Stephen's Green
Dublin 2
D02 DE03
Ireland

Independent Auditor's Report to the Joint Diocesan Councils of Dublin and Glendalough

Report on the audit of the non-statutory financial statements

Opinion

We have audited the non-statutory financial statements of Dioceses of Dublin and Glendalough ('the Dioceses') for the year ended 31 December 2019 set out on pages 15 to 26, which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet and the related notes. These non-statutory financial statements have been prepared for the reasons and on the basis of the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the non-statutory financial statements.

In our opinion, the non-statutory financial statements of the Dioceses for the year ended 31 December 2019 have been properly prepared, in all material respects, in accordance with the basis of preparation and the statement accounting policies set out in note 1 to the non-statutory financial statements.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (Ireland) (ISAs (Ireland)). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the non-statutory financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the Dioceses in accordance with ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the non-statutory financial statements in Ireland, including the Ethical Standard issued by the Irish Auditing and Accounting Supervisory Authority (IAASA), and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.



Independent Auditor's Report to the Joint Diocesan Councils of Dublin and Glendalough (continued)

We have nothing to report on going concern

We are required to report to you if we have concluded that the use of the going concern basis of accounting is inappropriate or there is an undisclosed material uncertainty that may cast significant doubt over the use of that basis for a period of at least twelve months from the date of approval of the non-statutory financial statements. We have nothing to report in these respects.

Other information

The Joint Diocesan Councils are responsible for the other information presented in the Annual Report together with the financial statements. The other information comprises the information included in the Joint Diocesan Councils' report. The financial statements and our auditor's report thereon do not comprise part of the other information. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, accordingly, we do not express an audit opinion or, except as explicitly stated below, any form of assurance conclusion thereon. Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether, based on our financial statements audit work, the information therein is materially misstated or inconsistent with the financial statements or our audit knowledge. Based solely on that work we have not identified material misstatements in the other information.

Based solely on our work on the other information, we report that:

- we have not identified material misstatements in the Joint Diocesan Councils' report and
- in our opinion, the information given in the Joint Diocesan Councils' report is consistent with the financial statements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

ISAs (Ireland) require that we report to you if, based on the knowledge we acquired during our audit, we have identified information in the annual report that contains a material inconsistency with either that knowledge or the financial statements, a material misstatement of fact, or that is otherwise misleading. We have nothing to report in this regard.



Independent Auditor's Report to the Joint Diocesan Councils of Dublin and Glendalough (continued)

Respective responsibilities and restrictions on use

Responsibilities of directors for the non-statutory financial statements

As explained more fully in the responsibilities statement set out on page 10, the Members of the Joint Diocesan Councils are responsible for: the preparation of the non-statutory financial statements, which are intended by them to give a true and fair view; such internal control as they determine is necessary to enable the preparation of non-statutory financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; assessing the Dioceses ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern; and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Members of the Joint Diocesan Councils either intend to liquidate the Dioceses' or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the non-statutory financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the non-statutory financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (Ireland) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these non-statutory financial statements.

A fuller description of our responsibilities is provided on IAASA's website at https://www.iaasa.ie/getmedia/b2389013-1cf6-458b-9b8f-a98202dc9c3a/Description_of_auditors_responsibilities_for_audit.pdf.



Independent Auditor's Report to the Joint Diocesan Councils of Dublin and Glendalough (continued)

Respective responsibilities and restrictions on use (continued)

The purpose of our audit work and to whom we owe our responsibilities

Our report has been prepared solely for the addressee, as a body, in accordance with the plan of Financial Arrangements passed by the Diocesan of Synods of Dublin and Glendalough on 15th October 2013 and our work has been undertaken solely to enable us to report on the matters set out in that document. It has been released to the Dioceses on the basis that our report shall not be copied, referred to or disclosed, in whole (save for the Dioceses' own internal purposes) or in part, without our prior written consent.

Our report was designed to meet the agreed requirements of the Dioceses determined by the Dioceses' needs at the time. Our report should not therefore be regarded as suitable to be used or relied on by any party wishing to acquire rights against us other than the Dioceses for any purpose or in any context. Any party other than the Dioceses who obtains access to our report or a copy and chooses to rely on our report (or any part of it) will do so at its own risk. To the fullest extent permitted by law, KPMG will accept no responsibility or liability in respect of our report to any other party.

Colm O'Sé
for and on behalf of
KPMG

Chartered Accountants, Statutory Audit Firm
1 Stokes Place
St. Stephen's Green
Dublin 2

15 September 2020

DIOCESES OF DUBLIN & GLENDALOUGH

Statement of Financial Activities for the period from 1 January 2019 to 31 December 2019

	Note	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds	Prior year total funds
Incoming resources	2	€	€	€	€
Incoming resources from generated funds					
Voluntary income		4,163,184	541	4,163,725	4,316,608
Investment income		88,620	-	88,620	88,597
Incoming resources from charitable activities		48,684	305,036	353,720	308,541
Other incoming resources		119,620	5,605	125,225	90,280
Other parish receipts		24,774	-	24,774	21,292
Total income		4,444,882	311,182	4,756,064	4,825,318
Resources used	3				
Cost of generating funds					
Cost of generating voluntary income		3,753,915	541	3,754,456	3,835,437
Charitable activities		455,188	251,804	706,992	714,930
Other resources used		181,229	5,970	187,199	163,956
Other parish payments		24,774	-	24,774	20,036
Total expenditure		4,415,106	258,315	4,673,421	4,734,359
Net income / (expenditure) resources before transfer		29,776	52,867	82,643	90,959
Other recognised gains/ (losses)					
Gains / (losses) on investment assets		-	630,890	630,890	(354,964)
Net movement in funds		29,776	683,757	713,533	(264,005)
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		282,165	4,720,413	5,002,578	5,266,583
Total funds carried forward	9	311,941	5,404,170	5,716,111	5,002,578

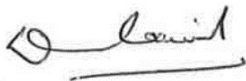
Dioceses of Dublin and Glendalough

Balance Sheet

At 31 December 2019

		2019	2018
		€	€
Fixed assets			
	<i>Note</i>		
Tangible assets	4	261,442	261,442
Investments	5(a)	<u>4,813,116</u>	<u>4,182,226</u>
		<u>5,074,558</u>	<u>4,443,668</u>
Current assets			
Bank Account No. 1		2,606	19,411
Bank Account No. 2		8,527	14,369
RCB - Stipend and General	5(b)	649,460	650,856
RCB - Church Extension	5(b)	30,437	22,574
RCB - Supplemental Reserve	5(b)	16,349	8,172
Debtors	6	<u>102,199</u>	<u>27,747</u>
		<u>809,578</u>	<u>743,129</u>
Current Liabilities			
Creditors	7	<u>168,025</u>	<u>184,219</u>
Net current assets		<u>641,553</u>	<u>558,910</u>
Total net assets		<u>5,716,111</u>	<u>5,002,578</u>
Funds employed	9	<u>5,716,111</u>	<u>5,002,578</u>

On behalf of the Joint Diocesan Councils



D.N. Caird

Lay Honorary Secretary of Dublin Diocesan Council



D. Neilson

Lay Honorary Secretary of Glendalough Diocesan Council

Dioceses of Dublin and Glendalough

Statement of Accounting Policies

1. Statement of accounting policies

The following accounting policies have been applied consistently in dealing with items which are considered material in relation to the Diocesan financial statements.

(i) Basis of preparation

The Dioceses continues to prepare the financial statement in accordance with The Plan of Financial Arrangements prepared by the Diocesan Synods of Dublin and Glendalough on 15 October 2013 as required under those rules. As such these financial statements are not prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting practice.

The activities of the Dioceses are regulated by the Diocesan Synod and where relevant, by the General Synod of the Church of Ireland. These activities consist of the administration of stipend, other provisions under rules determined by the Diocesan Synod and the collection of parochial assessments and levies towards the ministry of the Church at a diocesan and central level. The cost of maintaining the central administrative function of the Dioceses is recovered from parishes on an annual basis.

The financial report of the Dioceses of Dublin and Glendalough shows the financial outcome for the year in the provision of diocesan central services, and the administration of the co-ordinated activities of the Dioceses.

The financial information in relation to the activities of the Dioceses and their attributable assets is presented in columnar format in the Statement of Financial Activities ('SoFA') on page 15 and the balance sheet on page 16.

Dioceses of Dublin and Glendalough

Statement of accounting policies (*continued*)

(ii) *Going Concern*

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis, which the Joint Diocesan Councils believe, having reviewed the position carefully, to be appropriate in the circumstances of the Dioceses.

The Joint Diocesan Councils have assessed the impacts to date and the potential further impacts of the Coronavirus on the activities and cash flows of the Dioceses and its parishes having regard to the impact of public health restrictions on activities across the Dioceses together with the significant increase in the level of prevailing uncertainty regarding the timeframes for the easing and elimination of such restrictions. The pandemic has resulted in Church closures for prolonged periods and the cancellation of many other events which has impacted on voluntary incomes and certain income from charitable activities. However, the Dioceses continues to have sufficient liquid resources which the Joint Diocesan Councils expect to be sufficient to meet all obligations as they fall due.

The Joint Diocesan Councils have a reasonable expectation that the Dioceses has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. On that basis, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.

(iii) *Statement of financial activities (SoFA)*

- Unrestricted resources

The column in the SoFA headed ‘Unrestricted Resources’ shows the income derived from assessments, and other income received, including investment income which can be applied against the general administrative functions of the Dioceses, as unrestricted income. This column also shows the changes in assets values of those assets directly employed in supporting the delivery of Diocesan activities.

Dioceses of Dublin and Glendalough

Statement of accounting policies (*continued*)

- **Restricted resources**

The column headed ‘Restricted Resources’ in the SoFA shows income and outgoings for specific purposes, not applicable to the general activities of the Dioceses.

This column also shows the changes in value of the invested assets of the Dioceses, which are held for the long term to provide future resource to support diocesan activities, and in general have been derived from endowments and trusts provided specifically for that purpose.

(iv) *Assessments on parishes and ministerial payments*

Assessments on parishes represent amounts assessed on and due from, the parishes for stipends, locomotory and other allowances payable to the clergy, the employer contributions in respect of the Clergy Pension Fund and Pay Related Social Insurance and the Diocesan Obligations. The Dioceses pay the clergy and curates their entitlements by way of ministerial payments.

(v) *Administration expenses*

Administration expenses of the Dioceses include such grants and payments which the Diocesan Council decides are necessary and consistent with the discharge of the Ministry of the Church.

(vi) *Tangible fixed assets*

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost. Freehold property is not depreciated as the Dioceses have a policy and practice of regular maintenance and repairs (charges for which are recognised in the Income and Expenditure account) such that the asset is kept to its previously assessed standard of performance and any consequent depreciation would be immaterial. The assets are reviewed annually for impairment and provision is made for any impairment of assets below their carrying amounts.

Dioceses of Dublin and Glendalough

Statement of accounting policies (*continued*)

(vii) *Accounts with Representative Church Body*

This represents funds held by the Representative Church Body of the Church of Ireland (RCB) as trustee for the Dioceses.

The invested funds are held by the RCB and carried at market value. Unrealised gains and losses and revaluation of funds to market value at each balance sheet date are recorded within other recognised gains and losses as a change in restricted reserves in the SoFA. Realised gains and losses on the disposal of investments are also included in the SoFA.

(viii) *Pension contributions/payments*

The Dioceses makes contributions to a defined contribution scheme on behalf of certain employees. All pension contributions made on behalf of employees and former employees of the Dioceses and pension payments paid directly to former employees (which are discretionary payments made by the Dioceses in respect of which the Dioceses has no legal obligation) are expensed in the Statement of Financial Activities in the year in which they are incurred.

