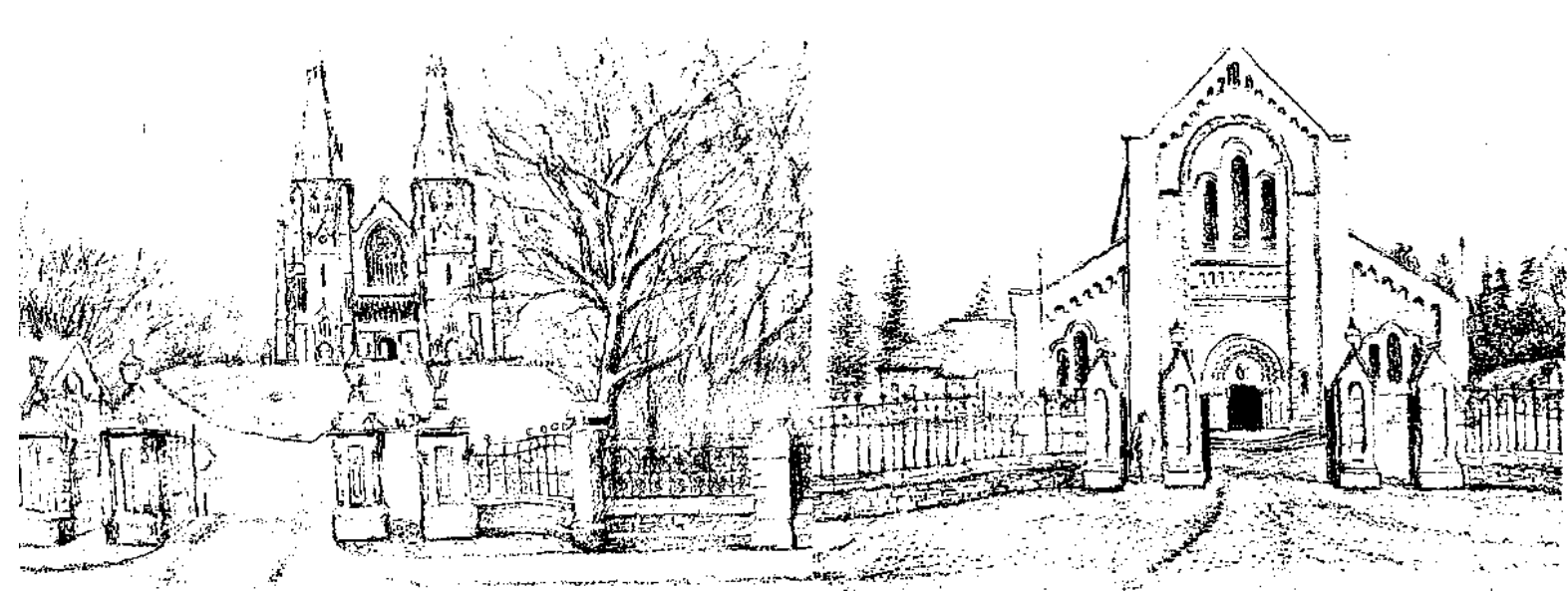




St Patrick's Cathedral Parish, Armagh

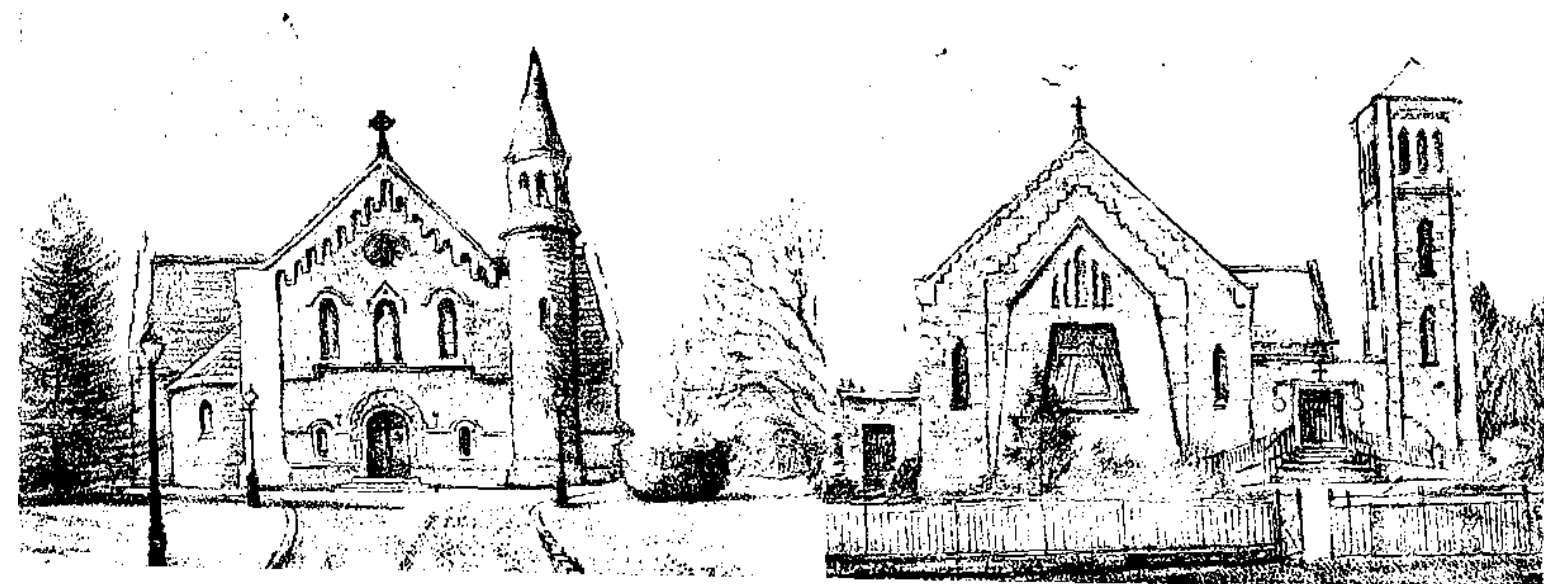
Financial Statement 2024-2025

St Patrick's Cathedral

St Malachy's Church

St Colmcille's, Knockaconey

The Immaculate Conception, Tullysaran



Dear Friends

On behalf of the Parish Clergy and the Parish Finance Committee, I am delighted to present to you a summary of our parish income and expenditure for the year ended 31st March.

This year's accounts highlight many positive developments, as well as some challenges that we must continue to address. Our weekly collections have generally increased, which is very encouraging. However, donations from candle shrines have declined relative to the rise in associated costs. For the first time, our "Priests' Dues" have not fully covered the monthly stipends for our priests. Whilst we were blessed to receive a generous bequest this year, our financial position would have been more difficult without it.

As a parish, we are deeply blessed by the engagement and vitality of our faith community. This spirit is especially visible in our regular *'Parish Social Mornings'* and the large participation in events such as the recent *'Week of Hope'* and the *'Triduum to St Anthony.'* As clergy, we are truly grateful for your ongoing support and the warmth of your welcome. We are also mindful that many parishioners face financial pressures due to rising costs, and we sincerely appreciate your continued generosity towards both the parish and the clergy.

Our Parish Team continues to work on improving our facilities and supporting community life. The reopening of part of the Parochial Hall has already borne fruit through youth engagement in the Alpha Programme. The recent heating improvements in our church buildings, along with energy-saving measures in the Cathedral, are beginning to show positive results. In addition, our renewed focus on the *'Ministry of Welcome,'* supported by our tour guides, shop volunteers, and staff, has ensured that visitors to the Cathedral experience genuine hospitality—something that often inspires them to support our parish initiatives and fundraisers.

