

# **BARONSCOURT PARISH CHURCH**

**CHARITIES NUMBER 104681**

**Trustees' Annual Report**

**For the year ended 31 December 2023**

# **BARONSCOURT PARISH CHURCH**

## **ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

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**Baronscourt Parish Church**

***Charity Details***

**Charity Number 104681**

***Charity Address***

**Cloonty Road, Newtownstewart, Omagh, Co Tyrone BT78 4TG**

***TRUSTEES***

<b>Rev Ivan Dinsmore Rector</b>	<b>Miss Anne Murphy</b>
<b>Lord Jamie Hamilton</b>	<b>Mr Trevor Irvine</b>
<b>Mrs Helen Cooper</b>	<b>Mr Alan Pinkerton</b>
<b>Mrs Carol Pinkerton</b>	<b>Mrs Hester Galbraith</b>
<b>Mrs Iris Crompton</b>	<b>Mr Robert Scott</b>
<b>Mr Stephen Crompton</b>	<b>Mrs Edna Pinkerton</b>
<b>Mrs Anne Sproule</b>	<b>Mrs Edna Pinkerton</b>

***OFFICE BEARERS***

<b>Rector</b>	<b>Rev Ivan Dinsmore</b>
<b>Hon Secretary</b>	<b>Miss Anne Murphy</b>
<b>Hon Treasurer</b>	<b>Mrs Iris Crompton</b>
<b>People's Church Warden</b>	<b>Mrs Carol Pinkerton</b>
<b>Rector's Church Warden</b>	<b>Mrs Hester Galbraith</b>
<b>Sunday School Superintendent</b>	<b>Mrs Jayne Baird</b>

***INDEPENDENT EXAMINER***

**Mr David Warnock, 48 – 50 Main Street, Newtownstewart, BT78 4AA**

***BANKERS***

**Danske Bank, Omagh, Co Tyrone**

## ***TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2023***

**The trustees' present their Annual Report and Statement of Receipts and Payments for Baronscourt Parish Church for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023**

### ***OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES***

**The charitable purpose of the Church of Ireland is the advancement of the Christian religion by promoting through the work of the parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. Being open to and engaging with society as a whole and offering support for those needing help is fundamental to the practical delivery of the tenets of Christianity. As a result of activity in pursuit of the advancement of the Christian religion, the Parish has custody of a large body of records, materials and artefacts of significance to the cultural heritage of the area and society in general and the Parish is engaged in the maintenance and upkeep of same.**

### ***ACTIVITIES OF THE CHARITY***

**Baronscourt Parish Church is passionate in its aim to glorify God and to demonstrate His love within the area. We achieve this by regular Sunday worship services, Holy Communion, Lenten and Harvest Services open to all who wish to attend and engage in worship and prayer. We join with neighbouring churches in regular worship and members of the congregation take part in Mothers Union and Bible studies. Sunday School is undertaken to provide inspiration and guidance to the young children and young people of the parish through learning the bible, nature walks and fun activities. On a bi-annual basis we engage with the local Orange Lodge who hold a service to the glory of God. We have joined with our linked churches in prayer and activities such as a week of prayer, prayer walks and agape meals which provided an opportunity to mix socially and to worship God together.**

### ***PASTORAL CARE***

**In line with our public benefit statement we provide pastoral care to those in need. The sick, the elderly, the housebound, those in hospital or nursing homes through visits from the Rector and other members of the parish. We are committed to helping those in need with empathy, love and compassion.**



To mitigate against harm, the trustees ensure adequate health and safety measures are in place at Baronscourt Parish Church. Safeguarding of Children is an important subject for the Church of Ireland and Child protection checks and training are in place for those involved in children and youth work.

#### ***FINANCIAL OVERVIEW***

The Diocesan Assessment rose from £7043.00 in 2022 to £7486.00 in 2023. Freewill offerings increased from £12,694.00 in 2022 to £13,998.00 in 2023. The closing balance as at 31/12/23 was £51,867.07 in the general account and £49509.25 in the Deposit Account.

