

St John the Baptist & St Kentigern's Financial Report

Year ended 31 December 2021

Another difficult year has passed, and, despite the restrictions placed on Mass attendance, the Collection Income for the year has increased by over £2000. We have seen a large increase in giving by standing order and direct debit, with a large decrease in envelope giving.

This has helped to keep income steady, and increase the amount received from Gift Aid, which increased by £8000 this year.

During the year a number of parishioners, who were regular donors and gift aiders, have sadly died. We have managed to replace funds by recruiting new gift aiders. We thank all who make offertory donations and sign up to Gift Aid, but we still need more. If you are able, please sign up for gift aid to obtain 20% from the government, a tax which you have already paid.

I have pleasure in presenting the Church Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2021. It has been another difficult year.

Other Income has remained similar to last year. Expenditure shows a decrease of £1,000, the main difference being a reduction of repairs of £29000. A number of major expenditure works are either in the final stages of planning, or sent out for quotes. Once this information is obtained, we have to submit them to the Archdiocesan Office for final approval. Work planned is an upgrade of lighting in both churches. We plan to install LED lighting. In addition, it is planned to provide Wheelchair access to the Oratory and Hall at St John's and replace deteriorating windows at St Kentigern's.

Special collections taken in both churches amounted to £8000, slightly more than last year, but well down on previous years, due to smaller numbers attending mass.

We finished with a surplus of £39,000, up £13,000 on last year, which will add to the funds to be used in the joint parish.

Lindsay Wilson.

Proposed Fabric Projects

Recent ‘health condition’ surveys of all of the parish buildings, commissioned by the Archdiocese for all parishes, showed that there are no major concerns over the fabric. All of the immediately necessary work highlighted by the report has already been done and the other outstanding issues are in hand.

Given this ‘bill of good health’ and thanks to your ongoing support and generosity, parish funds are healthy at the moment. This should give us confidence to pursue some more substantial projects for the improvement of the parish fabric.

The following have been identified as priorities.

- 1. St John the Baptist – disability access to the hall**
- 2. St Kentigern’s – Replace windows due to deterioration of the frames.**
- 3. Both churches – upgrade all lighting to LED**

Fr Jeremy