



CHURCH OF ST. CRONAN
BRACKENSTOWN PARISH

11th February 2022

Dear Parishioner and Friend,

The last two years have brought immense challenges to us all. The fear, isolation and separation from loved ones has lasting effects and the healing that is needed will take time. Many have faced insecurity in their employment and many have worried about their children and their families as they faced changed circumstances. During those months the times when we could not gather as a Christian community for Eucharist and prayer caused another level of anxiety and in some anger. We have tried our best to adapt and offer online services and ensured that our Church doors were open every day for people to come in to rest and pray.

Through all of this your support for the Parish and the Priests of the Parish and Diocese remained. I want to thank you for the efforts that you made to drop your envelopes into the Church, use the online system and for the kindness you showed to us by your quiet and personal support.

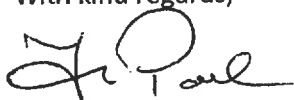
Before the pandemic we had introduced methods of electronic payments through Easy Payments Plus and over the months so many of you have signed up to this system. The commitment to maintain your Standing Orders and other contributions have kept the Parish running. Our engagement with the CHY3 Tax Refund Scheme continues to be very successful, particularly since we have been able to add the Church Collections at Mass by people using the White envelopes with their name or Parish number on them. If you have not begun to use these, can I encourage you to contact the Parish Office for a box of Mass Collection Envelopes with your Parish Number on them.

A new addition has been the "Tap and Donate" machine at the Main Door. This divides your contribution 60% for the 1st Collection (for the Priests of the Parish and the sick and retired priests of the Diocese) and 40% for the 2nd Collection (For SHARE that supports other Parishes and Diocesan Parish Services). However the contributions received through this machine are not eligible for inclusion in the Tax Reclaim Scheme as we cannot match the donation with the donor.

On the back of this letter you will find a breakdown of the Receipts and Payments for 2019 and 2020. Your commitment has seen a rise in contributions. The running costs of the Parish were down as we had to suspend our maintenance and development programme. However we were able to get the interior of the Sacristy refurbished which has made a huge difference. Other projects that we now need to look at are: the replacement of the benches and carpet in the Church, the Sacristy roof, insulation of the Presbyteries and improvements to the Pastoral Centre facilities.

On behalf of the Parish Team and the Parish Finance Committee, we thank you for your support, commitment, kindness and encouragement. We hope and pray that the end of Covid is in sight and be assured that the intentions of you and your families are always part of the prayer of the Parish.

With kind regards,



Fr. Paul Thornton



Paddy O'Byrne (Chair of Finance Committee)



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BRACKENSTOWN PARISH, STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS &

	2020	2019
RECEIPTS:	€	€
Family Offering; (Envelope collection, Annuals, Standing Orders, Donations, Bequests etc.)	127,668	114,293
Income Tax Reclaimed on Contributions	41,937	43,698
Shrines, Candles, Missalettes	29,728	33,536
Other Sources (Fundraising, Retreats, Rent, etc.)	23,549	20,672
Total	222,882	212,199
PAYMENTS:		
<u>Running Expenses:</u>		
Salaries, wages, professional fees	49,326	56,364
Facilities (repairs, heating, lighting, security, rent etc)	34,444	32,871
Books, missalettes stationery, printing	13,366	15,122
Meetings, conferences, catering	801	8,891
Telephone, office equipment, postage	1,432	2,077
Bank Interest & Charges	1,271	1,277
Shrine Candles, etc	7,008	7,429
Other (Altar supplies, Confirmation, Communion, etc)	<u>14,595</u>	<u>29,507</u>
Total	€122,243	€153,538
Depreciation	32,013	22,197
Surplus for the year	68,626	36,464
Capital Expenses; Buildings & Equipment (<i>not included above</i>)	5,500	54,612
Parish Account Reserve Fund	50,000	50,000
Parish Development Fund	€256,020	€170,799

The collections at Masses are forwarded directly to the Diocesan Offices and are not included in the above summary of the Accounts.

Parish Finance Committee: Chairperson Paddy O'Byrne, Secretary Patrick Griffin.
Members: Claire Priestley, Duane Brown, Vincent O'Malley, Sean O'Reilly, Fr. Paul Thornton

Explanation of Collections

First Collection: supports the Priests of the Parish and the sick and retired priest of the Dublin Diocese.

Second Collection: supports the SHARE fund for other Parishes and Diocesan Central Services.

Christmas, Easter and Summer Dues: supports the Priests of the Parish and the sick and retired priest of the Dublin Diocese.

Family Offering: (whether envelope, Standing Order or EFT) are the only collection that support the running costs of the Parish.

CHY3 Reclaim Scheme: For the Family Offering and the Dues which combined are €250.00 or over the Parish can make a claim from Revenue. If you opt for the numbered collection envelopes for the First and Second Collection or write your name on the envelopes provided in the Church we can add this to your reclaim amount. Since we introduced this our reclaim has been significantly increased.