

PARISH FINANCE STATEMENT 2018

The Financial Year for parishes in the Diocese of Motherwell runs from 1st January until 31st December. We present a financial statement for you for Our Lady of Lourdes Parish for 2018. We offer, where possible, a comparison with the financial figures for 2017.

We also present a Pastoral Statement for 2018 You will appreciate that while we can give you the statistics for 2018 we are not in a position to assess completely the pastoral life of our parish. What we can say, like many another parish throughout Scotland, is that we face a continuing trend of falling numbers attending Sunday Mass and a growing lack of attachment to the life of the Church. Whether or not that signals a decrease in faith in Christ is up for debate! What we can say is that there is a real challenge for all of us, priest and people alike, to enliven the life of the Church, parish by parish, so that our faith communities once again become vibrant and zealous for the Kingdom of God.

INCOME

ORDINARY INCOME (OFFERTORY COLLECTION)

2017	2018
£106,447.12	£121,277.27

REFUNDS TO THE PARISH

2017	2018
£6,243.81	£3,424.05

THE GIFTAID RECLAIM

2017	2018
£11,022.45	£16,415.98

INCOME FROM THE STALL

2017	2018
£4,680.00	£5,634.81

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS*

2017	2018
£22,291.87	£25,573.20

DONATIONS TO THE PARISH

2017	2018
£244.43	£2,283.63

VOTIVE CANDLES

2017	2018
£6,772.97	£10,012.66

LEGACIES TO THE PARISH

2017	2018
£4,250.00	£0.00

HALL RENTALS

2017	2018
£13,616.79	£16,723.20

FUNDRAISING (CHURCH ROOF)

2017	2018
£6,648.80	£4,105.37

HALL CATERING

2017	2018
£2,451.28	£2,681.03

THE LOURDES FUND

2017	2018
£150.00	£575.70

DIOCESAN PASTORAL INVESTMENT FUND (PIF) **

2017	2018
£29.52	£114.95

TOTAL ANNUAL INCOME

2017	2018
£189,682.84	£208,821.85

* These collections are taken up annually for The Holy Places, Communications, Peter's Pence, Crib Offerings, Justice and Peace, Lenten Appeal for the Diocese, Catholic Education, Students and Retired Priests, Day for Life, Missio, Deanery Mission appeal, SCIAF Boxes and SCIAF Collection on the Fourth Sunday of Lent. The money collected comes into the parish but is paid out to the organisations and groups.

** Investments we have with the diocese through PIF – a building fund for the diocese to help parishes with major repairs or new builds and PAF (Pastoral Aid Fund— used to help poorer parishes in our diocese who struggle to make ends meet). The above figures are the interest paid back to the parish.