Dioceses of Dublin and Glendalough

Notes to the Financial Statements

2. Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA)

Incoming resources

		2019		2018
	Unrestricted Funds €	Restricted Funds €	Total Funds €	Total Funds €
Incoming resources from generated funds				
Voluntary Income				
Assessments on parishes	4,153,155	-	4,153,155	4,302,936
Other voluntary income (Camps, CIYD, Bishops' Appeal)	10,029	541	10,570	13,672
	<u>4,163,184</u>	<u>541</u>	<u>4,163,725</u>	<u>4,316,608</u>
Investment income				
Interest and investment income	<u>88,620</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>88,620</u>	<u>88,597</u>
Incoming resources from charitable activities				
Chaplaincy income	48,684	233,896	282,580	243,069
Care & Share	-	6,950	6,950	1,150
Housing Appeal (see note 3(a))	<u>-</u>	<u>64,190</u>	<u>64,190</u>	<u>64,322</u>
	<u>48,684</u>	<u>305,036</u>	<u>353,720</u>	<u>308,541</u>
Other incoming resources				
Sundry income (see note 4)	29,747	5,605	35,352	28,225
Local Property Tax	61,801	-	61,801	62,055
VAT Scheme	<u>28,072</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>28,072</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>119,620</u>	<u>5,605</u>	<u>125,225</u>	<u>90,280</u>
Other parish receipts	<u>24,774</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>24,774</u>	<u>21,292</u>
Total incoming resources	<u>4,444,882</u>	<u>311,182</u>	<u>4,756,064</u>	<u>4,825,318</u>

Dioceses of Dublin and Glendalough

Notes to the Financial Statements (*continued*)

3. Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA) Resources used

	Unrestricted Funds €	2019 Restricted Funds €	Total Funds €	2018 Total Funds €
Cost of generating funds				
Ministerial payments and administration costs (Stipends, salaries, pension contributions, office costs, insurances, etc.)	3,736,199	-	3,736,199	3,827,565
Child Protection Officer	17,716	-	17,716	7,796
Bishops' Appeal	-	541	541	76
	<u>3,753,915</u>	<u>541</u>	<u>3,754,456</u>	<u>3,835,437</u>
Charitable activities				
Chaplaincy expended	59,756	178,872	238,628	251,218
Grants and allocations (see note 3(b))	104,599	-	104,599	116,284
Central charges/levies (RCB)	135,824	-	135,824	134,476
Housing Appeal (see note 3(a))	-	70,032	70,032	50,033
Priorities Fund	69,370	-	69,370	69,370
Youth (including camps)	85,639	-	85,639	93,549
Care & Share	-	2,900	2,900	-
	<u>455,188</u>	<u>251,804</u>	<u>706,992</u>	<u>714,930</u>
Other resources used				
Dignitary payments	74,176	-	74,176	67,270
Discretionary pensions payments	460	-	460	-
Local Property Tax	62,576	-	62,576	67,482
VAT Scheme	28,072	-	28,072	-
Sundry other expenses	15,945	5,970	21,915	29,204
	<u>181,229</u>	<u>5,970</u>	<u>187,199</u>	<u>163,956</u>
Other parish payments	<u>24,774</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>24,774</u>	<u>20,036</u>
Total resources used	<u>4,415,106</u>	<u>258,315</u>	<u>4,673,421</u>	<u>4,734,359</u>

Dioceses of Dublin and Glendalough

Notes to the Financial Statements (*continued*)

Note 3(a) Housing Appeal for Refugees

Monies donated to this appeal are being lodged, transferred to and expended through the No.2 Bank Account.

Note 3(b) Analysis of Grants and Allocations

	2019	2018
	€	€
Christ Church Cathedral	39,521	39,140
St Patrick's Cathedral	1,270	1,270
Come&C / Disestablishment 150	14,956	8,738
Council for Mission	11,516	*15,630
Lay Ministry	550	375
Ministry of Healing	** (4,584)	-
Church Music	6,000	5,000
Theological Institute/Training	3,000	5,950
Library	1,000	1,000
Dublin Council of Churches	200	200
Safeguarding Trust Co-Ordinator expenses	6,170	5,283
Episcopal Supplementary Allocation	25,000	25,000
Diocesan camps	-	2,698
Other Grants	-	6,000
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	€104,599	€ 116,284
Priorities	<hr/>	<hr/>
	€69,370	€ 69,370
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	€173,969	€ 185,654

* The Diocesan Council for Mission closed its bank account and returned the balance to the Dioceses which reduced the 2018 grant.

** The Ministry of Healing closed its bank account and returned the balance of grants to the Dioceses.

Dioceses of Dublin and Glendalough

Notes to the Financial Statements (*continued*)

4. Tangible fixed assets

Diocesan Residence

Cost

At 1 January 2019 and 31 December 2019

€
261,442

The carrying value of the residence was reviewed at year end and in the opinion of the Members of the Joint Diocesan Councils; the carrying value of this property is not less than its recoverable amount.

Rental income of €18,291 (2018: €17,090) is included in sundry income.

5. Accounts with Representative Church Body

(a) *Investments*

	2019	2018
	€	€
Stipend and General	4,228,605	3,674,332
Church Extension	286,393	248,853
Supplemental Reserve	<u>298,118</u>	<u>259,041</u>
	<u>4,813,116</u>	<u>4,182,226</u>

Investments which are held by the RCB on behalf of the Dioceses are carried at market value in accordance with the accounting policies.

(b) *Cash held with the RCB*

Cash accounts held by the RCB on behalf of the Dioceses are listed on the balance sheet.

Dioceses of Dublin and Glendalough

Notes to the Financial Statements (*continued*)

6. Debtors	2019	2018
	€	€
Due from parishes	59,327	5,891
Other debtors	<u>*42,872</u>	<u>*21,856</u>
	<u>102,199</u>	<u>27,747</u>

*Other debtors include costs relating to salaries and insurance in respect of The Church Review. These costs are initially incurred by the Dioceses but are fully repaid to the Dioceses by The Church Review.

7. Creditors	2019	2018
	€	€
Receipts in advance from parishes	4,342	5,441
Accounts payable	*24,305	44,816
Sundry creditors and provisions	<u>**139,378</u>	<u>**133,962</u>
	<u>168,025</u>	<u>184,219</u>

* Includes grants paid January 2020 from 2019 allocation.

** Includes shares scheme surplus due to parishes (two years) and restricted Chaplaincy Training reserves.

8. Pensions

Defined contributions

During the year, the Dioceses made contributions of €19,404 (2018: €19,132) to defined contribution schemes on behalf of certain employees.

Dioceses of Dublin and Glendalough

Notes to the Financial Statements (*continued*)

9. Funds employed	2019	2018
	€	€
<i>Accumulated funds</i>		
Restricted funds		
Residence	261,442	261,442
Investments	4,813,116	4,182,226
Housing Fund	8,527	14,369
Chaplaincy and unspent grants	201,085	142,376
Transfers	<u>120,000</u>	<u>120,000</u>
	5,404,170	4,720,413
Unrestricted funds	<u>311,941</u>	<u>282,165</u>
	<u>5,716,111</u>	<u>5,002,578</u>

10. Contingency

The Dioceses have given a guarantee in respect of motor vehicle loans made by the Representative Church Body to the clergy of the Dioceses. At 31 December 2019 the total amount of such loans advanced by the Representative Church Body stood at €82,722 (2018: €80,277).

11. Post balance sheet events

The Coronavirus outbreak and the related impacts are considered non-adjusting post balance sheet events for the purposes of the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2019. Consequently, there is no impact on the recognition and measurement of assets and liabilities as at 31 December 2019. The Joint Diocesan Councils are monitoring developments around Covid-19 and while there is uncertainty in that regard, they will continue to evaluate the situation and are confident that the Dioceses will be in a strong position to respond to the resulting challenges.

12. Approval of financial statements

These financial statements were approved by the Joint Diocesan Councils of Dublin and Glendalough on 15 September 2020.

RESOLUTIONS PASSED by the 2019 SYNODS

1. THAT Mr. Robert Neill, of Killegar Park, Enniskerry, Co. Wicklow be elected a lay member of the Representative Church Body for the ensuing three years.
2. Dublin Synod: THAT following the counting of the votes for one lay member and supplementals to the Committee of Patronage (Diocesan Nominators) the following were elected in the order of the number of votes received for the remainder of the current triennium: Mrs. Mary White, and on the supplementalist list: Mr. Geoffrey Scargill and Mr. Philip Daley.
3. THAT the Report of the Diocesan Councils to the Diocesan Synods of 2019, and the Statement of Accounts for the year ended 31st December 2018 be received and approved.
4. THAT KPMG be re-appointed Auditors to the Diocesan Councils of Dublin & Glendalough.
5. THAT the Report of the Dublin & Glendalough Diocesan Board of Education to the Synods of Dublin & Glendalough in the year 2019 be received and approved.
6. THAT the Report of the Diocesan Committee for Social Action to the Diocesan Synods of Dublin and Glendalough in the year 2019 be received.
7. THAT the Report of the Diocesan Committee of the Church's Ministry of Healing in Ireland to the Diocesan Synods of Dublin & Glendalough in the year 2019 be received.
8. THAT the Report of the Diocesan Council for Mission to the Diocesan Synods of Dublin and Glendalough in the year 2019 be received.
9. THAT the Synods thank the Rev Canon Robert Warren, Rev Nigel Pierpoint, Ms. Tara O'Rourke and the people of Taney Parish for making their excellent facilities available and for the excellent work which ensured that the Synods once more ran so smoothly.

**REPORT of the
DIOCESAN BOARD OF EDUCATION
to the
2020 DIOCESAN SYNODS OF DUBLIN AND GLENDALOUGH**

(Asterisk denotes membership of Executive and Finance Committee)

There were four Ordinary Meetings of the Board and four Meetings of the Executive and Finance Committee during the period September 2019 to July 2020. Numbers before names indicate attendance at meetings of the Board. Numbers after names indicate attendance at Committee meetings.

EX-OFFICIO

- (0) *Most Rev the Archbishop of Dublin, Chairman (0)
- (3) *Ven. Archdeacon of Dublin (3)
- (1) *Ven. Archdeacon of Glendalough (2)

ELECTED MEMBERS
Diocese of Dublin

- (4) *Rev Dr. N.E.C. Gamble (4) Hon. Secretary of Executive and Finance Committee
- (0) Rev P. Campion
- (3) Rev Canon A.H.N. McKinley
- (4) *Rev Canon W.P. Houston (2) Chairman of Executive and Finance Committee
- (2) Mr. D. Wynne
- (3) *Mrs. J. Perdue (3)
- (2) Dr. K. Fennelly
- (3) Mr. J. Aiken
- (4) Rev A. Galligan
- (4) *Ms. E. Oldham (3)
- (3) *Mr. P. McCroddan (3)
- (1) *Mr. A. Forrest (3)
- (1) *Rev D Owen (3)
- (3) Mrs. J. Denner
- (2) Rev A. Breen
- (0) Ms. Ruby Morrow
- (3) Rev R. Styles

ELECTED MEMBERS
Diocese of Glendalough

- (1) Rev D.S. Mungavin
- (0) *Rev N. Waugh (2)
- (1) Ms. R. Fraser

CO-OPTED MEMBERS

- (1) Rev J. Kinhead
- (1) *Rev K. Rue (3)
- (3) Ms. J. Kirwan
- (3) Ms. S. Hall

Secretary: Ms. C. Richardson, c/o The Diocesan Office
Telephone: 085-8065588 / Email: dgbofed@gmail.com

Bankers: Ulster Bank and Bank of Ireland
College Green, Dublin 2.

REPRESENTATIVES OF DIOCESAN BOARD OF EDUCATION ON THE
BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE SCHOOLS FOUNDED BY ERASMUS
SMITH ESQ. (INCORPORATING THE DIOCESAN SCHOOL FOR
GIRLS)

Mr. O. Driver
Mr. R. Graves
Mr. R. McCrae
*Mrs. J. Perdue

Rev Dr. N. Gamble
*Rev S. Farrell
Mr. P. McCrodden
Ms. E. Seymour

*Members of the Board of The High & Diocesan School (Company Limited by Guarantee)

INTRODUCTION

The arrival of the Covid-19 pandemic has resulted in some difficulties for the Board, although it has been fortunate in that many of its activities continued as normal. Schools were closed on 12th March, just days after the possible impacts of the virus were discussed at a meeting of the Finance and Executive Committee. Since then, meetings have been carried out by report and by videoconference. While Patron's Day was cancelled, planning continues in the hope that the Schools Service will go ahead in some form before Easter next year.

CHANGES IN PERSONNEL

The Board is sad to note the death of Debby Wheeler. Debby was a member of the Board for about thirty years, including a time spent as Chair of the Executive and Finance Committee. Her deep knowledge of the legal system was of invaluable assistance on many occasions to the Board, and was always imparted generously, freely, and wisely, and there were many occasions when her contribution was invaluable to our deliberations. Debby had a great ability to interpret legal situations in language that the non-legal minds in the Board could understand without losing the essential accuracy of what we had to do. Debby was also for many years in charge of the Board's bursary scheme to assist those training to qualify as RE teachers in our secondary schools. She will be greatly missed in our work. We extend our sympathy to her sister Belinda and brother-in-law Gordon.

SCHOOLS

PRIMARY SCHOOLS

Patron's Day for Primary School Principals and Chairpersons

The annual "Patron's Day" was scheduled for Thursday 21st May in the Clarion Hotel, Liffey Valley, but did not take place due to Covid-19 restrictions on meetings and travel. It is hoped that the event which is always enjoyed by principals and chairpersons will take place again next year.

School Developments

Developments reported to the Board include the following: -

St. Maelruain's Church of Ireland National School Tallaght – During the year, the decision was made to transfer patronage of the school to the Dublin and Dun Laoghaire Education and Training Board. This was disappointing for the Board, as it was felt that there was an opportunity to support a school in a disadvantaged area of Dublin. In the immediate term, the school property will be leased to the new patron body.

St. Matthew's National School, Sandymount –the Board contributed to the funding of security, and health and safety improvements at the school.

SECOND LEVEL SCHOOLS

Many of the schools under Protestant management had significant anniversaries in 2020. Rathdown School would celebrate 100 years, St Andrews College and The High School 150 years, Wesley College 175 years while The King's Hospital has just completed celebrations for 350 years.