There remains much more we can do to build on the strengths of our community. Our commitment to you—our parishioners and friends—remains steadfast. However, we continue to rely on your support and generosity. We encourage you to consider setting up a standing order or obtaining a box of envelopes, and if you have not already done so, please complete and return the Gift Aid form included with this report. Each of these options greatly assists us in continuing our mission of service.

In January, storm Éowyn reminded us of the fragility of our buildings. Once again, the focus on maintenance was highlighted and substantial works were carried out. The ongoing Cathedral fundraising campaign has raised in the region of £250,000 to date - this represents about 10% of the funds we believe will be necessary to complete the essential works on the fabric of the Cathedral, the steps, and the refurbishment of the organ. These funds remain ring-fenced and will only be used for the specific purpose of Cathedral capital expenses.

On behalf of the clergy and lay team, I thank you most sincerely for helping to make our parish the vibrant centre of evangelisation it is today. It is your witness to the Good News that enables us to reach out to others through our Sacramental and Pastoral Outreach programmes.

Finally, on your behalf, I want to thank our Parish Team for their ongoing dedication and service to our community. With every blessing,

Fr Barry Matthews, Adm.

www.armaghparish.net

Summary of Financial Activities

For the year ended 31 March 2025

	2025 £	2024 £
Incoming resources		
Envelope & church door collection	366,700	315,271
Special collections received	45,095	43,678
Shrines and candelabra	68,887	68,068
Other income received	143,608	209,915
Gift Aid	65,347	63,439
Shop income	55,119	43,346
Cemetery income	16,695	23,091
Grant Income	-----	4,507
Sundry income/Legacies & Donations	188,223	21,475
Fundraising	<u>92,220</u>	<u>82,354</u>
Total incoming resources	1,041,894	875,144
Direct Expenditure		
Church	386,461	355,609
Parochial House expenses	40,309	38,136
Other Parish properties	68,864	74,747
Parochial Hall expenses	30,000	
Special collections disbursed	45,095	43,678
Shop purchases/stipends paid	19,259	24,842
Other overheads	72,340	67,375
Diocesan levies	72,414	43,200
Finance charges	6,039	2,456
Sundry	2,457	56
Other direct costs	85,214	85,216
Cathedral Fund	92,220	82,354
Administration costs	<u>90,583</u>	<u>75,406</u>
Total direct expenditure	1,011,255	893,075
Net incoming/(outgoing) resources	<u>30,639</u>	<u>-17,931</u>
Armagh Parish		

