



Church of Ireland
A province of the Anglican Communion

St Mellan's Parish Church, Aghaderg, Loughbrickland

Annual Report and Financial Statements

For the year ended 31st December 2023

Northern Ireland Charities Number: 105085



St Mellan's Parish Church, Aghaderg, Loughbrickland

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St Mellan's Parish Church, Aghaderg, Loughbrickland**References and Administrative Details - Year ended 31st December 2023**

Charity Name: St Mellan's Parish Church, Aghaderg, Loughbrickland

Charity Registration Number: NIC105085

Contact Address: 15 Oaklands
Loughbrickland
Banbridge
Co. Down
BT32 3WN

Trustees: Rev Rodney Magennis ✓
Mrs Elizabeth Robb ✓
Mrs Iris Browne ✓
Mr Trevor Fegan ✓
Mrs Iris Ingram ✓
Mrs Anne McCullough ✓
Mrs Valerie Bryson ✓
Mrs Alison Livingstone ✓
Mr Mervyn Fegan (resigned 19/04/23)
Mr Raymond Fegan ✓
Mr Norman McKnight (resigned 19/04/23)
Mr William Fegan ✓
Mr John Geoghegan ✓
Mrs Ann Clendinning ✓
Miss Hilary Fegan ✓

Principal Office-bearers: Rev Rodney Magennis - Rector
Mr Raymond Fegan - Treasurer
Mrs Elizabeth Robb - Assistant Treasurer
Mrs Ann Clendinning - Secretary
Mr William Fegan - Rector's Church warden
Mrs Iris Ingram - People's Church warden
Mrs Valerie Bryson - Rector's Glebe warden
Mr Trevoe Fegan - People's Glebe warden

Independent Examiner: Mr Thomas Vint, F.C.C.A.
S M Vint & Company
Chartered Certified Accountants
8 Newry Road
Banbridge
Co Down
BT32 3HN

Bankers: Danske Bank
Donegall Square West
Belfast
BT1 6JS



**ST MELLAN'S PARISH CHURCH, AGHADERG, LOUGHBRICKLAND
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT**

The trustees present the Annual Report and Statement of Receipts and Payments and Assets and Liabilities for St Mellan's Church, Aghaderg Parish for the year ended 31st December 2023.

Objectives and Activities

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

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

As a result of activity in the pursuit of the advancement of the Christian religion, St Mellan's Church, Aghaderg 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 of St Mellan's Church, Aghaderg Parish.

Achievements, Performance & Public Benefit 2023 (2022 in brackets)

The Parish continued to have regular services of worship throughout the year 2023. This year we continued to meet every Sunday except for one where the grouped parishes came together for a joint service and lunch at Donaghmore Church to mark the Coronation of King Charles III. Services ceased to be broadcast on YouTube unless there was a specific request or a special service. There were 52 (52) main Sunday morning worship services in 2023 (2022) with an average congregation of 31 (27). The average number of communicants each month was 25 (22). As well as 8 (6) other Occasional Services, there were 0 (2) Baptisms, 0 (0) Marriages, 3 (7) Burials (2 parishioners, 1 non-parishioners). On Christmas Day a service was held at Aghaderg Church at 8.30am and the attendance was 19 (20). For a few months a mid-week Holy Communion service was held, shared with Scarva and the average attendance was 7 (5).

Pastoral work continued throughout 2023 with very little restrictions in place due to covid. The priority of the minister in charge is the elderly, sick and bereaved. Other visiting takes place as and when time permits.



**ST MELLAN'S PARISH CHURCH, AGHADERG, LOUGHBRICKLAND
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (continued)**

Church organisations include a Ladies Guild group, a Sunday School and a Youth Fellowship. The Sunday School teachers have been vetted through Access NI and we have officers in place in line with the Church of Ireland Policy on Safeguarding Trust. The parish-wide 'Steadfast' Youth Fellowship is continuing and going very well, with a regular attendance and everyone keen to see it progress in the future. In Autumn 2023 a short Bible study series was introduced and was held at the rectory. All three parishes were represented at the meetings and it was a good time spent with others seeking to develop further their faith in Jesus. A special service was held in Aghaderg Church of 'Royal Hymns' to mark the Coronation of King Charles III, with special guests attending.

Repairs and general maintenance were continued on the Church property during 2023.

Financial Review 2023 (2022 in brackets)

The income into the Parish's funds from various sources was £268,700 (£110,594) with outgoings of £109,166 (£186,044) giving a surplus of £159,534 (deficit £75,090).

The bank and cash in hand balance at 31st December 2023 was £183,318 (£25,037). The balance of investments held within the RCB Investment funds was £37,976 (£36,723). It is the trustee's policy to hold sufficient reserves to cover unexpected emergencies, to build up funds to pay for future maintenance to the Church, Parish hall and grounds, and to further the objectives and activities of the Church of Ireland.