SCHOOLS' SERVICES

Diocesan Service for Primary Schools and Junior Schools

The annual service was held on Thursday 17th October in Christchurch Cathedral, Dublin, presided over by the Archbishop of Dublin and Glendalough Michael

Jackson, and led by Rev Ross Styles and Rev Nigel Pierpoint. The service began with a procession of the clergy followed by a welcome from Dean Dermot Dunne.

The theme of the service was “The Bare Necessities of Life” and Rev Ross and Rev Nigel spoke about giving thanks for those basic necessities that we need for life- food, water, shelter, and highlighted the importance of protecting our world. The children were then asked what other things they thought were bare necessities of life. They gave some fantastic answers such as love, family, and friends. There was also a guest appearance by two bears who sang a version of the Bare Necessities of Life! The collection from the service was divided and donated to three charities - The Peter McVerry Trust, The Alice Leahy Trust and Eco-Congregation Ireland.

The service was attended by approximately four hundred and twenty children and adults from across the dioceses. Invited guests included representatives from the Department of Education and Skills, the National School Teaching Unions, the National Parents’ Council and education management bodies. The clergy processed at the end of the service and waited to greet the children as they left which was much appreciated.

The committee extends its thanks to everyone who participated in making the service a success. Special thanks go to Mr David Bremner who provided the musical accompaniment, Ms Tanya Sewell who conducted the rehearsal of the hymns before the service, and to the Dean and Cathedral staff who assisted in the running of the service. The Chairman of the Organising Committee, Rev Ross Styles, thanked the members of the present committee, Beverly Shaw, Sadie Honner and Sorcha Tully for their commitment and support. Thanks also go to the Secretary of the Diocesan Board of Education, Christine Richardson, for her assistance.

Choral Evensong for Second Level Schools

The annual service of choral evensong for second level students for the opening of the 2019/20 academic year, took place on Thursday 19 September in St Patrick’s Cathedral, Dublin. The service is organised by the General Synod Board of Education (RI) and students travelled from all over Ireland. The Archbishop of Dublin, the Most Rev Dr Michael Jackson, presided at the service was attended by Minister of State at the Department of Education and Skills, Mary Mitchell O’Connor. The address was given by the operations and development manager with Gaisce, the President’s Award, Avril Ryan.

PROPERTY

During the year, the sale of the property known as The Tallaght Cottage to Tallaght Parish was completed. Other Board owned residential and commercial properties in Arklow continue to earn rental income with long-term tenants in place.

GRANTS

R.E. Studentship

The Board continues to make available financial support to students taking a Professional Master of Education (PME) who intend to teach R.E. in a secondary school within the United Dioceses. Applicants must hold a degree-level qualification, with Religious Education, Theology or Religious Studies studied up to and including third-year level or higher. There are no current applicants for the 2020/2021 academic year.

Ralph Macklin Endowment/Love's Charity and Gardiner's Charity

This is a small fund which gives assistance towards the cost of second level education fees at schools under Protestant management. For the 2019/2020 academic year, €4,300 was allocated between nine families with pupils attending four schools.

REGULATIONS AND LEGISLATION

The Board is working toward meeting compliance to the Charities Governance Code. The secretary has received training and the item appears on the agenda of all Board meetings.

FINANCE

The Board is grateful to those parishes which responded to the annual appeal. It is hoped that those parishes which have not contributed would consider doing so in order that the education service to the joint dioceses might be further developed.

Audit of accounts

The audit for 2019 was carried out by KSi Faulkner Orr.

GENERAL

The Diocesan Board of Education would like to pay tribute to the outstanding work done by our school Principals and teachers in support of pupils and parents during the school closure due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Never having been trained to teach online, they immediately responded to the challenge and provided a very necessary connection for pupils to their schools during this difficult time.

The Board notes its gratitude to the Representative Church Body for the use of meeting rooms at Church of Ireland House during the year, and also its appreciation of the excellent work of the Executive and Finance Committee under the chairmanship of Rev Canon Paul Houston and the work of the Hon Secretary, Rev Dr Norman Gamble. The Board is also indebted to Ms Christine Richardson, Secretary and Accounting Officer, for her work during the year in her care of our finances and day to day running of the Board.

CHURCH COLLECTIONS AND SUBSCRIPTIONS 2019

<u>DIOCESE OF DUBLIN</u>	€
Bray	150.00
Castleknock	400.00
St Lawrence's, Chapelizod	100.00
Clontarf	150.00
Crumlin	200.00
Dalkey	250.00
Drumcondra and North Strand	100.00
Howth	700.00
Malahide	250.00
Kilternan	300.00
Rathfarnham	250.00
Rathmichael	350.00
Rathmines	700.00
Sandford	250.00
St Ann's	250.00
St Philips & St James	100.00
Stillorgan	100.00
Swords	100.00
Taney	350.00
Whitechurch	300.00
Zion	500.00

DIOCESE OF GLENDALOUGH

Arklow	125.00
Athy	200.00
Leixlip Union	300.00
Powerscourt	100.00

Please note that contributions received from January 2020 will be included in the 2020 accounts.

SUMMARY OF COLLECTIONS AND SUBSCRIPTIONS

	2018	2019
	€	€
Dublin	3,750.00	5,850.00
Glendalough	625.00	725.00
	<u>4,375.00</u>	<u>6,575.00</u>

Receipts and Payments for Year ended 31 December 2019					
	Unrestricted Funds 2019	Restricted Funds 2019	Endowment Funds 2019	Total 2019	Total 2018
Receipts					
Investment Income	52,920	71,725	2,104	126,749	125,109
Donations	6,575	-	-	6,575	4,375
Transfer	5,825	-	2,000	7,825	37,818
Rent	-	13,680	-	13,680	13,730
Sale of Assets (Tallaght Cottage)	160,000	-	-	160,000	-
Bank & Deposit Interest	-	10	-	10	1,714
Miscellaneous	-	149	-	149	-
Total Receipts	225,320	85,564	4,104	314,988	182,746
Payments					
Wages/Salaries	15,914	-	-	15,914	15,094
Diocesan Costs	1,289	-	-	1,289	3,471
Administration Costs	12,032	-	-	12,032	5,005
Patron's Day	3,153	-	-	3,153	3,041
Primary Schools' Service	6,159	-	-	6,159	-
Grants	12,500	56,230	4,000	72,730	60,154
RE Studentship	-	-	-	-	90
Bank Charges	56	122	2	180	214
Transfer to Deposit Acc	-	-	-	-	30,000
Transfer to Investment (RCB Trust)	50,000	-	-	50,000	-
Transfer	2,000	5,825	-	7,825	6,318
Property Administration Costs	-	7,238	-	7,238	10,479
Recapitalisation	-	10,057	-	10,057	9,850
Training (Secretary)	140	-	-	140	-
Board of Management Training	-	-	-	-	-
Misc	502	76	-	578	152
Total Payments	103,745	79,548	4,002	187,295	143,868
Excess of Receipts over Payments	121,575	6,015.83	102	127,693	38,878

Assets and Liabilities for Year ended 31 December 2019					
	Unrestricted Funds 2019	Restricted Funds 2019	Endowment Funds 2019	Total 2019	Total 2018
<u>Cash Funds</u>					
Current Accounts	251,339	109,449	1,238	362,026	234,332
Deposit Accounts	163,176	-	-	163,176	163,176
Total Cash Funds	414,515	109,449	1,238	525,202	397,509
<u>Investment Assets</u>					
Equity Investments	-	-	288	288	287
RCB Unit Trusts	1,930,906	2,620,854	10,104	4,561,864	3,910,020
Common Investment Fund	-	-	63,485	63,485	55,080
Total Investment Assets	1,930,906	2,620,854	73,877	4,625,636	3,965,387
<u>Other Assets</u>					
School Buildings					
Property	-	275,000	-	275,000	525,000
Total	-	275,000	-	275,000	525,000
<u>Liabilities</u>	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	2,345,421	3,005,303	75,115	5,425,839	4,887,895

**NOTES TO THE SUMMARISED ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2019**

Note 1

DETAILS OF GROUPINGS:

RECEIPTS

Collections & Subscriptions :
Subscriptions

Church Collections & Parish

Other Subscriptions.

PAYMENTS

Payments to Schools/Parishes :

All the payments made to
individual schools

(Re: endowment income)
grouped together

**REPORT of the DIOCESAN COUNCIL for MISSION
to the 2020 DIOCESAN SYNODS of DUBLIN and GLENDALOUGH**

MEMBERSHIP OF THE COUNCIL

Ex-Officio:

The Archbishop of Dublin, Most Rev Dr Michael Jackson.
The Archdeacon of Dublin, Venerable David Pierpoint.
The Archdeacon of Glendalough, Venerable Neal O’Raw.

Elected

Clergy:

Rev Ken Rue (Chairperson),
Rev Dr William Olhausen,
Rev Norman McCausland,
Rev Alan Breen,
Rev Lesley Robinson.

Lay:

Mr Terence Read,
Mr Derek Neilson,
Mr Henry Alexander,
Ms Stella Obe,
Mr Geoffrey McMaster (Hon Secretary).

Appointed by the Association of Mission Societies (AMS):

Ms Emma Lynch (Tearfund).

Co-opted:

Ms Jean Denner (The Mothers’ Union) (Hon Treasurer),
Dr Paul Manook (Armenian Church in Ireland),
Rev Abigail Sines.

All normal meetings took place in Church House, Rathmines, with the kind permission of the RCB. Additional meetings took place remotely.

INTRODUCTION

WB Yeats - *“All changed, changed utterly: A terrible beauty is born”*.

In introducing the 2020 Report of the Diocesan Council for Mission it is appropriate to ask *How has Covid-19 impacted the Diocesan Council for Mission and its activities? What are the consequences as we move into the future?*

Inevitably our Diocesan priorities will be different. So where does that leave Mission? It is generally accepted that Mission is “*everywhere to everywhere*” and consequently real mission is to be seen in ways where,

- communities and people have come together to help each other;
- parishes have responded in relation to worship;
- and, in how new ideas have been implemented (things that would have been resisted in the past are now being accepted).

People are experiencing real mission; not only through church activities.

Ecumenical contacts have been strengthened. These types of activities are more meaningful than they were in the past. Peoples’ views have been changed and will continued to be changed into the future. The reality is that we may have had great plans but they were curtailed. The phrase “We are living in strange times” became common and overused. The reality is that we are presented with new scenarios and we cannot continue to dwell on what might have been. We must reassess how we go forward in the light of the situation in which we now find ourselves. The term “fresh expressions of Church” has become familiar and today we see many examples of fresh expressions of church. Truthfully “In the help we give our neighbour, God’s will is done; In our worldwide task of caring for the hungry and despairing; In the harvests we are sharing, God’s will is done”.

Some unique initiatives helped, and continue to help us to keep our focus right.

- i. ***“The Irish Blessing”*** where all local Irish churches were invited to participate in recording a common blessing dedicated to groups dealing with Coronavirus in their local communities. Churches, choirs and Christian groups were encouraged to co-ordinate a recording of their members singing the agreed hymn *“Be Thou My Vision”*, in what is becoming a symbol of hope for believers during a tragic time.
- ii. ***‘God Will Wipe Away All Tears’*** is a new composition by Composer Bernard Sexton, and is a collaboration with a thirty five strong choir to produce a video as a way to inspire and heal people who have lost loved ones to the pandemic, and to honour those who have passed away. The lyrics to the hymn encourage believers to not be afraid of the unknown, as God *“will wipe away all tears” and “bring you home”*, and that *“every plant that fades and dies is part of the Lord’s plan”*.
- iii. ***Ode To Joy - Óid don Lúcháire***. President Michael D Higgins launched a nationwide musical tribute to the country’s frontline workers on Sunday 21st June, European Music Day. It was good to note that some parishes participated in this.

God Will Wipe Away All Tears

God will wipe away all tears.
God will bring you home
to the place he has prepared for you
you shall never be alone
storms may gather, evening fall,
daylight turn to shade,
and when your earthly work is done,
do not fear, be not afraid.

There's a time for everything
A time to be born.
There's a time to dance, to laugh.
A time to weep a time to mourn
Every plant that fades and dies
is part of the Lord's plan.
When we die we live anew.
In God we have been born.

God will wipe away all tears.
God will bring you home
to the place he has prepared for you
you shall never be alone
storms may gather, evening fall,
daylight turn to shade,
and when your earthly work is done,
do not fear, be not afraid.

Lovely is your dwelling place
O Lord God of Hosts
My soul clings to you
Close to the living god
Like a sparrow finds a home
The swallow finds a nest
So I find a place with god
With him I shall be blessed

God will wipe away all tears.
God will bring you home
to the place he has prepared for you
you shall never be alone
storms may gather, evening fall,
daylight turn to shade,
and when your earthly work is done,
do not fear, be not afraid.

God will wipe away all tears
And death shall be no more
Alpha and Omega the beginning and
the end
Though we walk in death's dark vale
No evil shall we feel
God is there our shepherd lord
A comforter is he.

God Will Wipe Away All Tears
God Will bring you hope
To the place he has prepared for you
You shall never be alone
Storms may gather evening fall
Daylight turn to shade
And when your earthly work is done
do not fear, be not afraid.

So, as we look to the future, we can take heart from the words of Julian of Norwich - "All shall be well, and all manner of thing shall be well."

