

'Snowscape Dublin' – Copyright © Katsuya

CHURCH OF THE HOLY NAME, BEECHWOOD AVENUE UPPER

UPDATE FROM THE PARISH FINANCE COMMITTEE

2022 IN REVIEW

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Thank you once again to all the parishioners, friends and neighbours who have supported the Parish in 2022. To all who are new to the parish, we thank you for choosing to become part of the community of The Church of the Holy Name and for your support this year.

This document is prepared and compiled by the Parish Finance Committee, with the help and support of Fr Paul Taylor, and Mary Newman, Parish Secretary.

The Parish Pastoral Council have also provided input to this document to update on pastoral activity in 2022, and we thank them for all their work in the Parish in 2022.

The work of the many volunteers in the Parish continues to be invaluable to the Church community, especially the efforts of those involved in cleaning, flower arranging and upkeep of the Church and its grounds. Your consistent care and attention to ensure that The Church of the Holy Name is looking its best, is much appreciated by everyone.

Tom Bluett and Bluett Conran Chartered Accountants have supported and assisted the Parish Team when required during the year, and we wish to extend our gratitude for their continued service.

This year we also wish to thank a new local resident, the artist, Katsuya, who has so beautifully captured the neighbourhood rooftops in his painting 'Snowscape Dublin'. The painting was inspired by the view of the rooftops from the bell tower in the Church of the Holy Name. Katsuya has very kindly allowed us to feature it on the cover this year.

"No one can whistle a symphony. It takes a whole orchestra to play it"

- Halford E. Luccock

'For I know the plans I have for you,' declares the Lord, 'plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.'" – *Jeremiah 29:11*

Dear Parishioners and Friends

2022 was a year of great activity in Beechwood Parish, with plenty of work to go around.

The start of the year was taken up with planning and progressing work around housing for clergy, church electrical works, railings repair, installation of church tea station and the Pastoral Committee garden project.

The renovation and refurbishment of the parochial house at Beechwood Avenue Upper was a notable achievement in 2022, and the Parish was delighted to be able to welcome Fr Paul Taylor as a new parish resident last August.

In the wider Dublin Diocese the *Building for Hope* programme got underway, and our Parish participated with a submission to the Diocese to assist with the early work on the programme back in Spring 2022. We are grateful to those who came together in our *Building for Hope* committee and for all of the support and contributions made.

The *Building for Hope* initiative involves people and priests working together within new pastoral areas made up of groups of parishes in partnership. Change is never without its challenges, but we believe our Parish has good foundations on which to build opportunities for community and faith in the new framework. Our Parish Committees aim to foster and develop community spirit through their annual calendar of events and activities. They continue to look at ways to bring the community together, and to build and maintain relationships within the Parish. They are always open to new ideas and support. We would encourage anyone with time and interest in volunteering or participating in any Parish or Diocesan initiatives to contact Mary Newman in the Parish Office, and she will be happy to take your details and connect you as appropriate.

Spreading the word about The Church of the Holy Name and community activities and initiatives is important. Our parish newsletter is delivered weekly via email, and for 2023 the Parish Team would love to increase circulation. If you know of anyone who would like to receive it please ask them to contact the parish office and they can provide their details. The Parish also uses its website and Instagram page to share and promote its activities. We would be delighted with new followers on Instagram - @church.of.the.holy.name. This year the Parish Pastoral Council also have plans to update the website, so keep checking in at <u>www.beechwoodparish.com</u> to see the progress. Please also let us know if you have any suggestions for content or information that you would like to see included.

In our parish masses, we continue to pray for all of those who have suffered and continue to be impacted by conflict around the world. We pray especially for our Ukrainian neighbours, many of whom have found refuge with their families in our locality.

The primary aim of this Finance Review is to keep parishioners informed on parish funding. We hope you will find it helpful, and we thank you for your continued support.

The Church of the Holy Name Parish Finance Committee.

Financial Overview 2022

The Finance Committee is very grateful to parishioners for their continued support of the parish in 2022. Your support and contributions during the year via standing orders, donations, online payments, and envelopes is appreciated.