EXPENDITURE

HOUSEKEEPING COSTS

2017	2018
£6,668.28	£4,847.87

HOUSE REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE

2017	2018
£11,961.58	£377.13

HOUSE FURNISHINGS

2017	2018
£11,172.69	£4,387.52

CHURCH REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE

2017	2018
£2,047.79	£6,446.99

CHURCH FURNISHINGS AND VESTMENTS

2017	2018
£1,798.33	£6,544.04

DIVINE SERVICE

2017	2018
£9,949.31	£14,601.77

PARISH STALL

2017	2018
£4,625.52	£4,669.25

SUPPLY AND CHURCH FEES

2017	2018
£7,830.80	£8,827.87

HALL REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE

2017	2018
£5,424.67	£972.64

FURNISHINGS FOR THE HALL

2017	2018
£3,318.40	£7,276.13

BAR CATERING

2017	2018
£4,179.80	£0.00

HALL CLEANING

2017	2018
£3,543.82	£1,560.29

HALL WAGES

2017	2018
£3,462.60	£3,332.00

MAINTENANCE AND REPAIRS OF GROUNDS

2017	2018
£1,947.22	£4,592.86

PRINTING, STATIONARY & ADMIN

2017	2018
£7,839.92	£7,994.64

AUDIT AND PROFESSIONAL COSTS

2017	2018
£690.00	£1,064.00

FURNISHINGS AND EQUIPMENT FOR THE OFFICE

2017	2018
£598.53	£303.00

DIOCESAN MANAGEMENT

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

2017	2018
£22,291.87	£25,573.20

THE DIOCESAN LEVY

2017	2018
£28,419.04	£31,512.56

PASTORAL INVESTMENT FUND & PASTORAL AID

2017	2018
£0.00	£30,000.00

PIF INTEREST

2017	2018
£29.52	£114.95

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS 2017

	2017	2018		2017	2018
St Margaret's Crib Collection	£501.13	£665.31	Student/Retired Priests Boxes	£1,524.97	£2,583.10
Justice & Peace	£1,048.25	£1,031.99	SCIAF Boxes	£2,606.27	£3,660.31
Lenten Appeal	£1,015.04	£1,032.76	SCIAF Collection	£3,501.03	£1,759.03
Education	£772.80	£1,840.53	Holy Places	£1,017.46	£1,625.69
Deanery Mission	£2,338.90	£2,256.10	Communications	£788.61	£922.56
Student Priest	£1,785.26	£1,214.43	Day for Life	£173.30	£905.81
Peter's Pence	£610.35	£1,187.32	MISSIO	£2,848.30	£3,021.10

PARISH MANAGEMENT

PASTORAL RENEWAL

2017	2018
£0.00	£1,269.88

CLERGY SALARIES

2017	2018
£4,639.69	£6,121.20

CLERGY PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

2017	2018
£762.73	£26.00

SALARIES FOR EMPLOYEES

2017	2018
£13,583.60	£11,078.87

DONATIONS TO CHARITIES

2017	2018
£697.00	£2,540.93

TELEPHONE

2017	2018
£535.39	£474.70

TRAVEL EXPENSES & CAR INSURANCE

2017	2018
£2,786.02	£1,726.69

COUNCIL TAX

2017	2018
£1,935.34	£3,005.75

HEAT & LIGHT

2017	2018
£11,887.37	£13,147.35

WATER RATES

2017	2018
£0.00	£0.00

ST ANDREW'S & ST BRIDE'S CHAPLAINCY FUND

2017	2018
£614.00	£0.00

OVERALL INSURANCE

2017	2018
£4,073.88	£4,805.02

GIFTS FROM PARISH

2017	2018
£1,000.00	£1,239.74

HOSPITALITY

2017	2018
£2,081.24	£4,116.78

TOTAL EXPENDITURE

2017	2018
£185,923.95	£214,929.87

BANK BALANCE IN PARISH CURRENT ACCOUNT AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 2018
£20,680.98

BANK BALANCE IN HALL COMMITTEE ACCOUNT AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 2018
£10,428.90

BANK BALANCE IN DEPOSIT/INTEREST ACCOUNT AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 2018
£421.94

PIF

2017	2018
£11,837.76	£41,952.71

GRAND TOTAL HELD IN PARISH ACCOUNTS (INCLUDING PIF)

2017	2018
£49,477.60	£73,484.53

PARISH PASTORAL STATEMENT 2018

First of all, It is well-nigh impossible to have an accurate figure for the number of people in our parish. We have inherited a figure of 5600 parishioners.

What we can say is that we have some accuracy when it comes to Mass attendance. We take a count of Mass attenders on the first Sunday of each month - except, of course, when we forget to do it! However, we faithfully take a count of those at Mass on the prescribed Sunday in November - usually the first Sunday in November for all Catholic Churches throughout Scotland. So, on Sunday 4th November 2018, we had 178 at the Vigil Mass; 170 at 9.00am Mass; 323 at 11.00am Mass; and 67 at 6.30pm Mass. This gives a total of 738 at Mass that weekend. Perhaps another "figure" which might help put some perspective on this official tally for the Diocese of Motherwell would be the numbers who attend at Christmas and also at Easter. Certainly, about 1200 people attended Mass at Christmas and about 1000 attended Mass at Easter last year. The fact is that an increasing number of Catholics attend Mass regularly but not every week. Some come for those occasions - like Christmas and Easter, and perhaps Ash Wednesday and Good Friday - where they show some adherence to the faith and the Church. How things have changed over the years!