The Council welcomes new members and encourages members of Synod to consider putting their names forward at the Elections.

ACTIVITIES.

"Sympathy is no substitute for action." - David Livingstone.

1. **Friendship, Fellowship, Partnership and a Relationship in Christ with The Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem ("the Link").** (Note: The Diocese of Jerusalem no longer refers to the land as the "Holy Land" preferring to use "The Land of The Holy One").

On Sunday January 10th 2016 the "Epiphany Agreement" was signed in St George's Cathedral in Jerusalem by the Archbishop of Dublin and the Archbishop of Jerusalem.

The Epiphany Agreement committed to developing a linked relationship of equal partners between our United Dioceses and the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem which is sustainable, practical, effective, mutually supportive and mutually enriching. The aim of the Link is to strengthen mission and evangelism in the church communities in both dioceses, to increase awareness between the dioceses of their solidarity in the cause of Christ, to respect and learn of and from each other's cultural heritage and to enable the world to recognize more clearly God's mission.

Over the years there have been a number of exchanges between the Dioceses and personal relationships have been cultivated. Both Archbishop Suheil Dawani (outgoing Archbishop of Jerusalem) and Archbishop Michael Jackson have expressed satisfaction with the way the Link has developed.

The initial Link agreement ends in January 2021 and both Archbishops have confirmed that it will be renewed for a further five years. We look forward to future developments.

The Council was delighted to welcome the consecration and appointment of Very Reverend Hosam Naoum as Bishop Coadjutor in Jerusalem Diocese. He will succeed Archbishop Suheil Dawani as the Anglican Archbishop.

While many plans have been put on hold, initiatives planned include:

School Link - While we have identified interested parties the Council for Mission would love to hear from potential link schools.

Visitors from Jerusalem - We hope to encourage visitors from Jerusalem to visit us and update us on developments in the Diocesan parishes and healthcare facilities.

Visits to Jerusalem - Joint Clergy retreat. Clergy from Jerusalem visited Dublin & Glendalough during 2019 and it was planned to have a return visit this year. This has fallen victim to Covid-19 but it is hoped that it can be re-arranged.

Adult Pilgrimage to Jerusalem

The adult pilgrimage that was to have taken place in November had to be postponed. Hopefully, it may be possible to reschedule it for Spring of 2021. Should this not prove possible the next probable date would be November 2021.

Youth Pilgrimage to Jerusalem

Covid-19 has had a major impact on this. The situation will require to be reassessed in consultation with Jerusalem Diocese.

Bursaries

The availability of bursaries to attend short courses at St George's College in Jerusalem during 2020 was announced at the 2019 Diocesan Synods and subsequently advertised. The Council was delighted to award bursaries to successful applicants: Ruth Gyves - Parish of Rathmines with Harold's Cross, Margaret Healion - Parish of Zion, and David Reynolds - Parish of Bray. Unfortunately, their study plans have been put on hold by Covid-19. The Council had plans to repeat this initiative after a review of the experience. This review has been postponed.

Members of Synod are encouraged to keep up to date with events in Jerusalem by Facebook "***Jerusalem Link***".

2. "Thy Kingdom come" initiative

"Thy Kingdom Come" is a global prayer movement that invites Christians around the world to pray for more people to come to know Jesus. It started in 2016 as an invitation from the Archbishops of Canterbury and York to the Church of England has grown into an international and ecumenical call to prayer. It is a global prayer movement that invites Christians around the world to pray from Ascension to Pentecost for more people to come to know Jesus.

In 2019 Christians from 172 countries took part in praying '*Come Holy Spirit*', so that friends and family, neighbours and colleagues might come to faith in Jesus Christ. Every person, household and parish is encouraged to pray in their

own way. 92% of people participating said they were praying for family and friends to come to faith in Jesus. 40% of those taking part in 2019 did so for the first time. There is so much we can all do together to help “**Thy Kingdom Come**” be fully in the lifeblood of the Church.

During the 11 days of “**Thy Kingdom Come**”, it is hoped that everyone who takes part will:

- *Deepen their own relationship with Jesus Christ*
- *Pray for five friends or family to come to faith in Jesus*
- *Pray for the empowerment of the Spirit that we would be effective in our witness*

After the very first Ascension Day the disciples gathered with Mary, constantly devoting themselves to prayer while they waited for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. Just like them we rely totally on the gift of the Holy Spirit.

The reality is that on our own we can do nothing. Over the centuries Christians have gathered at that time to pray for the coming of the Holy Spirit. “**Thy Kingdom Come**” picks up this tradition.

Since its start in May 2016 more and more worshipping communities have dedicated the days between Ascension and Pentecost to pray ‘**Come Holy Spirit**’.

The **Diocesan Council for Mission** endorses this initiative and urges parishes within our United Dioceses to embrace the initiative as we invite each and every Christian across the United Dioceses of Dublin and Glendalough to pray that God’s Spirit might work in the lives of 5 friends who have not responded with their ‘Yes’ to God’s call. Whether you previously joined in ‘Thy Kingdom Come’ or not, we invite you to take part in the coming year – along with churches from over 65 different denominations in 178 countries around the world.

More information and resources are available at:
<https://www.thykingdomcome.global/>

Council is aware that some parishes promoted this initiative on-line.

3. **Programme of work of the Council**

The Council wishes to broaden its promotion of mission so that “Overseas Mission” activities are included. The reality is that resources are scarce so it is limited to what is considered achievable. A list was compiled and the Council decided on a short (initial) list of three:

(1) Tearfund, (2) Mothers' Union, and (3) Church in Chains

While some work had been completed this matter needs to be progressed once Council reviews the position.

Other ideas being considered include (a) a family fun day, (b) a mission Sunday, (c) rectors being asked to exchange pulpits with neighbouring parishes. Council welcomes any suggestions from Synod members.

4. Ecumenical Bible Week

The Executive of Ecumenical Bible Week was pleased to be invited by Jacqueline Mullen on behalf of RTE to organise the broadcast Sunday Service on 19 January during the week of Prayer for Christian Unity. Contributors from Church of Ireland, Roman Catholic, Lutheran, Methodist, Evangelical, Religious Society of Friends and Armenian Apostolic backgrounds took part, as did a representative of Scripture Union. The service was introduced by the Rev Ken Rue. Julie McKinley (representing the National Bible Society of Ireland) gave an address. A member of the Council for Mission, Paul Manook, led intercessions.

2020 was the seventh year of Ecumenical Bible Week. Its topic was "Faith in the Public Square" and the key verses were "rekindle the gift of God that is within you...; for God did not give us a spirit of cowardice, but rather a spirit of power and of love and of self-discipline." (2 Timothy 1: 6-7).

Regular parish-based activities and core events were not possible this year due to Covid-19. Instead, there were three online gatherings: Morning Prayer, a Webinar on the topic of "in light of the C19 crisis and the increased digital presence, where to from here for faith communities?", and Evening Prayer. Thanks go to Philip and Julie McKinley for their involvement in the organisation of Morning Prayer and to Scott Evans who was a panelist in the Webinar.

It is anticipated that the 2021 Ecumenical Bible Week will take place between the day of Pentecost (23 May) and Trinity Sunday (30 May).

5. Bishops' Appeal

Bishops' Appeal does not report to this Diocesan Synod, therefore the following is not open to debate. However, as it relates to many mission activities within the parishes it is important that it is included for information and comments are welcome. Since June 2019, Bishops' Appeal has funded a wide array of programmes in different countries to help communities access basic needs such as water, health care, education and to increase their food security through vocational training and agriculture. The money raised by the

Church of Ireland is contributing greatly to the lives of the world's most vulnerable and marginalised people.

A Sample of Projects Funded:

SAMS project in Northern Argentina funding a Water and Farmer's Garden Project for Indigenous people

Fields of Life project providing clean water, sanitation and hygiene as part of the 'I am a Girl' initiative in Uganda

Mothers' Union project building on their Literacy Circles with Transformation Savings Programmes in Ethiopia

Feed the Minds project providing Anti Natal Care and FGM Awareness in Burkino Faso

CMS Ireland project running Refugee Leadership Training in Egypt.

Self Help Africa project that trains and provides seeds for improved agriculture so families can grow enough to feed themselves, even with an unpredictable climate

Christian Aid project in Zimbabwe that focuses on bee-keeping, reforestation, boreholes (to irrigate the trees and to be used as a local water source) and vocational training

Tearfund project in Ethiopia supporting Self Help Groups implement disaster management and training in conservation farming and soil moisture protection.

Specific Funds

Funds continued to be released throughout 2019 to help with the disaster relief efforts in the wake of Cyclone Idai. The Lenten Initiative (*Pennies4Plastics*) provided support to **WasteAid** in the Gambia which a Bishops' Appeal representative visited in late 2019.

Some dioceses opt to direct their giving to a particular project and mission agency. They find it invigorates the response as people know exactly where their funds are going. The work of Bishops' Appeal then is to channel the funds and to provide extra support to the diocese and the mission agency as they work to raise awareness and funds for an important issue, community or programme. Any diocese is welcome to engage in this form of giving.

Emergency Funds

Bishops' Appeal released €50,000 to support overseas Covid-19 responses.

- €10,000 to **Christian Aid** providing seeds in South Sudan and medical support in Sierra Leone, where Ebola has already decimated the healthcare sector.
- €10,000 to **Tearfund Ireland** supporting Self Help Groups in Ethiopia and Syrian Refugees in Lebanon.

- €10,000 to **Motivation** supporting people with disabilities in Tanzania and Kenya.
- €10,000 to **USPG** for church responses in Bangladesh, Guinea and Sri Lanka which support ethnic minorities and agricultural labourers.
- €10,000 to **CMS Ireland** to support diocesan responses for emergency food and sanitation supplies throughout East Africa

Past Funds Making a Difference Today

It is important to recognise that funds released to projects as long ago as September 2019, provided a lifeline to communities who went into Lockdown in March 2020. Perhaps they had received training and drought resistant seeds or access to water or had gotten involved in a savings scheme. These efforts meant that they had access to food or water or cash reserves at a time when markets closed and all casual labour jobs ceased. Emergency funds react to a crisis, however, our regular giving to long term sustainable development means that communities are in a better position to withstand a crisis without the need for outside intervention. The two approaches must go hand in hand.

Justice Strategy

Bishops' Appeal partnered with the Church of Ireland Council for Mission to develop a Church of Ireland Justice Strategy. It is planned to begin implementing this strategy from September 2020. As part of it, it is hoped to provide an online forum where many issues, information, service outlines, prayers, training and campaigns relating to social justice both locally and globally will be accessible.

Bishops' Appeal Newsletter

For more information on how funding is being allocated to projects around the world please see our most current newsletter on our website www.bishopsappeal.ireland.anglican.org or find us on facebook <https://www.facebook.com/coi.bishopsappeal/>

Thank You

In such uncertain times, giving becomes a radical act. It expresses a faith that believes in the worth of the stranger and the rights of the oppressed. Thank you for your continued generosity, even when it has become more costly. It makes a difference.

6. Armenian Church in Ireland

As a lay member of the Armenian Apostolic Church in Ireland, I am very privileged to be invited to join the Diocesan Council for Mission, within the Diocese of Dublin and Glendalough, to discuss matters of mission.

As a member of the Diocesan Council for Mission of the Church of Ireland, I have learnt much by discussing various programmes related to Mission within the Dioceses of Dublin and Glendalough of the Church of Ireland. Programmes such as the “**Jerusalem Link**”, “**Pilgrimage to Jerusalem**” for adults as well as the youth and the “**Kingdom Come**” initiative were very interesting to discuss.

I was very pleased to meet with Canon Hatem again and listen to his challenging talk.

As a member of another denomination, I would like to highlight the welcome and acceptance of the Diocesan Council for Mission, which reflects the ecumenical spirit and the desire to support the Armenian community in Ireland.

I wish to thank His Grace Archbishop Jackson and also to all members of the “Diocesan Council for Mission” for their trust, support and acceptance of me as part of the group.

Dr Paul Manook (Dishchekanian) CEng MIET

Unfortunately, the lockdown in March 2020, due to the Coronavirus (Covid-19) pandemic, has disrupted the face to face meetings of the Diocesan Council for Mission.

APPENDIX

Reports on Mission Agencies’ Activities: *(for information only)*

As usual, the Council for Mission is delighted to include reports from Mission Agencies as a means of keeping our United Dioceses informed. These reports are not open to debate but Council hopes that Synod members will find them of interest.

Tearfund Ireland

As we reflect on 2019, we thank God for Tearfund Ireland’s partners who work tirelessly in very challenging circumstances to see people lifted out of poverty for good. We are grateful to St Catherine’s Church and Redcross Church for hosting us during the visit of Dr Alia Abboud from Lebanon in September so as supporters could come and hear her share about churches working with Syrian refugees there. It is a powerful story – to quote one Lebanese Church leader “God has been teaching us many things through this crisis and the first lesson is forgiveness.”

