

The annual parish Finance Statement for 2020 is published this weekend. We thank parishioners for your continued generous support of the parish, particularly during the past very challenging year.

In the last fifteen months, the necessary restriction of public worship has profoundly affected the two Sunday Mass collections. The first collection supports clergy ministering throughout the diocese as well as sick and retired priests. The second 'Share' collection supports diocesan services to parishes, especially disadvantaged parishes. In the last financial year, the first collection decreased by 54% and the 'Share' collection by 65%. This year saw a decrease of 80% and 86% respectively for the first quarter. To compensate for this decrease Archbishop Farrell has approved a proposal to hold a Summer Dues collection to support priests of the diocese. This initiative will follow the pattern of the Christmas and Easter dues collections, giving parishioners an opportunity to contribute to the income that supports priests. Summer Dues envelopes will be available at the back of the church throughout the summer months, and we thank parishioners and visitors in advance for your generous support of this new initiative.

St. Columba's Church, Iona Road Parish

Summary Financial Statement for the year ended December 31, 2020

Parish Income			Diocesan/Other Collections		
	This Year	Last Year		This Year	Last Year
	€	€		€	€
Family Offerings	69,732	68,143	First Collection	15,885	39,052
Tax Relief	8,444	11,740	Share Collection	8,400	21,864
Donations/Bequests *	10,480	50,327	Christmas/Easter Dues	28,750	28,921
Shrines (less costs)	2,362	6,391	Diocesan Agencies	1,342	7,701
Stole Fees	4,314	4,741	St. Vincent de Paul - Annual	-	3,359
Interest Receivable	522	534	Stole Fees	4,149	3,016
Book Shop	332	1,383			
Miscellaneous	1,257	2,351			
Living the Joy of the Gospel	7,289	11,702			
	104,732	157,312		58,526	103,913
Parish Expenditure			Living the Joy of the Gospel		
	This Year	Last Year			
	€	€		€	€
Salaries/PRSI	38,403	36,557	Amount included in the Bank		
Insurance/Rates	1,341	16,961			
Maintenance (less Grants)	44,970	56,123	Balance and available for		
Seating Storage	4,000	4,000	Special Projects	70,847	70,840
Electricity/Gas	13,122	12,569			
Altar Supplies/Missalettes	713	1,768			
Bank Interest/Charges	471	572			
Administration	8,719	7,116			
Audit/Accounting	875	2,775			
Miscellaneous	547	2,553			
	113,161	140,994			
Net Operating Surplus /(Deficit) for the year			This Year	Last Year	
			€	€	
			(8,429)	16,318	
Bank Balances			Funds Flow		
	This Year	Last Year		This Year	Last Year
	€	€		€	€
Current Accounts	118,696	125,032	Opening Balance	646,585	630,267
Deposit Account	522,075	521,553	Surplus/(Deficit) for year	(8,429)	16,318
Diocesan Collections		(2,615)			
	638,156	646,585		638,156	646,585

* Includes Family Fun Day - 1,300



**JESUS SAID, "COME AWAY WITH ME
TO A QUIET PLACE AND REST A WHILE."**

Mark 6:31
THEWORDFORTHEDAY

We continue to welcome back parishioners to Mass on Saturday at 6pm and Sunday at 11.00am. **Daily Mass is at 10:30am on Mon. Wed. Thurs and Fri.** We would like to remind parishioners of the following guidelines: -
The church is divided into pods, and stewards are on hand to count parishioners in and guide you to where to sit, so we can maximise the number who can attend while ensuring all safety measures are observed.
Please follow the directions of the stewards in approaching the altar for Holy Communion and in exiting the church at the end of Mass.
Mass will continue to be streamed on the webcam for those who choose for the moment to continue to participate from home: www.ionaroadparish.ie
The church remains open each day from 11.00am - 3.00pm for private prayer.

We thank parishioners for your contributions to the First and Second Collections and to the Family Offering. Contributions can also be made through the 'Donate' button on the parish website.

**We thank all those who have volunteered to serve as stewards for weekend and weekday Masses.
We are always happy to recruit more stewards.**

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*Detail from one of the Stained Glass windows in our church.
Photographed by Stephen Huws*

Reflection 'You must come away to some lonely place all by yourselves and rest for a while'.

This must count as one of the most inviting lines in the Gospel. After the long winter and a year and a half of the upheaval, uncertainty and anxiety associated with living with the coronavirus, and the sense that we could be heading into a fourth wave, we are tired. Thank God for the long days and fine weather. School is out, and it is time to get out into the fresh air with tennis rackets or golf clubs, to go for a walk or cycle or to head to the beach. It is great to see so many people out enjoying the local parks or walking along the seafront. After so many months spent virtually indoors, we all need to soak up the sunshine and joy of being outside, spending fun time with family or friends, just doing some of the ordinary things that we have been deprived of for so long. Summer is also an opportunity for spiritual renewal, to reset the clock. The God, whose glory we see revealed in the beauty of nature, invites us to discover him speaking to our heart. There may not be the usual opportunity to participate in a residential retreat this summer, but places like Manresa in Clontarf offer opportunities to spend a day or a half day, or you can visit pilgrimage places like Glendalough, Lough Derg, Croagh Patrick or Knock. This is also a good time to plan taking up a course of spiritual renewal in the autumn, such as the Pathways programme advertised in this newsletter. Enjoy the summer!

Mass Intentions booked for the Month of July

Fri. 2nd 10.30am Frank, Mary & Angela McCluskey (A)
Sat. 3rd 6.00pm Bernardo Pastorino & Ramiro Lanes (Rec Dec)
Sat. 10th 6.00pm Austin Mulhall (A), Patrick and Bridget Caine (A),
Mon 12th 10.30am Anne Irwin (Special Intention - Ill)
Fri. 16th 10.30am Thomas Davidson (A) & pray for Fran Hession
Sat. 17th 6.00pm Denis Boland, Snr (A) and P.J. Doyle (A)
Sun. 18th 11.00am Edmond Costello (2nd Anniv.)
Wed. 21st 10.30am John O'Brien (A)

Pray for John Dunne of Dargle Rd and all who are recently deceased.

Fr. Paddy Jones continues to improve steadily and thanks parishioners for your prayers and good wishes.



The Parish Link will be on reduced publication for the months of July and August. We wish everyone a very Happy Summer

Mission Statement: St. Columba's parish is a vibrant and welcoming community of faith, continuing to give practical witness to the Good News of Christ, through worship and reflection, and through Christian service to the community.