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 2023 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 Organisations. The select vestry members are the charity trustees.



**ST MELLAN'S PARISH CHURCH, AGHADERG, LOUGHBRICKLAND
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (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 meeting 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 selected as part of the general 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 Reverend Rodney Magennis was appointed as Minister in charge of the grouped parishes of Aghaderg, Donaghmore and Scarva in July 2023. Reverend Magennis was introduced at a special service in September that year, where he received a stipend, office and locomotory allowance.

The trustee Mrs Anne McCullough received £1,311 in 2024 for playing the organ.

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, the church wardens, the Glebe wardens and generally not more than twelve other members of the general vestry as elected.

The select vestry is chaired by the member of the clergy officiating at 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 church wardens.

Compliance with Public Benefit

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



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ST MELLAN'S PARISH CHURCH, AGHADERG, LOUGHBRICKLAND
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (continued)

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

Trustee 1

Rodney Magennis

Trustee 2

R Fegan

12th March 2024

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Aghaderg Parish Church

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31st December 2023 which are set out on pages 6 to 12.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 65 of the Charities Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's report

I have examined your charity accounts as required under section 65 of the Charities Act and my examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act.

My examination included a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also included consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as charity trustees concerning any such matters.

My role is to state whether any material matters have come to my attention giving me cause to believe:

1. That accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 63 of the Charities Act
2. That the accounts do not accord with those accounting records
3. That the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act
4. That there is further information needed for a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Independent examiner's statement

Since your charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a listed body. I can confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of Chartered Accountants Ireland, which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination and have no concerns in respect of the matters (1) to (4) listed above and, in connection with following the Directions of the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland, I have found no matters that require drawing to your attention.

Mr Thomas Vint F.C.C.A
For and behalf of S.M. Vint & Co
Chartered Certified Accountants & Registered Auditors
8 Newry Road
Banbridge
BT32 3HN



20 March 2024

St Mellan's Parish Church, Aghaderg, Loughbrickland
Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31st December 2023

	Note	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment Funds	Total funds 2023	Total 2022
Income from:						
Donations and plate collections		28,343	3,370		31,713✓	33,918
Bank and deposit interest		85	19		104✓	291
Investment income	11	1,301	38	1,213	2,552✓	1,287
Rental income		13,000			13,000	8,170
Other receipts	8	5,657	2,196		7,853	6,489
Bank loan received					0	60,000
Receipts from other Parishes		316			316	0
Sale of lands		210,000			210,000✓	0
Collections for third parties	4	24	3,138		3,162	799
Total Income		258,726	8,761	1,213	268,700	110,954
Expenditure on:						
Wages and salaries	9	23,728			23,728	18,507
Diocesan costs/assessments		3,060			3,060	3,086
Church running costs	7	8,922	1,061		9,983	6,448
Glebe costs	10	3,125			3,125	36,641
Parish centre costs					0	753
Administration costs		2,894			2,894	3,428
Charitable donations		1,055			1,055	0
Payments to parish organisations					0	0
Collections for third parties	4	24	3,114		3,138	1,382
Refurbishment of Church					0	0
Gifts		132			132	12
Bank loan repayments		62,051			62,051	3,345
Purchase of 'New' Rectory					0	109,025
Investment expenditure	11				0	3,417
Total expenditure		104,991	4,175	0	109,166	186,044
Net Income / (expenditure) resources		153,735	4,586	1,213	159,534	-75,090
Reconciliation of funds						
Total funds brought forward		12,534	11,158	38,068	61,760	136,850
Movement in the year		153,735	4,586	1,213	159,534	-75,090
Transfers in		0	0	0	0	34,020
Transfers out		0	0	0	0	-34,020
Total funds carried forward		166,269	15,744	39,281	221,294	61,760



St Mellan's Parish Church, Aghaderg, Loughbrickland

Statement of Assets and Liabilities as at 31st December 2023

	Note	As at 31/12/2023	As at 31/12/2022
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	12	376,481	376,481
Investments	13	37,976	36,725
		<u>414,457</u>	<u>413,206</u>
Current Assets			
Cash at bank and in hand		183,318	25,035
Due from other Parishes		159	564
		<u>183,477</u>	<u>25,599</u>
Liabilities			
Creditors	14	0	58,541
Net current assets		<u>183,477</u>	<u>-32,942</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>597,934</u>	<u>380,264</u>
Total reserves		<u>597,934</u>	<u>380,264</u>

Notes on pages 8 to 12 are an integral part of these financial statements.