We continue our Self Help Group work in Ethiopia, where more than 14,000 women and their families are now being supported through the savings and business initiatives that are being undertaken. Tearfund Ireland has now

established an Ethiopia office which has recently completed the official registration process. This makes our work with partners a lot easier to manage on the ground. A group from Ireland including a member of a church in the Dioceses visited the work in Ethiopia last autumn, hearing stories and seeing first-hand how lives are being transformed.

In Cambodia and Nepal partners continue to promote family based rather than institutional care for children. We are also working with others in Ireland and across the world to discourage volunteering in orphanages, part of which was the recent publication of **Children First: A Global Perspective on Volunteering in Orphanages**. Tearfund Ireland is part of the working group involved in this publication which highlights the harmful impact of international volunteering in orphanages.

During the year we were also able to respond to the crisis caused by the ongoing conflict in Yemen, providing emergency supplies through our partners. Here in Ireland we once again partnered with CIYD in an Irish Aid funded project to train youth leaders in creative ways to integrate global justice themes into their ongoing youth work. Participants came up with lots of creative ideas themselves including developing an App to explore climate change.

From Tearfund Ireland Chairman Dr David Weakliam:

There are many examples over the past year of lives changed and communities impacted because of our partnership with local churches working with the poorest, most vulnerable and marginalised. In our overseas Programmes, we concentrated on our work in communities across Ethiopia, Nepal, Cambodia and the Middle East, specifically Lebanon. We are also one of very few Irish organisations responding to the crisis in Yemen.

Thank you to all in Dublin and Glendalough Dioceses as you have continued to support us in prayer, giving and fundraising this year, it continues to make real difference to the Tearfund Ireland team, our partners and most importantly those we seek to serve in Christ's name.

Tearfund Ireland Covid-19 Update June 2020

As Coronavirus restrictions are lifted here in Ireland and we begin to emerge into a new normal we are conscious of the escalation of people infected with Covid-19 in the global south and the complexity of the challenges faced by refugees living in cramped conditions.

Ethiopia

In Ethiopia with its population of over 100 million and a very low media penetration rate (40% have radio access and general internet access is only 15%) accurate public health messaging and communication was essential to prevent the

spread of Coronavirus and protect as many people as possible. In Ethiopia Tearfund Ireland supports about 700 Self Help Groups which are facilitated by the local church. Working with local partners our network of Self Help Groups quickly became a channel for communicating accurate public health messages and modelling social distancing and handwashing to their local communities. Also through our partner network of 1,400 local churches we were able to distribute posters and leaflets in local languages to communicate WHO recommended practices. *It is remarkable that members of our Self Help Groups who were once seen as 'outsiders' in their communities because of their poverty, were now helping to stop the spread of the Coronavirus.* Until recently infection rates have remained low in Ethiopia. But despite two months of government imposed lockdown the numbers infected are escalating, our church partners report that new infections are no longer solely traceable to international travel and unchecked community transmission is feared. Ethiopia has approximately one GP to 10,000 people and its health care system is totally unequipped to manage a large-scale Coronavirus outbreak. It is unimaginable that people are weighing up the consequences of going to work and exposing themselves to the virus to provide for their families or going hungry. The UN's World Food Programme is predicting that internationally the Coronavirus will put 130 million people on the edge of starvation. Other reports suggest that Coronavirus will push a half a billion people into poverty.

Lebanon

In Lebanon the Coronavirus pandemic came just as the country entered an unprecedented economic and financial crisis which devalued the local currency and caused the price of basic commodities to 'sky-rocket'. Those who are most affected are refugee households, migrant workers and poor Lebanese families. It is estimated that 45-50% of the population are living below the poverty line. Due to Covid-19 restrictions, Tearfund Ireland church partners have had to cancel food and essential supply distributions that usually gather hundreds of people. They are now relying on church volunteers to manage 'door to door' deliveries of essential supplies. Since the Coronavirus outbreak these distributions also include hygiene kits with items such as soap, hand sanitizer and bleach.

Kirwan House

Kirwan House is going under the umbrella of Protestant Aid, but still supporting children with Education Grants. As usual, this year, it has supported around 40 families. A small number of Kirwan House Governors will join Protestant Aid Committee when consultation on matters of Education take place.

Applicants for Education grants can still apply to: info@kirwanhouse.com, as the Kirwan House finances will continue to be used for these grants.

Dublin & Glendalough Mothers' Union

Although the start of our year was very successful, we like many other organisations have faced major challenges due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Over 300 people attended our very successful Fashion Show in the Talbot Hotel, Stillorgan in October. Fashions for a wide range of ages and from a variety of shops were modelled by members and friends as widely reported in the Church Review and the Diocesan website along with the photographs being put on our own Mothers' Union website.

At November Council branches donated shoeboxes to Darndale Creche together with pyjamas, clothing and toiletries for distribution to the Women's Refuges. We also launched our new project for the next three years supporting HomeStart which provide parenting support to families in need or crisis. Our branches are making up welcome packs as gifts to mothers who access parenting courses with HomeStart.

Our members continue to knit and sew garments for the maternity hospitals, children's hospitals, nursing homes and Mission for Seafarers. We were delighted to meet the request from the City Morgue to supply blankets, teddies and bereavement bags for them to use with children who come into their care.

Clergy of the Dioceses, can submit applications for 'Away From It All' grants for people/families living in adversity (non-Mothers' Union members and Mothers' Union members) who would benefit from a holiday or short break.

Mothers' Union seeks to express our Christian faith in action through our Diocesan Projects and in working in partnership with our local church. We can work alongside and with our clergy upholding the ministry of parish life and the wider community as we reach out and care for home and family life.

The Covid-19 pandemic cut short our activities from March onwards but although we couldn't meet face to face any longer, some branches have had Zoom meetings, others have been keeping in touch by phone and email. Our Diocesan President has been emailing branches and members weekly during lockdown with suggestions of activities to help our mental health during this difficult time and ways that we can continue our vital work to the wider community.

We remained in contact with the hospitals to see if we could provide additional supports. We were delighted to meet the request from Tallaght Hospital to provide small cotton bags to the End of Life Team which they use to preserve locks of hair for bereaved families.

Karen Nelson
Diocesan President

Fields of Life

The last twelve months have continued to be encouraging for Fields of Life (FOL) despite various challenges, the most obvious being Covid-19. The coronavirus has made a similarly huge impact on life in East Africa as it has here in Ireland. Schools in Uganda and Rwanda have been closed since March and look unlikely to open until September, and possibly much later. Lockdowns have meant changed working practices for staff in Uganda and in Ireland. But despite these restrictions, our Covid-19 emergency response was able to provide many districts with PPE for health centres, handwashing facilities and soap for communities and some food packages for people who struggled as a result of lockdown and being unable to work. A call centre was set up to communicate with various schools and communities where we work, which passed on advice on hygiene measures to protect against Covid-19, countered the many myths and rumours that circulate, and also gathered information on the situation in these communities. All this was funded from a special emergency appeal which again showed the amazing generosity of our supporters. We were greatly encouraged at just how much we were able to raise. Our heartfelt thanks to everyone who contributed to this.

Of course, the year was not just about Covid-19. One highlight has been seeing the vision for a Vocational Training Institute becoming a reality with Phase 1 construction well underway, and we plan to commence courses in 2021. We are excited that in an area that has suffered so much war and conflict, as well as providing skills based education, the college might also develop young people excited in their faith who can influence others through Kingdom ethics, generosity and love of their neighbour.

Another highlight has been the continued success of the Irish Aid funded I Am Girl project, removing barriers that prevent children, especially girls, attending school. We completed work in 20 schools and commenced a new 3 year project supporting 40 schools in 2 different districts.

Our work in Rwanda continues to support five schools, developing teachers' skills and the school management committees. We recently started construction of a new school on the outskirts of the capital, Kigali. In South Sudan we continue to support the Dioceses of Maridi and Ibba, with some emergency Covid assistance and in the construction of a school.

In the past year we have said farewell to Ednar as head of the Kampala office and welcomed Esther to the role. And in Ireland, the CEO, Richard Spratt, is due to leave in August. At the time of writing recruitment is ongoing, and we are excited to see who God will provide to lead Fields of Life in the coming years.

We give thanks to the Church of Ireland's Bishops' Appeal, Irish Aid and the other trusts and companies who continue to support our Quality Education and

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene programmes. And special thanks go to the many individual supporters who regularly give so generously. This support ensures programmes continue to change lives, transform communities and bring hope to people in Uganda and surrounding countries.

More information about Fields of Life can be found on the website (www.fieldsoflife.org)

Intercontinental Church Society (ICS)

ICS – In Good Times and Bad.

Hijacked by Covid-19 we met online for bible teaching from Simon Ponsonby for three mornings and then continued for a further six weeks meeting with our mission partners weekly to resource them on relevant topics, such as ‘How do we Lead at a time like this’, ‘Using Alpha on Zoom’, ‘Restarting Church, learning from each other’ and others.

My aim was to ***connect, resource and support*** our mission partners as they serve in Egypt, Europe or Latin America. I am delighted that so many did not just get through the Covid-19 crisis, they flourished.

ICS continue to invest in New Work. In Rotterdam we have supported Humayun Sunil to reach out to the Pakistani population and form a congregation of diverse followers of Jesus in this wonderfully diverse city. Jenni, the ICS mission partner and I had the privilege in taking part in his priesting just before lockdown.

Sadly, we have had to cancel our Resort Mission this summer, we are working hard to open in the Winter safely and continue to reach out to tourist, travellers and resort workers with the love of God in Zermatt and Wengen.

We have a new mission partner in Cairo, in the suburb of Maadi. Haynes Hubbard arrived after Christmas just as biblical floods hit the city. Once that ended, he found himself in lockdown due to Covid-19. He is one of the mission partners we have in this area, faithfully serving in difficult circumstances.

We are currently recruiting for Rio de Janeiro, Vina del Mar, The Hague, Grenoble, and Basel. Our prayer is, Lord of the harvest, send the workers... Even in these difficult times.

Finally, we have a new staff member. I am delighted to announce that Alice Myles will be joining the team to develop our social media. Alice lives in Belfast, and as we have all learnt so well over the last few months, so much can be achieved with a computer and an internet connection.

ICS has work in 70 locations, church planting, outreach and support, with a wonderful mixture of people. If you want to know more do contact me.

Rev Richard Bromley, ICS Mission Director

To find out more go to www.ics-uk.org or contact me on rbromley@ics-uk.org or on 07772496029.

<https://www.facebook.com/IntercontinentalChurchSociety/>

<https://twitter.com/interchsoc>

Support For Afghan Further Education (SAFE)

We did not fund any Afghan projects 2019-2020 as our funds are low, and the news from Afghanistan continues to be very unsettling.

We have decided that any funds we have in the bank, and such funds are far from being anywhere near enough to fund a Project, can now only be used for Emergency Assistance.

As a result of that decision SAFE funded €1,000 in July 2019 for one year's education for the two sons of Syed Khatira and €100 for the printing and binding of Syed Sayeeda's Master's Thesis for DCU. The €1,000 was sent by Saeeda in termly tranches to her sister Johar in Mardan who lives quite near Khatira.

The sum of \$2,280 was sent to the Central Afghanistan Welfare Committee in Kabul for Capacity building (purchase of a A3 Copier/Scanner and an updated laptop computer). In addition \$350 was included as Eng. Moh. Ali passed away on July 12th and the small sum was for his widow.

The sum of €1,000 was again sent in June 2020 for Syed Khatira as fees for the final year of the education of her two sons. Her young daughter is educated free by the school as Khatira helps there. Her husband is jobless and provided nothing towards the upkeep of his family but another sister in Peshawar sends money for food etc. Khatira is living with her husband's family in Mardan.

So, in small but meaningful ways SAFE has helped provide funds for Afghans whether they reside in Afghanistan, N.Pakistan or in Ireland. All the funding has been gratefully acknowledged and it has made lives a little easier whether in an office, in the home and in education.

We keep in frequent contact with our project implementers in Afghanistan and are pleased to hear that past projects are still functioning well.

Sadly we lost one of our founding Trustees in November 2019 - David O'Morough, and he will be very sadly missed.

Mrs. Patricia O'Malley has kindly consented to join our small board of Trustees.

Terence G.K. O'Malley, Chairman of SAFE.

www.safeafghanistan.ie

South American Mission Society, Ireland Report for Dublin and Glendalough

The past year has been one of building up partnerships in Gospel mission in various locations in South America. In June 2019, the societies' General Council embarked on a strategic revisitation of some of the core values and principles that have underlined the thrust of SAMS work over 150 years. In December 2019, there was a significant gathering in the southern City of Ushuaia, Chile, when there was a special service to mark the 150 year anniversary of the formation of the first Anglican Church. From this small 'seed' many churches have emerged in the southern cone over the last 150 years. SAMS Ireland has had the privilege and responsibility to help join and support this Kingdom initiative. The work has grown over the years into many South American countries. Today, SAMS Ireland has strongest links with the church in Argentina, Chile, Paraguay, Peru, Bolivia and Brazil.

During the past 12 months there have been some changes in the membership of the Council and we are deeply grateful for those who serve, and have served, in a voluntary capacity giving their time wisdom and energy in the cause of mission. During the year SAMS was delighted to hear that our Chairperson Archdeacon Andrew Forster, was elected the new Bishop of Derry and Raphoe Diocese. He continues to chair the SAMS Council meetings with skill and wisdom. Mission Director, Rev Stephen McElhinney who commenced in his role in June 2018, has continued to grow into the role during 2019.

