

St John the Baptist Parish of Dunluce, Bushmills
Trustees' Annual report and Statement of Receipts and Payments and Assets and Liabilities

For the year ended 31st December 2022

Charities Number: NIC102940

St John the Baptist Parish of Dunluce, Bushmills

Annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2021

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St John the Baptist Parish of Dunluce, Bushmills

References and administrative details

Charity Name: St John the Baptist Parish of Dunluce, Bushmills

Charity Registration Number: NIC102940

Contact Address: The Parish Centre
13 Priestland Road
Bushmills
BT57 8UN

Trustees (Select Vestry)

Clergy	Vacant The Rev Canon George Graham retired 31 st Oct 2022	
Churchwardens	Ronnie Garvin (Rector's) and Billy Creighton (People's)	
Glebe wardens	Danny McCormick (Rector's) and Ken Caskey (People's)	
Select Vestry	David Taylor Neil Salisbury (Hon Secretary) Brian Sweeney Ruth Wee Aileen Gault Glenda Rodgers-McCormick (Sacristan)	James Fairbairn Pamela McLean (Hon Treasurer) Eileen Scott April Salisbury Joanne McKeown Joyce Glass

Diocesan Synods Person

Billy Creighton and James Fulton

Supplemental Synods Person

Ronnie Garvin and Glenda Rodgers-McCormick

Parochial Nominators

Billy Creighton, Glenda Rodgers-McCormick, Neil Salisbury and Ruth Wee

Supplemental Nominators

Ronnie Gavin, Aileen Gault, McElnay, James Fairbairn and Eileen Scott

Independent Examiner

Stephen Kane

Bankers

Danske Bank
6 High Street
Ballymoney
BT53 6AD

St John the Baptist Parish of Dunluce, Bushmills

Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31st December 2022

The trustees present the annual report and statement of Receipts and Payments and Assets and Liabilities for St John the Baptist Parish of Dunluce for the year ended 31st December 2022.

Objectives and Activities

The charitable purpose of St John the Baptist Parish of Dunluce is the advancement of religion.

The principal function is to support the advancement of the Christian religion by promoting, through the work of the Parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. Engaging with society as a whole and offering support for those needing help are fundamental to the practical delivery of the benefits of Christianity.

As a result of activity in the pursuit of the advancement of the Christian religion, the Parish has custody of property and of records, materials and artefacts of significance to the cultural and religious heritage and maintenance of which is undertaken by the Select Vestry.

Achievements, Performance & Public Benefit

Highlights of 2022

The main priority during 2022 has been to get things back to normal as the threat from Covid has diminished.

- Church attendance recovered almost to pre-Covid levels and the Lighthouse Club and Youth Club started operating again.
- The highlight of the year was undoubtedly the Bicentenary celebrations in June - the Church Service led by the Bishop of Connor, a new stained glass window, an exhibition, a walk from St Cuthbert's and the publication of a book on the history of St John the Baptist Church.
- In October, the Rev Canon George Graham retired after nearly 18 years as our Rector.

Worship and prayer

We continue to offer a range of services during the week and over the course of the year that our community finds both beneficial and spiritually fulfilling. Regular services take place on Sundays, midweek and on religious festivals. At present, there are 598 Church of Ireland families resident in the parish.

As well as our regular public services, we enable our community to celebrate and thank God at the milestones of the journey through life. In 2022, there were 13 baptisms, 5 weddings and 17 funerals.

Pastoral care

We believe that pastoral care should permeate all aspects of Church life in the Parish. The Rector has overall responsibility for ensuring that pastoral care is provided in the church and community but everyone has a responsibility to care for others by visiting the sick, elderly and bereaved, and those facing difficult times.

People cannot care for one another if they don't know what is going on in each other's lives. We provide clear accessible information through the Dunluce Parish website, the parish newsletter and Facebook. Dunluce Parish Church is at the centre of the Bushmills community and we provide a range of opportunities for worship, prayer, fun, giving and serving.

Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31st December 2022 (continued)

Mission and outreach work

One of the ways in which we reach people outside Bushmills is by giving money to other Christian organisations. In 2022, we provided support to a wide range of organisations enabling them to help thousands of people: children, young people and adults. This included making a substantial donation to the Church of Ireland Bishops' Appeal for World Aid and Development to assist with the humanitarian response to the current crisis in Ukraine.

Parish groups

We run several parish groups including:

- Sunday school takes place during our 11 am Sunday Service and is well attended. Time is devoted to Bible teaching, worship, and games.
- The Youth Club meets every Monday evening in the Parish Centre. It allows young people to socialise, and to enjoy different sports and activities.
- Uniformed organisations (Anchor Boys, Boys Brigade and Royal British Legion Youth Section) have unfortunately not met since before Covid.
- An Indoor Bowling Club is open on Monday and Wednesday evenings and is operated on a voluntary basis by a small committee.
- An External Bowling Club, behind the Parish Centre, is on land leased from the Parish but there is currently no relationship between the two.
- The Mother's Union meets on the second Tuesday of each month.

Many of our youth organisations have struggled post Covid not actually because the young don't want to join but because there is an acute shortage of adult instructors. When the young do turn up they like to be involved and appreciated.

Innovation in worship

We are always looking for innovative ways to implement the charitable purpose of St John the Baptist Parish of Dunluce.