Note 1:

Churches running and maintenance	2025 £	2024 £
Rates and insurance	36,193	39,512
Minor maintenance and repairs	*104,358	72,635
Light & Heat	38,664	47,636
Communication/Security/Webcam	10,546	12,268
Salaries	108,302	97,580
Altar breads, linen, missalettes, bulletin etc.	31,149	27,770
Supply priests/pastoral personnel	2,619	1,500
Other expenses	27,183	20,221
Cemetery expenses	<u>27,447</u>	<u>36,487</u>
Total	<u>386,461</u>	<u>355,609</u>

*Includes boiler replacement in St. Malachy's Church £38,461

Note 2:

- **St. Patrick's Cathedral** Quinquennial Structural Report £16,980, Trees removal £6,500, Window repairs £3,300, Speakers upgrade £18,600
- **St. Malachy's Church** Sound equipment £1500 and upgrading live streaming systems £1950
- **Tullysaran Church** altar refurbishment £8280, provision of new burial spaces £8000
- **Knockaconey Church** Electrical works £7,230

Note 3:

Envelopes issued	1335
Envelopes returned (average)	735 (55%)
% of envelopes not returned	45% (600)

We are continuously updating the Parish envelope database. If your details have changed, please be sure to let us know. Use of the envelope is preferable than loose cash in the basket.

Payment by standing order is a user-friendly way to support your Parish. Please consider this option. A standing order form is included at the back of this booklet for your convenience. Please complete and return to the Parish Office.

Note 4:

Gift Aid	Income received from Gift Aid	£ 65,347	(71.28% of envelope holders)
----------	-------------------------------	----------	------------------------------

We would like to take this opportunity to ask parishioners who are not already signed up for the Gift Aid scheme to consider doing so. If you receive a taxable income (salaried, state pension, private pension, self-employed, investments etc) and sign the attached Gift Aid form, the Parish can claim from the Inland Revenue an additional 25p in every pound on the contributions you make to the Parish throughout the year. The Parish can make the claim for the past four years. You must, however, pay by envelope or standing order. Gift Aid is a wonderful way for the Government to support charities, and is, of course, without any financial or taxation risk or additional cost to the individual parishioner. This form can be returned with your weekly envelope or left in the Parish Office at any time.

STANDING ORDER MANDATE

To:	The Manager
Bank name:	
Bank address:	
Please pay:	Armagh Church Parish Offices Cathedral Gate Lodge 41a Cathedral Road, Armagh, BT61 7QX
For the credit of:	Armagh Church
	Account Number: 40166478 Sort Code 90-20-47
The sum of (in numbers and words):	£ Pounds
Commencing on the 1st day of in the year and thereafter every month Debit my account accordingly: -	
Account name to be debited:	
Account number:	
Sort code:	
Reference (Number)	

Signature: _____

Date: _____

GIFT AID DECLARATION

ST. PATRICK'S ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH, ARMAGH

DONOR NAME	
DONOR ADDRESS	
POSTCODE	

Please treat as Gift Aid donations all qualifying gifts of money made.

From today In the past 4 years In the future

(Please circle all boxes you wish to apply)

I confirm I have paid or will pay an amount of Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax for each tax year (6 April to 5 April) that is at least equal to the amount of tax that all the charities that I donate to will reclaim on my gifts for that tax year. I understand the Charity will reclaim 25p of tax for every £1.00 that I give.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Notes:

1. You can cancel this declaration at any time by notifying the charity of St. Patrick's Roman Catholic Parish, Armagh Trust.
2. Please notify the charity of St. Patrick's Roman Catholic Parish, Armagh Trust if you change name or address.
3. Please advise if you no longer pay sufficient tax on your income and/or capital gains.
4. If you pay income tax at the higher rate and you want to receive the additional tax relief due to you, you must include all your Gift Aid donations on your Self-Assessment tax return.

Charity Number: XN46071

(Please complete, sign, and return to Parish Office).

Prayer

**Heavenly Father, we give thanks
for the years of faith, hope and love that has been
expressed within our Parish.**

**Renew within our faith community your spirit of generosity, as we
seek to follow in your footsteps
and as we strive to do your will.**

Teach us to love as you love and to listen as you listen.

**Enlighten our minds and hearts so that we may see your
plan and as we continue to journey in faith, following
in the footsteps of Patrick, your Apostle.**

**Renew our faith community so that it may be a place of grace for all,
a place of growth for the young,
a place of refreshment for the old,
a place of renewal for families,
a place of healing for the broken,
a place of joy for the sorrowful,
a place of forgiveness for the sinner,
a place of strength for the virtuous
and a place of welcome for those who have been away.**

**We make our prayer through Our Lord Jesus Christ your Son,
in union with the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever, Amen.**

Parish Weekly Envelopes:

If you wish to receive a box of envelopes, please complete this form and return to the Parish office. Weekly envelopes assist greatly with the Parish finances. Thank you.

Name:

Address:

Postcode:

E-mail address:

Telephone Number:

Gift Aid	YES/NO
-----------------	---------------