The annual Friday Night Live event at the beginning of February in the Craigavon Civic Centre is always a useful source of information and an evening of inspiration too many SAMS supporters who come from many parts of Ireland and the UK. SAMS Ireland has an intergenerational feel it, and has a strong support base in many local churches and generous praying individual supporters. To all who have served and who are serving in the SAMS family we say a very sincere thank you.

The recent Covid-19 pandemic will have implications for the for many mission societies. We pray that the recognition that God still calls the Church to its mission to all nations will continue to be a primary motivating factor despite recent occurrences.

In the future, working primarily with the Anglican Church in South America, SAMS Ireland aims to continue to:

- Support the growth of the Church in South America
- Encourage the Church in Ireland by widening its vision of mission, through partnership with the Church in South America
- Provide practical opportunities for the Church in Ireland to engage with and serve the Church in South America
- Play a full part as an Anglican mission society within the Church of Ireland and as a member of the Association of Missions Societies'
- Be excellent in governance, stewardship and communication

SAMS continues to be marked by life and growth for which we are deeply thankful.

Irish Committee for Dr Graham's Homes, Kalimpong West Bengal, India

Registered Charity No.Chy18530. Beeches Park, Glenageary, Co. Dublin, Ireland
Terence Read, Chairman: Tel: +353-(0)1-280-4178, +353-(0)86-813-8530; e-mail: terence.read@gmail.com

Committee:

Very Rev Dermot Dunne

Mr. Brian Hamilton-Rodgers

Ms. Ruth Handy

Mrs. Valerie Houlden

Dr. Kerry Houston

Mr. Jamie O'Malley

Mr. Terence Read (Chairman)

The charity is one of several International Committees supporting the work of Dr. Graham's Homes and Gandhi Ashram School in Kalimpong, West Bengal, India.

Dr. Graham's Homes was founded in 1900 by Dr. John Alexander Graham, a Presbyterian missionary, to care for the orphaned and abandoned children from the tea estates. It cares for needy children of Anglo-Indian background, as well as local poor children, and also fee-paying children.

Gandhi Ashram School was founded in 1993 by an Irish-Canadian priest, Fr. Edward McGuire SJ, for the poorest of the poor, the '*coolie kids*' of the hills coming from local rural villages.

This charity supports children from Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes who attend Gandhi Ashram School, and go on to Dr. Graham's Homes, and St.

Philomena's School run by the Cluny Sisters, to complete their secondary education.

After nearly three years of planning and careful work, our project for the repair and upgrade of the Kindergarten was completed in April last year, enhancing the safety and improving the play area with fine new equipment. The basic problem was the extremes of climate which meant that the campus had been a mud-bath during the monsoon season and a dust bowl during the dry season. There are some 200 children and 20 staff in this independent section of the Homes. To attend a good Kindergarten school can be of enormous benefit for a small child, as their first introduction to 'formal' education, learning to interact with teachers and other pupils, learning concentration, timing and skills in the 'Three Rs' in particular. When the atmosphere is caring and safe, and enjoyable, the confidence built up can be of immense value as they continue to develop their God-given talents at whatever level they may reach.

Normally, two visits to India are made each year, to meet the children, students and those in charge, and to monitor ongoing projects. Unfortunately, due to the Covid-19 pandemic it has not been possible to have a visit in 2020 so far. However, good contact is maintained with all concerned. State exams were stopped before they could be finished.

Very Rev Dermot Dunne retired from the Committee at this year's AGM. We are very grateful to him for his support.

We are very grateful to those funding agencies and individuals who support our work. Contributions – however small - from parishes and individuals can make a vital difference in a life. Education is the greatest gift one can give a child, enabling them to develop their own God-given gifts.

As W.B. Yeats said: *"Education is not the filling of a pail, but the lighting of a fire."*

The Mission to Seafarers, Alexandra Road, Dublin Port

The Mission to Seafarers Ireland provides pastoral care for seafarers of all nationalities, ranks and beliefs at the Seafarers' Centre Alexandra Road Dublin Port seven days a week all year round. We offer practical, emotional, and spiritual support to seafarers through ship visits and a real welcome at the Centre which has become a 'home from home' facility since we moved to a new building provided by Dublin Port Company in 2016.

Here the seafarer can enjoy time away from the ship, use Wifi and the internet free of charge and international Sim cards are available to purchase at a reasonable price, enabling them to keep in touch with loved ones - even from their ship. The

Centre is accessible 24/7 and is manned by volunteers in the evening hours. Rev Willie Black – Honorary Port Chaplain – leads a team of volunteers. Noeleen Hogan is the Centre Co-Ordinator and Dermot Desmond is the Ships Visitor. Last year 3,000 visitors attended the Seafarers' Centre and 750 Ship Visits were made.

March 2020 brought a complete lockdown at the Centre and Ship Visiting was cancelled in accordance with the Public Health Advice to prevent the spread of the Covid-19 Pandemic. It was impossible for our volunteers to provide the services to international seafarers.

It would not be possible to provide these services without the ongoing support of our volunteers who open the centre every evening and we are forever grateful to this team who ensure a warm welcome to each and every seafarer. The common welfare issues of isolation, loneliness, and missing family for extended periods of time persist. Shore leave entitlement and compliance continue to make working conditions difficult. We hope that our centre helps to relieve some of these pressures.

We also depend on the support of the Parishes, Organisations, Companies and Benefactors who recognise the work that we do and make a financial donation annually. This generosity is never taken for granted and helps us provide for the needs of seafarers.

The ethos of the Mission to Seafarers (often referred to as the Flying Angel Centre) is spread when Rev Willie Black and Rev Bruce Hayes speak to congregations and groups and many are surprised at the extent of the work undertaken. The simple gift of a Woolie Hat (often knitted by a ladies' group) is welcomed by the seafarer who works long hours in extreme conditions in a dangerous and difficult environment. The plight of the Seafarer is never far from our minds and if you have helped in any way ...We Thank You Sincerely.

For further Information telephone: 00353 (1) 8366672

Rev William Black, Mission to Seafarers Dublin Port Chaplain, 086 150 3747

Dermot Desmond, Mission to Seafarers Ships Visitor, 087 066 6231

Facebook: mission to seafarers Dublin; www.missiontoseafarersireland.ie

REPORT of the DIOCESAN COMMITTEE for SOCIAL ACTION to the 2020 DIOCESAN SYNODS of DUBLIN & GLENDALOUGH

Committee Members:

Rev Olive Donohoe, Chairperson
Dr John McDougald, Secretary
Rev Rob Clements
Marjorie McClatchie
Rev Asa Olafsdottir
David White

‘Christianity is to be lived more than to be admired’ so read a headline to a recent article in a national newspaper. The Social Action Committee of these United Dioceses is conscious that it represents both rural and urban parishes. Many of these parishes are active and vibrant with a plethora of parish activities. Others are very different with small congregations that perhaps meet only at Church Services and have few if any organisations. How to reach those people who do not attend church and to involve them not only in the parish community but the community at large is the challenge. The Social Action Committee sees its role to be a resource and to energise and motivate parishes to involve congregations within both parish and the wider community.

The Committee meet approximately every three months but unfortunately, like many events we have been interrupted by the Covid crisis. However, the ‘Handy To have’ leaflets and Posters were finalised and distributed to all parishes in the United Dioceses. It is hoped that this is a useful source of information of organisations with the contact telephone numbers and email addresses.

Each month a short article has appeared in the Church Review which has outlined an activity that has been used in the parish and information has also been made available on Facebook. This communication should not be regarded as one way only, and we would be delighted to learn of ideas which have been tried in other Parishes and could be shared with others. Due to circumstances not everything that works in one parish will work in others but unless the ideas are shared and tried we will never know what might work. For example, Kiltarnan Parish during the ‘Lockdown’ of Covid-19 started to produce face masks. Not only did this bring parishioners together (at a social distance, of course) but it gave them a sense of positively contributing to the crisis in a helpful and meaningful way.

The isolation, fear, stress and anxiety felt by many without regular Church Services and organisations will be something that will leave its mark. Parishes

have been exceptionally innovative in reaching out with the aid of technology, streaming services online and using social media to remain in contact. If a 97 year old in a nearby Nursing Home can learn to Facetime in order to see her first great grandchild, we all can.

Restricted access to church and activities have been distressing for both people and clergy alike. Thinking 'outside the box' will be necessary and together we can envisage ways to witness and serve the Lord in the parishes and communities in which we live.

OTHER SOCIAL ACTION OUTREACH INITIATIVES

PACT

Pact is an agency which aims to help parents build happy stable families. People often wonder what the word Pact stands for; it simply means an agreement between persons groups or nations. In this case it is an agreement reached by everyone involved after careful consideration about a child's future. In 2010 as a result of the Adoption Act 2020 Pact no longer provided Crisis Pregnancy counselling or an information and Tracing service. This role was taken up by here2Help which unfortunately closed on 30th June 2020.

A Short History 1952-2020

The Adoption Act 1952 was enacted on the 13th December 1952 as a direct result of pressure brought to bear by the Adoption Society of Ireland. This voluntary, non-political and inter-denominational society had been formed in 1947 by parents who found themselves without any legal safeguards for the children they were caring for on a permanent basis. During the autumn of 1952 a series of meetings were held in the Church of Ireland Moral Welfare Society's offices in Molesworth Street. As the Adoption Act legislated for adoption on a denominational basis, it was unanimously agreed to form the Protestant Adoption Society (PAS) which was to include representatives from the different Protestant denominations and from the Homes and Societies willing to be affiliated.

These Homes and Societies included Bethany Home, Miss Carr's Home, The Cottage Home, Church of Ireland Moral Welfare Society, The Fold, Irish Church Missions, Kimberley, Kirwan house, Magdalen Home, Monkstown Orphan Society, Mrs. Smyly's homes, Nursery Rescue Society and the Protestant Orphan Society.

On the 6th January 1953, the Government appointed an Adoption Board to deal with the granting of Adoption Orders. Among the first members to act on the Board was Mrs. Eileen Penney who had been nominated by PAS. Mrs Penney had been secretary of the Adoption Society of Ireland and had taken a prominent part in the organisation's efforts to make legal adoption a reality. Miss A.B. Odlum,

who had been appointed as a moral welfare worker by the Church of Ireland Temperance and Moral Welfare Society in 1948 and who had been closely involved in the developing adoption scene took on the additional role of Secretary of PAS.

In 1954, as the workload continued to expand, Miss Joan Ackerley was appointed as assistant to Miss Odlum. Both Miss Odlum and Miss Ackerley continued in office until Miss Odlum's retirement in 1966 when Miss Dorothy Miller was appointed to succeed her. PAS Council recorded that "the inauguration as well as the success of the Society are mainly due to the foresight, vision and wisdom of Miss Odlum, our first Secretary, and her untiring efforts".

Miss Miller, like her predecessor, held the position of Secretary to both Church of Ireland Social Services (CISS) and PAS assisted by Miss Ackerley, with some assessments of prospective adopters being undertaken by voluntary workers. As the volume of work increased for both Societies, the late 1960's were a period of considerable strain. At the same time, partly due to pressure from the qualified Social Workers in CISS, there was a growing understanding of the need to provide a more professional service for both natural and adoptive families. The resignation of Miss Miller in 1972 and the move of CISS to 15, Belgrave Road left PAS without a secretary or premises. Miss Ackerley was appointed organising secretary of PAS and for nearly 3 years ran PAS from her own home in Glengageary. It is unlikely the PAS would have survived this critical period without her unselfish and dedicated work.

In 1975, after agreement was reached between representatives of CISS and PAS, Miss Pamela Brown was appointed Organising Secretary/Social Worker and PAS moved to join CISS at 15 Belgrave Road. The close working relationship which had already developed with Dr. Barnados continued. Miss Pat Smyth succeeded Miss Brown in 1977 and in February 1979 Mrs Hazel McDowell/Douglas was appointed to be the new Adoption Officer. Hazel retired in 2017 as Principal Social Worker in Pact and this post was taken up by the current Principal social Worker, Cathal Clifford.

In February 1978 CISS ceased to operate and PAS, conscious of the need to offer a comprehensive service to unmarried pregnant women, decided to employ a second full time Social Worker. In November PAS, helped by a generous grant from the PA Foundation, appointed Mrs Janet Pasley to the new post. At around the same time the agency's panel of part time professionally qualified Social Workers based throughout the Republic was beginning to develop. Today this panel continues to play an essential role in the work of the agency.

Following this expansion, the title of the organisation was changed, and it became the Protestant Adoption Society and Single Parent Counselling Service. The agency was then working from 71, Brighton Road, Rathgar which was made available by the Trustees of Rathgar Methodist Church.

In 1983 the title of the organisation was changed again, this time to Pact. It was felt that a general title would be more appropriate.