The financial statements on pages 6 to 7 were approved by the Board of Trustees on 12th March 2024 and signed on its behalf by:

Rev Rodney Magennis - Rector

Rodney Magennis

Mr Raymond Fegan - Treasurer

R Fegan

St Mellan's Parish Church, Aghaderg, Loughbrickland
Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023

1. Accounting policies

The principal accounting policies adopted, judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the financial statements are as follows:

a) Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) – (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

The Parish meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost and transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s).

b) Preparation of accounts on a going concern basis

The Parish generally meets its day to day working capital requirements from its annual income. The Trustees have obtained and reviewed cash flow forecasts for the coming year and based on these are satisfied that the Parish has resources to provide a reasonable expectation that it can continue to meet its financial obligations as they fall due for the foreseeable future. Therefore these financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis

c) Income

Income is accounted for on a cash receipts basis as the amount is collected and are allocated as either restricted or unrestricted funds according to the terms of the donation.

d) Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised on a cash payments basis.

e) Tangible assets

The assets of the Parish comprise:-

- Church building and graveyard
- Parish hall
- Glebe House
- 'New' Rectory
- Fixtures and fittings

The Church Building and Grounds are deemed to be Heritage assets as defined by the Charities SORP (FRS102). These Heritage assets are not included on the balance sheet as information on the cost or valuation is not available and such information cannot be obtained at a cost commensurate with the benefit to the users of the accounts and to the parish.

The Parish hall was built in 1824/25. There are no reliable records of the cost of this construction/acquisition and valuation approach for such buildings lacks sufficient reliability. As a result, this building is not recognised in the parish statement of assets and liabilities.

The Glebe House is recognised at replacement cost based on the insurance valuation provided on 31/10/2018. The 'New' Rectory is 45% of the cost as financed by the Aghaderg Parish.

Fixtures and Fittings are recognised at cost and are depreciated on a straight line basis over a period of 10 years. Fixtures and fittings are deemed to be Heritage assets as defined by the Charities SORP (FRS102). These fixtures and fittings are artefacts contained within the Church building and their preservation and contribution to culture are ancillary to faith and other purposes. Heritage assets are not included in the statement of assets and liabilities as information on the cost or valuation is not available and such information cannot be obtained at a cost commensurate

St Mellan's Parish Church, Aghaderg, Loughbrickland
Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023 (continued)
f) Investments

Fixed asset investments comprising investment properties, investments in equities and investment in RCB/CIT Unit Trusts are initially recorded at cost and are then subsequently stated at fair value at each year end date. The revaluation surplus or shortfall is then included alongside other incoming and outgoing resources.

g) Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents includes cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within Creditors Amounts falling due within 1 year.

h) Financial instruments

The Parish only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction price and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

i) Funds

Funds are classified as either restricted funds or unrestricted funds, defined as follows:

Restricted funds are funds subject to specific requirements as to their use which may be declared by the donor or with their authority or created through legal processes, but still within the wider objects of the Parish.

Unrestricted funds are expendable at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the objects of the charity. If parts of the unrestricted funds are earmarked at the discretion of the trustees for a particular purpose, they are designated as a separate fund. This designation has an administrative purpose only and does not legally restrict the trustees' discretion to apply the fund.

2. Critical accounting judgements and estimation uncertainty

Estimates and judgments made in the process of preparing the financial statements are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances. The Trustees do not consider that there are any critical judgments made in applying the Parish's accounting policies or that there are any critical accounting estimates or assumptions which may have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year.

3. Movement in Funds

	At 1 Jan 2023	Incoming Resources	Outgoing Resources	At 31 Dec 2023
	£	£	£	£
Endowment Funds				
The Florence Stewart Bequest	1,000	0	0	1,000
The Thomas H Browne Bequest	1,000	0	0	1,000
The Alymer Grattan Bequest	200	0	0	200
The Harry Beamish Bequest	250	0	0	250
Investment in RCB General Unit Trust				
Cash per Rev HW Lett	570	17	0	587
Cash per Very Rev J Lefroy	308	10	0	318
EH Lefroy Benefaction	826	25	0	851
In memory Robert Hill Grattan	4,755	144	0	4,899
James & Mary Geoghegan Mem Fund	4,130	125	0	4,255
Kathleen Neill Bequest	9,286	282	0	9,568
Marquis of Downshire donation	516	16	0	532
Mary Winifred Brown Bequest	2,800	84	0	2,884
Mrs H Lefroy Trust	1,799	54	0	1,853
Mrs M McIntyre Bequest	83	2	0	85

St Mellan's Parish Church, Aghaderg, Loughbrickland
Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023 (continued)

