

**On 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023 the Parish had £442,962.00 of available funds held in the Bank. It is important to note that £202,767.00 is ring fenced to Glenullin Building & Maintenance Account as of the Financial Year 2023.**

**20 June 2024**

**Dear Parishioners,**

Once again, I would like to take this opportunity, while presenting the Parish Financial Statement to the end of the calendar year 2023 to acknowledge my personal thanks and support you have extended to me in the past year. This financial report highlights your continued commitment to support the daily running costs of the Parish estate through the weekly collection. It also reflects your on-going commitment to Trócaire and the special Diocesan collections.

In recent years financial prudence continues to be challenging for parish finances and for families in our parish community. The uncertainty continues into this financial cycle, with inflationary costs in relation to energy costs, food inflation and fuel consumption. Reduced Mass attendance in uncertain times has inevitably taken its toll on parish income. However, we are very grateful to the increasing numbers of parishioners who are now using the provision of standing orders to support the parish. (Details available on the parish website – [errigalparish@gmail.com](mailto:errigalparish@gmail.com) or alternatively contact the parish office.)

**St. Joseph's Church** – Last September with the approval of the Diocesan Building Committee, Parish Finance Group and the mandate of the Glenullin Renovation Group we began the much-anticipated renovation of St. Joseph's Church. The contract following a tendering process was awarded to Peter McErlain Ltd – Toomebridge.

With this extensive project comes unforeseen additional costs associated with the internal roof, which has added significant expenditure to the capital cost. We will shortly receive from the Heritage Lottery Fund the last tranche of funding for the capital works. The remainder of that fund will fulfil our obligations to the heritage element of HLF funding.

In recent weeks we have finalised contractual agreements for loans from neighbouring parishes amounting to two hundred thousand pounds, presently we are in receipt of one hundred thousand pounds. I wish to acknowledge with grateful thanks, the anonymous donations received for this initiative as it will help to alleviate the additional costs in the years ahead.

I respectfully request, if possible, that consideration might be given by those who use envelopes, and who do not presently use the 'white envelope' – that they might even consider a monthly donation, to remit the costs that will infinitely accumulate as we go forward pertaining to the maintenance of the parish estate and the renovation of St. Joseph's Church. I also ask for your consideration to avail of the Gift aid scheme available to those who; pay income tax and use parish envelopes and standing orders. The Gift Aid scheme is under-used in this parish. It does not affect your personal tax; those details are private to yourself. However, the parish can benefit from the contribution you make to the parish by an additional 25% either via an envelope or Standing Order if you are a taxpayer. The only requirement is to fill in a Gift Aid card. (Gift Aid cards are available in each sacristy.)

Your continued generosity is very much appreciated in providing for the upkeep and development of the parish and the support of others who need our help particularly in developing countries.

**PS** – This weekend I present in addition to the Parish Financial Statement for the calendar year 2023 a financial statement from the beginning of September 2023 to mid-June associated with the income and costs of St, Joseph's Church renovation.

**Fr. Crowley**