The growth of Pact would have been impossible without the contributions of countless voluntary workers who have given their time and skill to ensure that provision would be made for the children in their care. In particular we would like to mention Mr. W.H. Richardson who was Chairman of the Case and Executive Committees from 1956 to 1973 and Mrs. Dorothy Brooks who was Chairman of the Case and Executive Committees from 1973 until 1983.

Pact moved into the current building eleven years ago and is accredited by the Adoption Authority of Ireland under the 2010 Adoption Act to undertake assessments for both Domestic Adoption and Intercountry Adoption. Pact also undertakes a limited number of Section 36 Relative Fostering Assessments on behalf of Tusla. Other services provided include a Pre-Adoption Foster Care Service and limited Post Adoption Support Services.

Domestic Adoption Service

While there are still few children being placed for domestic adoption, Tusla CFA had asked that where possible Pact prioritises domestic adoption assessments. Domestic adoption includes Step Parent Adoption and at the time of writing there are a number of such applications being assessed.

Inter-country Adoption Assessment Service

Intercountry adoptions are possible between countries that have ratified The Hague Convention on the Rights of Children or where there is a bi-lateral agreement between countries. Pact provides a national service and has been allocated assessments from several Tusla areas Nationwide.

Section 36 Relative Fostering Service

Assessments are allocated by Tusla on an ongoing basis.

Pre adoption foster care

Currently a small number of foster families supported by Pact are providing foster care to children who will eventually be placed for adoption with other families.

Inter-country Post Placement Support

Pact continues to recognise the need for a post adoption support service.

Domestic Post Adoption Service

Pact continues to provide support and a point of contact for a number of families with adopted children and the children's birth mothers. Currently Pact facilitates an annual reunion between an adopted child and members of the birth family. Pact also facilitates post box contact for a number of families particularly at Christmas when cards and presents are exchanged.

Social Work Student Placement

Pact provides an annual student social work placement to the Professional Master's Social Work Programme in UCD.

The agency is based at Arabella House, 18D Nutgrove Office Park, Dublin 14 and can be contacted on (01) 2962200. Ray Kavanagh continues to chair Pact.

We would like to thank our past supporters.

For information about all of our services please see our website, www.pact.ie

*Cathal Clifford
Principal Social Worker*

POS CHILDREN'S EDUCATION FUND (FORMERLY THE PROTESTANT ORPHAN SOCIETY)

POS Children's Education Fund provides financial assistance to children and students in their education years where one or both of their parents have died. The Fund's aim is to attempt to minimize the disadvantage that can arise on the death of a parent. Grants are available for children, where at least one parent has died and one parent was/is a Protestant. The Fund operates primarily in the Dublin & Glendalough Dioceses, on an academic year basis.

The money that the Fund distributes each year comes mainly from its investment income, but an important part comes from generous donations from parishes, individuals and trusts.

Once a family/child has been assessed as qualifying for support, the POS Children's Education Fund tends to continue assistance up to completion of a primary degree. The Fund concentrates its grants, geared to the financial circumstances of each family, on the expensive years of secondary education. Increasingly nowadays, most of our students progress to third level.

In the year to 31st July 2020, the POS Children's Education Fund supported 61 children and third level students. Grant levels generally run from €1,300 to €5,000

per annum, the maximum amount for a third level student, living away from home. The Fund operates on an annual budget of €130,000.

The Meath Trust, a separate fund, provides grants to children who are not orphans. The Fund distributes €11,000 annually, the typical grant is €500. The students are either attending secondary schools or third level colleges. Families are likely to be in receipt of the full SEC Grant where applicable.

Introductions to POS Children's Education Fund come primarily from Church of Ireland Rectors or Clergy of other Protestant churches. Enquiries are welcomed from any source and further information, on eligibility or generally, can be obtained from the office by letter, telephone or email.

Contact: Clive Christie, Administrator

POS CHILDREN'S EDUCATION FUND, The Church Cottage, Kiltarnan Parish
Church of Ireland, Enniskerry Road, Dublin 18

Tel. 087 978 9598

Email – info@poscef.org

Website – www.poscef.org

Clive Christie: Administrator

PROTESTANT AID

A challenging and busy 2019

The number of General Grant Applications rose in 2019 by **6%** on top of an incredibly busy 2018. Protestant Aid continues to work in partnership with the valued support of clergy and Social Workers, distributing circa €800,000 in grant aid annually through our various programmes within the Republic of Ireland. Our ability to help is, as always, contingent on the goodwill of clergy who play a vital role in submitting the applications on behalf of the applicant – their support has been invaluable. Another indispensable part of the equation are our donors who give generously year after year, many of whom now donate online at www.protestantaid.org or by standing order. We are so grateful for this practical support.

General Grants: This programme is about giving financial assistance to individuals or families at a time of particular financial need. During 2019 we received over 1,100 applications and made grants of almost €400,000 – as always, treating all calls for help equally, regardless of religious, ethnic or social backgrounds. We are very grateful to Clergy of the diocese who work with us on this scheme, enabling us to help those who are experiencing financial challenges.

Heating Annuities: This programme is designed to provide a heating allowance during the winter months, primarily to the over-65s who are living at home. Prospective annuitants are identified through their rector who refer all applications

to Protestant Aid. This help gives comfort to many people annually, each with the certainly knowledge of help arriving during the coldest periods of the year.

General Annuities: These annuities are designed to add to the quality of life of individuals or couples aged over 65, living at home or in sheltered housing, through the provision of financial aid, which is paid on a quarterly basis. Prospective annuitants are identified through the General Grant Programme as submitted by the applicant clergy. As with Heating Annuities, this regular assistance gives great comfort to the recipients and removes much potential financial stress.

Education: Protestant students attending Protestant managed Secondary Schools may be eligible to apply for the following grants:

- **School Fee Grants:** This programme is intended to help with Day or Boarding school fees for second level students.
- **School Expenses Grant:** A grant for general school expenses (books, uniforms etc.) may be available subject to families' income level.
- Expense grants are also available for students attending Protestant managed Comprehensive Schools.
- A limited number of interest-free loans are also available to assist third-level students.

Huge response to our Covid-19 Emergency Response Initiative: As early as March 2020 we launched our *Emergency Response Initiative* for parishioners who had a specific and urgent short-term need as a result of Covid-19 and its effect on their financial situation – these typically involved difficulties caused by job loss, business suspension or closure, reduced working hours etc. Help in the form of One4All vouchers was given via recommending clergy members and over 100 families applied. This initiative did not replace our General Grant Programme but in many cases was an interim solution to an immediate need. The help of clergy was vital in this process and thanks to their efforts we were in a position to assist over 100 families in this scheme alone.

For information on the above please contact:

Geoff Scargill - Head of Charitable Services - Protestant Aid

Phone: 01 6684298

Email: geoff.scargill@protestantaid.org or info@protestantaid.org

For more information on Protestant Aid or to make a donation, please visit our website – www.protestantaid.org

All requests for grant assistance are treated with the utmost confidentiality.

CHURCH of IRELAND MARRIAGE COUNCIL

Membership:

Appointed by the House of Bishops

Member of the House of Bishops: Most Rev Pat Storey (Bishop of Meath & Kildare)

Elected by General Synod

Rev Jonathan Campbell-Smyth (Chairperson)

Rev John Ardis

Rev Stephen Farrell (Resigned November 2019)

Rev Nicola Halford

Rev Ian Linton

Rev Canon Lynda Peilow (Honorary Secretary)

Ms Sylvia Helen

Ms Dianne Morris

Ms Jennifer O'Regan

In Attendance: Ms Aisling Sheridan (Administrative Secretary)

New Initiatives: The Marriage Council has produced new posters promoting the work of the Council, making its services more accessible. It is hoped that these posters will be placed in every parish church in the Church of Ireland during spring 2020.

The Council's website has been moved to the main Church of Ireland website (www.ireland.anglican.org), making this more accessible for people wanting to know about marriage. To help with finding the pages, the Council has also arranged a direct link through www.marriage.ireland.anglican.org. The new pages contain helpful resources for couples planning their wedding, for couples seeking support in their marriage, and also useful resources now available for clergy and church leaders.

Membership: The aim of the Marriage Council is to resource the Church as it supports marriage and family life.

Resources that are available include:

- Support for couples considering getting married, including resources to clergy for marriage preparation;
- Providing support to married couples through marriage enrichment and signposting counselling services;

- Resourcing the wider Church through training, signposting and materials;
- Marriage support to clergy and their spouses.

Marriage Preparation & Counselling: The demand for marriage preparation and counselling has been steady over the last year. *Túsla*, the Family Support Agency, has once again given funding towards marriage counselling in the Republic of Ireland. We would encourage clergy and church leaders to get in touch with the Council to access these funds. Four new counsellors have joined the Marriage Council panel of counsellors, with a fifth to be added in summer 2020, and recruitment still ongoing. Furthermore, Christian Guidelines are now offering counselling services on behalf of the Marriage Council in Down, Fermanagh and Tyrone, with Care In Crisis offering the same cover in Armagh.

The Marriage Council is also looking into helping Northern Ireland clergy to find organisations that will assist with marriage preparation.

The current group of counsellors used is:

- Ms Nadine Brooker (Dublin)
- Mr Brian Griffin (Dublin)
- Ms Dianne Morris (Dublin)
- Ms Sylvia Helen (Cork)
- Ms Lynne Heber (Belfast)
- Ms Ali Knight (Coleraine)
- Care In Crisis (Armagh)
- Christian Guidelines (Down, Fermanagh & Tyrone)

Marriage Council Funding: Although *Túsla* have once again provided funding towards marriage counselling, and indeed have allocated an increased grant, we have seen substantial cuts over the years. Whilst this provides a great challenge, no one is ever turned away, even if they cannot afford to contribute to the cost of the counselling session.

Also, initial investigations have begun to seek funding streams in Northern Ireland to support couples through counselling who are experiencing financial difficulties.

Marriage Council Planning Day: At our Planning Day in February 2019, as a Council, we decided that we should focus primarily on clergy training and resourcing, couples' counselling and marriage preparation, as well as supporting clergy in their own marriages. Among key goals set were to recruit more counsellors to cover a wider geographical spread and to make both clergy and couples more aware of the work of the Marriage Council and its services in marriage preparation and counselling services.

Website Development and Social Media: We have spent considerable time updating these pages, now relocated onto the Church of Ireland website (www.marriage.ireland.anglican.org) and enhancing the level of information we provide on the services offered.

Clergy Couples Get Away: Over a number of years the Council, with the co-operation of a number of dioceses have run a clergy couples' weekend. This was borne out of a questionnaire to clergy and spouses asking how the Council could support them. The 2018 retreat was held in the Hodson Bay Hotel in November, and the cost was covered by the Marriage Council. Due to low numbers of clergy attending, the Marriage Council discussed during 2019 the best ways in which to support clergy and their spouses. Agreement was reached that the way forward is to focus more on supporting clergy in enjoying family activities throughout the year, rather than trying to get couples together for a full weekend away, which is often very difficult to achieve. The Council will further develop these initiatives in 2020.

Solemnisation of Marriages Outside Churches: At the General Synod in 2018, during the debate on the Report of the Marriage Council, the question was raised whether the Church of Ireland ought to solemnise marriages outside of churches and chapels consecrated for public worship. This question was passed to the Marriage Council for further consideration.

The Council has given considerable thought to this issue, and due to the significant change this would make to the current practice of the Church, it was deemed beyond the Council's remit. Communication was made with the Honorary Secretaries of the Standing Committee, including some points that would require further consideration for the matter to be fully addressed. As a result of a letter from the Archbishop of Dublin and the Bishop of Tuam, Killala & Achonry, the discussion on this issue was re-opened at the Council's November meeting, after it was brought to Standing Committee again. The Council members agreed to consider the issue, with the possibility of meeting with both CASC and the LAC in 2020 to share views.

Resignation: After several years' service on the Marriage Council, Rev Stephen Farrell stepped down in November 2019. We extend our appreciation and thanks for his service to the Council, and wish him well in the future.

Also in this past year, one of our members, Rev Nicola Halford, gave birth to a baby girl, Hayley. We wish Nicola and Ronan God's richest blessings for the future.

**REPORT of the DIOCESAN COMMITTEE of the
CHURCH'S MINISTRY of HEALING
to the
2020 DIOCESAN SYNODS OF DUBLIN & GLENDALOUGH**

Committee: Rev Bruce Hayes (Chair), Felix Blennerhassett (Hon. Treasurer), Stan Bloomer, Lily Byrne, David Caird, Carol Casey, Avril Gillatt, Barbara O'Callaghan, Rev Lesley Robinson, Lindsey Ryan, Jeanne Salter (Hon. Secretary), Adele Sleator.