Rev C Lett Bequest	826	25	0	851
WG Dickson Bequest	1,098	33	0	1,131

Investments in CIT Unit Trusts

Arthur Hugh Ross Bequest	1,784	82	0	1,866
John Ross Bequest	892	41	0	933
Norah Hill Bequest	1,447	67	0	1,514
William J Grant Memorial	1,583	73	0	1,656
Sarah Agnes Fleming Bequest	302	14	0	316
William Geoghegan Bequest	498	23	0	521
William Geoghegan Bequest	136	6	0	142
James & Isaac Grattan Memorial	196	9	0	205
Archibald Grattan Bequest	377	17	0	394
Moses Moorhead Donation	181	8	0	189
Anonymous Donation	45	2	0	47
James McAllister Bequest	60	3	0	63
Agnes J White Bequest	317	14	0	331
James Grattan Bequest	45	2	0	47
James Devlin Bequest	166	8	0	174
William Browne Memorial	573	26	0	599
In Memory Jane Mehaffey	11	0	0	11
Margaret Johnston Donation	7	1	0	8
	38,067	1,213	0	39,280

Restricted Funds

General Fund		4,941	4,175	766
Fundraising Fund	393			393
Building Fund	8,092	3,763		11,855
Third Party Collections	24			24
Ladies Guild Investment Fund	1,542	19		1,561

Investments in RCB General Unit Trust

Church Insurance Bonus	29	1		30
Church Officers Composition Balance	291	9		300
Parochial Funds	367	11		378
Portion of Glebe Equity for 1892	6	0		6
Transfer from Diocesan Stipend Fund	76	2		78

Investments in CIT Unit Trusts

Parishioners	106	4		110
Parishioners	211	10		221
Parishioners	22	1		23
	11,159	8,761	4,175	15,745

Unrestricted Funds

General Fund	10,867	257,616	104,379	164,104
Ladies Guild Catering Fund	524		30	494
Ladies Guild General Fund	1,012	951	362	1,601
Ladies Guild Cash Fund	131	159	221	69
	12,534	258,727	104,992	166,269

Total Funds

	61,760	268,701	109,167	221,294
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St Melian's Parish Church, Aghaderg, Loughbrickland
Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023 (continued)
4. Collections for Third Parties

	2023	2022
	£	£
Southern Area Hospice	1,575	511
RBL Poppy Appeal	81	95
Bishop's Appeal	1,482	143
Sands	0	50
Southern Area Hospice (On Hand)	24	0
	3,162	799

5. Transactions with the Trustees

The trustee Mrs Anne McCullough received expenses of £1,311 for the provision of musical services as organist of the Parish.

6. Governance Costs

Governance costs of £1,200 were paid during the year. This relates to fees paid to the Independent Examiner.

7. Church Running Costs

	2023	2022
	£	£
Light and heat	1,180	2,820
Church insurance	1,922	1,268
Water rates	100	87
Graveyard expenses	3,000	1,932
Repairs and maintenance	3,556	341
Sundry	225	0
	9,983	6,448

8. Other Receipts

	2023	2022
	£	£
NIE Wayleave	3	2
Graveyard fees	500	1,015
In lieu of flowers	630	820
Gift aid	5,507	3,568
Ladies' Guild membership fees	115	0
Grants received	1,061	680
Misc amounts lodged	27	0
Power NI overpayment	0	361
Word for Today	10	44
	7,853	6,490

St Meilan's Parish Church, Aghaderg, Loughbrickland

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023 (continued)

9. Wages and Salaries

	2023	2022
	£	£
Stipend	16,640	12,151
Cover duty	180	260
Clergy pension fund	5,482	4,742
Organist	1,311	1,265
Supply organist	0	69
Speakers - Ladies Guild	115	20
	<u>23,728</u>	<u>18,507</u>

10. Share of Glebe Costs

	2023	2022
	£	£
Rates	2315	602
Repairs and maintenance	0	589
Rent of Glebe House for Rev Magennis	810	1430
Renovations to Glebe House	0	34020
	<u>3125</u>	<u>36641</u>

11. Investment Income

	2023	2022
	£	£
Church of Ireland Trustees Dividend	274	303
RCB Unit Trust Income	793	760
Revaluation of RCB Unit Trust	840	0
Revaluation of CIT Unit Trust	411	0
Scheme Income	234	224
	<u>2,552</u>	<u>1,287</u>

Investment Expenditure

Devaluation of RCB Unit Trusts (Loss)		-2,150
Devaluation of CIT Unit Trusts (Loss)		-1,267
	<u>0</u>	<u>-3,417</u>

12. Tangible Assets

	2023	2022
	£	£
Glebe House	268,020	268,020
New' Rectory	108,461	108,461
	<u>376,481</u>	<u>376,481</u>

13. Investments

	2023	2022
	£	£
Investments in RCB Unit Trusts	28,606	27,766
Investments in CIT Unit Trusts	9,370	8,957
	<u>37,976</u>	<u>36,723</u>

14. Creditors

	2023	2022
	£	£
Bank loan balance	<u>0</u>	<u>58,541</u>