During the Covid pandemic, services were broadcast online and post covid we continue to record and distribute the Sunday Service to those who are house bound or otherwise unable to attend regular worship.

The website dunluceparish.org with our Facebook page provides up to date information about Services, events and activities.

Our digital graveyard mapping has simplified control of the graveyard. Deceased records are available to the public through the [gencalogy portal www.discovereverafter.com](http://www.discovereverafter.com)

Public Benefit

The trustees have considered the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland's guidance on public benefit to ensure that the activities entered into during the year have helped to achieve the Parish's objectives and activities, as well as providing public benefit. The provision of regular public worship has implemented the charitable purpose of Dunluce Parish (the advancement of religion) to the benefit of the people of Bushmills and visitors to the area. The activities which we have undertaken have contributed to the spiritual well-being of participants and the reinforcement of Christian values.

St John the Baptist Parish of Dunluce, Bushmills

Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31st December 2022 (continued)

All sections of society are catered for from the very young, through youth groups and adults to the elderly and infirmed. A particular effort is made to welcome visitors from outside Bushmills and from other faiths. The Parish's mission and out-reach work ensures that our beneficiaries extend well beyond the local area. The trustees have made every attempt to minimise restrictions on access to our services and facilities. Disabled access is available both in the Church and in the Parish Centre. We have mitigated any potential harm from the activities which we undertake. Our Safeguarding Trust is reviewed annually and children using our premises have their general safety and welfare promoted while being protected from abuse. There is restricted access to unsafe areas such as the kitchen and the Church tower.

Volunteers

The trustees would like to thank all the volunteers who work so hard to make our church the lively and vibrant community it is. In particular, we want to mention our churchwardens who have worked so tirelessly on our behalf, and our administrator, the Glebe Committee, the counters, the choir, the readers, the organists, the flower arrangers, the teachers and youth leaders and everyone else for their valuable contribution to our ministry and for keeping the church running.

Financial Review

The trustees report a decrease of £8,789 in unrestricted funds for the year, and comment further as follows:

- Income from direct giving was significantly higher and is returning to pre pandemic levels.
- The art sale fundraiser returned and was very successful. We were also pleased to host the 'Bushmills through the Wars' exhibition, and acknowledge their generous donation
- Income from the use of the Parish centre remains low. Many clubs and groups closed during the pandemic and it will take time and encouragement to restart this income source.
- The bicentenary of the church was marked by commissioning a stained glass window in the church, and publishing a history book, costing a total of £16,600.
- Donations to Christian causes were significantly increased on previous years.

Reserves

The parish had unrestricted cash reserves of £378,816 at 31st December 2022 (2021 £387,605).

The trustees feel the current level of reserves are adequate to sustain the anticipated day to day running costs, and the costs of upkeep and repair of the Church, Parish buildings and graveyard for the foreseeable future, and until normal Parish activities resume.

Going Concern

The trustees have reviewed the budgets for the year ahead and are satisfied that there are adequate funds in place to ensure that the Parish can continue its activities and the financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2022 can be signed off as a going concern.

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing Document and Constitution of the Charity

Chapter III of the Constitution of the Church of Ireland governs Parishes and Parochial Organisation. The Select Vestry members are the Charity Trustees.

Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31st December 2022 (continued)

Recruitment and Appointment of Select Vestry (Trustees)

All members of the Church of Ireland who are over the age of 18 and are either resident within the parish or live elsewhere but have been accustomed members of the congregation for at least three months, may register as members of the General Vestry of the parish, allowing them to attend and vote at meetings of the General Vestry and to stand for election to the Select Vestry. Meetings of the General Vestry are held at least once a year. The Select Vestry is elected as part of the General Easter Vestry meeting. The Select Vestry will hold their positions for a period of one year. Select Vestry members may be re-elected annually and there is no limit on the number of terms which may be served.

Pay and remuneration

The incumbent receives a stipend in accordance with figures approved by the General Synod of the Church of Ireland.

Organisational Structure

The Select Vestry is responsible for the day to day management of the Parish. The Select Vestry consists of the member of the clergy serving in the Parish, any curate assistant ("the curate"), the churchwardens, the glebe wardens and generally not more than twelve other members of the General Vestry elected at the General Easter Vestry.

The Select Vestry is chaired by the incumbent or other member of the clergy officiating in the parish. Select Vestry members are responsible for making decisions on matters of general concern and importance to the Parish including deciding how Parish funds are to be applied.

The Select Vestry meets at times fixed by the members or by the diocesan synod. Special meetings may be convened at any time by the chairperson or the churchwardens. In 2022, the Select Vestry met nine times during the year and the average attendance was 85%.

Administrative support to the Parish is provided by a Sexton, a Parish Administrator and a cleaner.

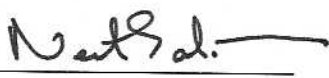
Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities


The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the statement of receipts and payments and statement of assets and liabilities in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

The law applicable to charities in Northern Ireland with Income of less than £250,000 requires the trustees to prepare a statement of receipts and payments and a statement of assets and liabilities for each financial year.

The trustees are responsible for keeping accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the Parish's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the assets and liabilities of the Parish. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Parish and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Signed on Behalf of the Trustees

(1) 
Neil Salisbury, Honorary Secretary

(2) 
Pamela McLean, Honorary Treasurer

Date: 23 March 2023