Our attendance at weekday Masses averages about 100 people. That's a very healthy number and we thank God for that. Priests and other visitors to our parish comment very favourably on the numbers at our weekday Masses and, generally, at the very evident faith of our community as well as our participation in the celebration of Mass, whether that be a Sunday or a weekday.

Obviously, the number of young people from our Primary Schools and our Secondary Schools who attend Mass is cause for great concern as the vast majority have long ceased to gather with the community for Sunday Mass. This worries many of us and is a challenge for everyone. However, there is no value in bemoaning the way things are in terms of the practice of the faith through the lack of participation in Sunday Mass and the other Sacraments of the Church. We have to seek ways to reach out to those who still consider themselves Catholic, even if their relationship with the parish is rather tenuous. We have to welcome our people when they turn to us, be that at the time of Baptism, First Confession, First Communion, Confirmation or Marriage. Funerals, too, provide an opportunity to reach out to others. Maybe "welcome" is a key word for pastoral strategies and should be a key experience for those who come to us. There can be no room for complacency or any kind of feeling of superiority from those who practise their faith when it comes to others who - for whatever reason - no longer regularly or meaningfully practise their faith. We have to engage in a process of discerning where the Lord is in all of this and seeing where he is calling and leading his Church.

Now for some statistics for 2018. We celebrated 34 baptisms, 9 marriages, 48 funerals and 34 children celebrated their First Holy Communion.

Last year, we saw the establishment of the Our Lady of Lourdes Men's Group with a group of between 11 and 18 from our parish supporting this venture. Fr Sean continued his work with young people in Sixth Year of Secondary School in the Caritas Programme as well as forming a Young Adults Group. These groups meet on Sunday evenings after Mass on alternate Sundays and they have a mix of catechetics, spiritual input and some social time together.

A modest catechetical programme has been put in place for the First Communicants and for their parents and carers and several parishioners support this initiative. Our intention is to develop this programme and roll it out for First Confession children and their parents and carers. In time, we intend having a programme for all the Sacraments.

At this point, we would like to thank all who have been involved in preparing for First Communion. This has been a very encouraging experience for those of us involved with the parents, carers and families, and we hope we can really build on this for the future.

One of the highlights of Lent 2018 was the attendance at Fr Andrew Robinson's talks on the Passion of St Mark's Gospel which was informative and inspiring.

We thank Sunday and Weekday Readers, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, Altar Servers, Church Cleaners, Flower Arrangers, Passkeepers, the St Vincent de Paul Society and the Legion of Mary. We appreciate all who give up so much of their time to maintain and promote the Parish Hall. Thank you for the financial support you give to the parish especially to those who are able to participate in the GiftAid scheme. The devotional groups of Pro-Life, the Padre Pio Prayer Group, the Mothers' Prayer Group and the Friday Vocations Group all make a vital contribution to the prayer life of our parish. Thanks to those who run the Parish Stall. The Third World Group and the organisation of the monthly support for the Local Foodbank help our parish to reach out to those in need both locally and in the wider world. Finally, thank you to our musicians and singers for the positive contribution they make to our parish liturgy.

Throughout the year we offered opportunities to our Primary Schools for Mass, Confessions, Stations of the Cross and other celebrations marking the Liturgical life of the Church. We also provided an opportunity in Lent for the senior pupils to spend time viewing the copy of the Shroud of Turin.

Finally, we thank the Parish Pastoral Planning Team and the Parish Finance Team for the assistance, advice and interest they take in the pastoral, financial and administrative management of our parish.