

## SUPPLEMENT TO PARISH NEWSLETTER SUNDAY 4<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2024

### Statement of Accounts for Years January 2019 to December 2022

*Dear Parishioners,*

At the outset, as we present this Financial Report, we wish to thank you all for your continued loyal and faithful financial support. In the past we published and circulated the Parish's Financial Accounts to you on an annual basis through the parish *Progress* magazine. Unfortunately, due to COVID and more recently the uncertain future of the magazine, it has been more difficult to keep you up to date on the financial status of the parish. Accordingly, we now present the *Parish Financial Reports* for 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022 with this weekend's Newsletter and on the parish website. Last year's accounts are not finalised but we will publish them as soon as possible.

Our main continuous source of finance over the years has been the *Planned Giving* or *Family Offering*. Unfortunately, this source of income is in gradual decline due to the ageing and relocating of parishioners and the general reduction in contributors. It would not be feasible to undertake a fresh canvas of the parish any time soon but some means of increasing subscribers, especially among new families coming into the parish, needs to be developed.

You can see from the top line of the accompanying Financial Statements the gradual decline in income. To stress the point the figure of €126,469 for 2022 compares with a corresponding amount of €161,200 for 2014. Our other main source of income was the 750 Club. Again, Covid and some other factors forced us to discontinue it. The 750 Club had been generating in the order of €50,000 income for the parish each year. The effect of the reduction in income and loss of the fundraising can best be seen by comparing 2019 and 2022, the two years in the middle were effected by Covid. The parish has gone from being in a healthy situation in 2019, generating a surplus, or profit of €13,260 to incurring a deficit, or loss, of €88,953 last year.

The parish Finance Committee's aim is to match revenue income and expenditure each year, notwithstanding that we are lucky to have a generous bank balance, but it is the Archdiocese's policy that these monies should be kept for future major projects and eventualities and not be used to cover day- to-day costs. Hopefully, we can get our rental and shrine incomes back to 2019 levels and with future interest earnings we will be able to get near a break-even position again. Tax refund on identifiable contributions to the church are very important, so please make sure the Parish Office has your tax details and return your form CH3 or CH4 when requested by the Office. The Financial Report also gives an overall view of capital events over the four years. We sold the old *Holy Family* site and the former Presbytery in Blackberry Rise. On the other side, we replaced the church roof with a new zinc roof. Major necessary improvements have been made to the interior of the church including a new lighting and sound system, the Sanctuary area furnishings have also been upgraded. Exterior development of the church grounds and gardens has also been completed along with some painting and ongoing maintenance. There are no major capital spend plans at present, but the programme of gradual improvements to the church, Parish Centre and the church grounds is ongoing.

Once again we wish to thank you for your continued loyal and generous financial and other forms of support and may God continue to bless you all.

The Parish Finance Committee: *Canon John Flaherty, Matt Dunphy, Pat O'Farrell, David Sweeney*

**SAINT ANNE'S PARISH, PORTMARNOCK, CO. DUBLIN.**