Co-opted and representing **CMH: Ireland** – Dr Iva Beranek

Our **Annual Diocesan Service, 2019** was held in October. The service took place in **Christ Church Cathedral**. We are most grateful to Dean Dermot Dunne for his invitation to come to the cathedral. There was an opportunity for individual prayer for healing for those who wished to receive such prayer during the service. We are grateful to the Cathedral for the warm welcome and for kindly providing refreshments after our worship. The **Annual Diocesan Service, 2020** has been postponed until further notice due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Intercessory prayer: Having served with prayerful dedication as co-ordinator of a team of intercessors for several decades, Mrs Felix Blennerhassett resigned from serving in this way earlier in the year. Mr Stan Bloomer has kindly agreed to follow on in this role. If you would like to be an intercessor, or be included on the list for prayer or would like to include someone for whom you are concerned, please contact Stan. Email: legendbloomer@gmail.com

Weekly Services: The opportunity to receive individual prayer for healing is offered every **Thursday at Christ Church Cathedral** beginning at **12.45pm** and at **St Ann's Church, Dawson Street**, also at **12.45pm** every **Tuesday**. Prayer for healing is offered to people individually during the service of Holy Communion. It is discreet and easily availed of for people who wish to do so. People who come to receive prayer at either of these services tell us how glad they are to have been at the service. 'Come as you are' – everyone is most welcome. Come and pray for those you love or for whatever is on your mind. We are grateful to the clergy who celebrate Holy Communion at these services and our gratitude also goes to the prayer ministers who stand alongside people in prayer. Weekly services are temporarily suspended in line with Covid-19 restrictions.

Services at the Mageough: A Service of Healing and Wholeness is held on the first Wednesday of every month which is greatly appreciated by all who attend. Services are temporarily suspended in line with Covid-19 restrictions.

Holding a Service of Healing and Wholeness: We are glad to offer support to any parish that might like to hold a healing service, especially if you have not done so before. If you would like to arrange a service of healing and wholeness, either on a Sunday or midweek, be it morning, afternoon or evening, we would be very happy to help. We can arrange for a prayer ministry team to attend if you wish, or simply offer encouragement, whatever you need. If you would like someone to give an address or talk to a group about healing ministry, we can help to arrange that too. Please contact either Rev Bruce Hayes, Chair of the committee, or Mrs Jeanne Salter, Honorary Secretary. Their contact details are at the end of this report.

Annual Lenten Quiet Day: This was held at the Mageough, Cowper Road on Saturday, 22nd February 2020, and was facilitated by Rev Adrienne Galligan who spoke to us about 'By Whom, with Whom and in Whom'. With thanksgiving we were led into reflections as to how our churches draw us in to a sense of awe and longing for God and the heavenly realms. The day was well attended and the words of wisdom and hope shared by Adrienne were greatly appreciated by all. Our thanks to Adrienne for facilitating the day so beautifully, to Felix and Stan for providing us with refreshments and to all who attended and made the day so worthwhile. We extend thanks to Rev Robert Kingston who joined with Rev Galligan in celebrating Holy Communion, to the prayer ministers who offered prayer for healing and to the Mageough who so kindly opened up their meeting rooms to us.

Anam Cara meetings were held regularly throughout the year to offer support to commissioned prayer ministers. The meetings are facilitated by Dean Dermot Dunne and many of these meetings were held at the Deanery and occasionally at Egan House. We thank Dean Dermot Dunne for facilitating these meetings and for his generous hospitality. We thank the Church's Ministry of Healing: Ireland, and especially Dr Iva Beranek, for making Egan House available to us.

Working with CMH:Ireland: The diocesan committee continues to work closely with the Church's Ministry of Healing: Ireland. A range of on-line services of wholeness and healing, encouraging reflections and meditations which were offered by CMH:I via their website, Facebook page and YouTube channel during the Covid-19 pandemic were publicised.

Wellspring: *Come to the well. The well is deep.* 'Wellspring' is a one-day retreat, offering silence, peace and healing. Wellspring is offered in St Patrick's Church, Dalkey a few times a year. It was held in both September and November in 2019. For those who attend, the day facilitates gentle healing and a deep encounter with God. If you know of anyone who might enjoy a day of restoration, spiritual nurture, prayer and reflection, please spread the word. Advance booking is

essential. To contact the office please see details below. ‘Wellspring’ scheduled for April 2020 was cancelled due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Annual Thanksgiving Service & Gift Day: This event has been postponed until further notice due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Healer Prayer Groups: The CMH:I office has leaflets, comprehensive and easy to read, to help and encourage anyone who may be interested in setting up a Healer Prayer Group (HPG). Please ask!

Prayer Cards: The office also has a variety of attractive prayer cards which anyone (and hospital chaplains in particular) may find helpful. We are happy to post them out to you.

Triennial General Meeting: The Triennial General Meeting of CMH D&G will take place on Tuesday 3rd November at 10.30am at Church House. All who are interested in the Church’s Ministry of Healing will be most welcome to attend. It would be helpful if you could email our Honorary Secretary details re. your intention to attend so that you may be contacted in the event that this meeting may need to be reorganized due to changed circumstances.

Last but not least: please take a minute to look at our websites:
CMH Dublin and Glendalough Committee: www.wholenessandhealing.org
CMH: Ireland: www.ministryofhealing.ie

Contacts:

Rev Bruce Hayes (Chair): brucejohnhayes@gmail.com

CMH:I office: hello@ministryofhealing.ie

Jeanne Salter (Hon Secretary): healing.dgdc@gmail.com

Iva Beranek (CMH:I) iva@ministryofhealing.ie

REPORTS from
YOUTH ORGANISATIONS to the 2020
DIOCESAN SYNODS OF DUBLIN & GLENDALOUGH
(included for information only)

THE GIRLS' BRIGADE IRELAND – SESSION 2019/2020

A lot of work took place over the summer to update our technology systems and redecorate our Headquarters in preparation for the start of a new session. A new website was launched at www.girlsbrigadeirl.ie which will enable more girls and women to learn about Girls' Brigade and benefit from our work. We also launched an online membership database and provided each of our Companies with an email account, to reduce the amount of paperwork that our volunteers need to do, so they can concentrate on leading fun and meaningful activities for our members.

Our new National Secretary took up her role in August 2019 and began to learn the ropes in preparation for our AGM which took place on September 14th. Captains and Officers from as far afield as Clonakilty, Co. Cork and Ramelton, Co. Donegal met in Sutton, Co. Dublin to share experiences, receive training on the new technology, and plan for the future of the organisation.

The autumn term saw our Companies hold their enrolment services in their parishes around the country. Our annual enrolment services are a wonderful way to welcome our new members, and welcome back existing ones, while linking with our parish and community. Our Feis competition had over 80 finalists across five age categories and the girls sang their hymns reverently and beautifully. The Choral Speaking competition was another highlight, with 16 teams reciting poetry.

Our scripture programme for the session was on the theme of #GBcares4theWorld and focused on our responsibility to care for the environment and protect God's world. For the Chaplain's Assignment, girls produced their own videos and demonstrated a great understanding of the theme.

As Christmas came closer, many Companies around the country worked hard to put together shoeboxes of gifts for Team Hope, our Charity of the Year for this session. Several Companies also participated in carol singing in the Blackrock Shopping Centre to raise money for Team Hope.

In the new year, the focus for many Companies turned to Girls' Brigade's annual PE competitions. With a mix of modern dance, skipping, team and solo routines, there are lots of options for girls to learn new skills while keeping active and healthy. Girls' Brigade also encourages our members to be creative and the Arts & Crafts competition showed off the girls' many talents. Thankfully, all these events were able to take place early in the year before the restrictions came into force.

In mid-March, we postponed all face-to-face activities in the organisation in line with government guidance. Many end-of-year displays which were due to take place in April and May had to be cancelled. However, our volunteer leaders showed great innovation and resilience in coming up with new ways to engage with our members. Many held virtual meetings over Zoom, carrying out baking lessons, scavenger hunts and dance-offs over video. At a national level, we developed *Working Together, Staying Apart*, a version of the GB programme that can be done independently at home. This is available on our website for any young people to complete; they don't need to be members.

We held a Summer Celebration on our Facebook page to close off the session and we had an incredible talent show with entries from around the country, a video competition, a virtual choir, dance and gymnastics workshops, and a reflection from our National Chaplain. Locally, Companies have been coming up with ways to celebrate their members' achievements, with Zoom parties and drive-through prizegivings.

We look forward to seeing all of our girls and leaders in person again for the new session in September and we know that after 127 years, Girls' Brigade is ready to adapt to whatever restrictions are in place in order to continue to help girls to develop and thrive, while keeping them safe from harm.

*Margery McElhinney,
National President,
The Girls' Brigade Ireland*

THE BOYS' BRIGADE AND GIRLS' ASSOCIATION

The Boys' Brigade and Girls' Association ("The BB") has a mission to care for and challenge young people using a programme of informal education, which is underpinned by the Christian faith. Membership is open to young people between the ages of 4 and 18. The programme of The BB is designed to assist churches reach young people, although membership is open to those of all faiths and those of none. In common with other youth work organisations, The BB aims to develop skills in its leaders to assist young people in the transition from childhood to adolescent, from dependence to independence and provide opportunities for their personal, social and spiritual development. The BB, working continuously with children and young people for 128 years in Ireland, is proud that its principle objective continues to be the advancement of Christ's Kingdom among young people and the promotion of habits of obedience, reverence, discipline, self-respect and all that tends towards a true Christian character.

Covid-19 Activity

The 7th Dublin decided to get a “stay safe- wash your hands” message across to its Members in an activity one week before lockdown began. The Leaders put a light hand cream, followed by different coloured glitter onto a “test group” of Young People’s hands. They then continued with their normal nightly activities. After an amount of time the “test group” were asked to raise their hands for everyone to see and for the rest of the Company to raise their hands also. They found it amazing to see that everyone now had glitter on their hands! After explaining to the group about how “The Virus” could be spread far & wide just as quickly, the Leaders demonstrated proper Handwashing, which was followed by all Young People doing the same.

Virtual Display

On the 9th May, for the first time in its 129-year History, the 7th Dublin Company hosted its annual inspection and display as a virtual event. The YouTube video consisted of photos and video clips of The BB activities from earlier in the year, complete with the Leaders announcing the prizes and awards. The Display was hosted by the Captain, Stephen Vincent. This was Stephen’s first time in this role and it was very memorable. The Display included an age-inclusive Bible talk from Rev Norman McCausland and a reading of The Church of Ireland’s “A prayer in the time of the Coronavirus” by the Junior Section Boys. Also featured was a surprise thank you announcement to Denise Crosse, to celebrate 25 years as a Leader in the 7th Dublin Company. The Display is still available to watch on the 7th Dublin Company’s YouTube channel, “Seven Dublin”.

Lockdown in The Republic of Ireland

All BB activities were suspended from the 13th March 2020. It was unfortunate that District activities such as ZIPIT and Figure Marching competitions were unable to run. Also our District meetings could not be held to discuss our activity programme in September. Since then, all Leaders have been kept up to date with Government guidelines and Company Challenges through email and The RoI’s Facebook page (facebook.com/BoysBrigadeROI). The RoI’s headquarters was informed of a range of activities that the Young People had taken part in during the 2019-2020 Session. Some of the activities included; Easter Challenges, fitness challenges, thank you videos and artwork to our frontline workers, birdhouses and bee feeders to link in with Biodiversity week, links to virtual book readings and virtual quizzes hosted by different County Councils, designing new exciting boardgames, creating a user friendly cookbook and Zoom calls between Companies. The RoI Management Committee will be conducting risk assessments with Companies to assist them when following government guidelines on returning to a “new normal” come September.

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THE IMPACT OF A BEQUEST



The Christian Church has been a strong influence on our lives for over 2000 years. It would be much appreciated when making your will if you remember us in it. This would financially help us to meet the many challenges in the years ahead.

Your bequest to our United Dioceses of Dublin and Glendalough would have an impact, for not just this generation, but for several to come.

As we all know, it is important that we make a will regardless of age or financial situation.

The practical and spiritual effect of a bequest to a charity cannot be over-emphasised. Whether large or small, a donation from the estate of a supporter very often “lightens the load” on a charity when it is most needed.

Before making a bequest, the needs of the family should take first consideration, and perhaps such a bequest can be done in discussion with those who are the closest to you. For example, you may wish to give a specific amount, a specific asset, or the residue of your estate. Your solicitor will be able to guide you through options and wording to make a bequest.

Thank you for prayerfully considering a bequest to the United Dioceses of Dublin and Glendalough. If you would like further information, please contact the Diocesan Office: Email: secretary@dublin.anglican.org, or call 01 4966981.

Suggested wording for your gift as contained in your will:

“I GIVE, DEVISE AND BEQUEATH ...*[here insert clear particulars of the benefaction i.e., a particular sum of money, specific property, a share of the residue, etc.]* **to the Church of Ireland United Dioceses of Dublin and Glendalough in trust for ...** *[here insert clear particulars of the object for which the benefaction is to be applied e.g., support of Mission and/or Ministry in the United Dioceses]***... or, for such charitable purposes as the United Dioceses of Dublin and Glendalough may from time to time in its absolute discretion approve and, I direct that any funds received by the United Dioceses of Dublin and Glendalough in pursuance of this my Will and to further any of the above-mentioned ends, may be invested in any investments or securities whatsoever in its sole discretion and in all respects as if it were absolutely and beneficially entitled thereto.**

The receipt of the Diocesan Secretary or any trustee of the Dioceses for the time being shall be sufficient discharge to my executors.”

Your own Solicitor will check the final wording in a professional and impartial way to ensure that your intention is reflected in your will.

Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

Hebrews 13:16