#### ***RECTORS' GENERAL OVERVIEW***

Rev Dinsmore put on record his thanks to those who attended the Annual Easter Vestry held on 20<sup>th</sup> April 2023 . Rev Dinsmore outlined his intention to continue with a Parish Weekly which would be distributed via email. He thanked all the office bearers for their work and commitment to the Church. He also expressed his thanks to the Sunday School teachers for their work in the Sunday School which was up and running on a fortnightly basis.

#### ***ELECTION AND APPOINTMENT OF SELECT VESTRY***

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 3 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 Vestry meeting. The Select Vestry will hold their positions for a period of one year. The Select Vestry members may be re-elected annually and there is no limit on the number of terms which may be served.

#### ***ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE***

The Select Vestry is responsible for the day to day management of the parish. The Select Vestry consists of the clergy of the parish, the Church Wardens, the Glebe Wardens and generally not more than 12 other members of the General Vestry elected at the General Vestry meeting. Select Vestry members are responsible for making decisions on matters of general concern and importance to the parish including how parish funds are to be applied. Trustees are elected by the Select Vestry.

### ***THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE CHARITY***

Central to the work at all levels in the parish is the teaching of God's word to bring parishioners into a deeper knowledge and understanding of Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour so that they are thoroughly equipped and motivated to reach out into the community beyond the parish. We strive to inspire all parishioners to transform the local community and to build a Christ-centred congregation which will be a witness for Jesus Christ and to work for the advancement of his kingdom.

The direct benefit of participation in church life includes the enjoyment of public worship, the giving and receiving of pastoral care, improved understanding of the Bible and extended values relating to civic engagement. Also important is the building of community cohesion which will promote understanding and acceptance of diverse groups as well as improved educational outcomes through the church's ministry of teaching.

In 2023 attendance at Sunday services increased. A Deacon, Rev Sean McClafferty was appointed to the Parish and his involvement has contributed greatly to overall attendance and participation in Church life. Back to Church Sundays organised by him saw numbers improve to before Pandemic levels.

The expression of the precepts of the Christian religion through engagement with the general public, and in particular with the sick, the elderly and the young is a public benefit. This can be measured and evidenced through regular visitation, increased social integration and pastoral care delivered at the point of need.

Overall, the beneficiaries of Baronscourt Parish Church are the general public and public valuation of the benefits can be evidenced through attendance at public worship, participation in church governance and the willingness to support the continued witness of the church through contributions.

The wider benefits to the public are both the availability of a place for worship expanding our Christian outreach and the facilitation of baptisms, weddings and funerals.

As a result of activity in pursuit of the advancement of the Christian religion, the Parish has custody of a large body of records, materials and artefacts of significance to the cultural heritage of the area and society in general and the Parish is engaged in the maintenance and upkeep of same. No private benefit is received from trustees fulfilling their responsibilities in respect of buildings, artefacts or records. In the course of conservation and to make records available to the public no professional staff are engaged for that purpose. The beneficiaries are solely the general public.

No trustee receives remuneration, reward or other benefit for carrying out their trustee responsibilities.



### **COMPLIANCE WITH PUBLIC BENEFITS**

The parish has given careful consideration of the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland's guidance on public benefit to ensure that the activities entered into during the year have helped to achieve the parish's objectives and activities, as well as providing public benefit.

### **STATEMENT OF TRUSTEE'S RESPONSIBILITIES**

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and 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.

This report was approved by the trustees and signed by the Rector, the Secretary and Treasurer of the Select Vestry on behalf of the Select Vestry who had sight off and approved the report.

Rev. Sean McCafferty  
**REV IVAN DINSMORE**

Rector

MISS ANNE MURPHY

Secretary

MRS IRIS CROMPTON

Treasurer