During the past year, the parish has been able to add 'Tap & Go' to its methods of receiving your contributions, and we believe this will assist in 2023 to increase the level of ongoing day-to-day funding. Tap & Go is becoming a more frequently used method of donation, especially for once-off or occasional visitors to the church. However, regular and consistent income such as that from standing orders and weekly envelopes allows the parish to have better certainty of income and to plan its finances more effectively; accordingly, the Finance Committee greatly appreciates when these methods are used for regular donations. Furthermore, these methods allow the parish to identify payments from individual donors; when donations from any one individual cumulatively exceed €250 in a given year, the parish can also claim valuable tax refunds from the Revenue Commissioners (in 2022 these tax refunds amounted to almost €37,000).

A summary of the income and expenditure for 2022, together with related explanatory notes, is set out in Appendix 1. This summary is based on draft financial statements from the parish system and is subject to review and audit as part of the overall Archdiocesan Audited Accounts. All numbers in this Financial Review are reported in thousands of euro (to one decimal place).

The net cash outlay (expenditure in excess of income) of €28,100 reported for the year <u>excludes</u> a number of once-off expenditures incurred in relation to a number of Parish projects undertaken during 2022, and it also excludes depreciation which is a non-cash item. The once-off items, which are also detailed in the table in Appendix 1 include; the refurbishment of the parochial house at 43 Upper Beechwood Avenue, and a number of major repair works for the Church, including the electrical systems and lighting, the installation of the tea station at the back of the church, repairs to the church railings and development of the garden in the church grounds.

Overall income for the parish in 2022 increased by €24,300 to €178,600 compared with €154,300 in 2021. This increase mainly reflects the benefit of the new parking arrangements and a return to more normal activities at the Parish Pastoral Centre in 2022 following the pandemic-related disruption in 2020/21. Also included is a once-off insurance receipt and a contribution from the Sounds of Samhain concert discussed in the Pastoral Care and Social Contribution section below.

At the same time 2022 also saw operating cash outlays incurred by the parish increase by €24,300 to €210,800, with the main increases arising in utility costs and in music outlays, as the parish benefitted from the musical participation of the highly talented Dublin Six Consort at many of our services throughout the year.

The overall result for the parish was, therefore, a net cash outlay, or deficit, of $\leq 28,100$ (cash outlays of $\leq 206,700$ less income of $\leq 178,600$); this was similar to the net cash outlay reported in 2021. On a monthly basis, the parish has a net cash outlay or deficit of approximately $\leq 2,300$ in funding its day-to-day costs, and this is not sustainable for the parish. In addition, an annual non-cash depreciation charge of approximately $\leq 22,000$ is attributable to the parish.

A key priority for the Parish Team in the coming years will be to find ways to increase income/reduce operating costs to ensure that the parish is operating within its means.

Parish Property – General Update

The Beechwood Parish Pastoral Centre ("the Pastoral Centre") & Car Park:

In 2022 the parish welcomed a return to more normal activity in the Pastoral Centre. The return of most indoor classes and the addition of some new activities helped to boost income (rental) receipts from €20,600 in 2021 to €32,600 for 2022. It is important that the Pastoral Centre generates income to support its running and maintenance costs, and the Finance Committee actively keeps arrangements at the centre under review.

Income from the carpark was €3,900 in 2022 and provides an important contribution to overall running costs of the Pastoral Centre. It continues to be managed by APCOA Parking Services, and within the hours set out, parking must be paid for via the APCOA app. The Finance Committee is responsible for reviewing the arrangements in conjunction with the Parish Team. The Parish office does not manage the parking or payments, and all enquiries on parking charges should be made to APCOA (Website: <u>www.apcoa.ie</u>).

The Parish Team monitors the use of the centre and the car park, and endeavours to ensure that both indoor and outdoor spaces are kept tidy, clear and safe for use, especially for the younger members of our community. We would ask all members of the community be cognisant of the safety of others when using the facility, and to adhere to the rules of use of the Pastoral Centre and its grounds.

Parochial House at Beechwood Avenue:

During 2022, the parish completed the refurbishment of the house at 43 Beechwood Avenue Upper, an important parish asset. The property had been unoccupied for a number of years, and was in a state of very substantial disrepair; it required complete refurbishment including significant work on plumbing and electrical infrastructure. A number of unforeseen issues were unearthed as the work advanced on the property, such as underlying drainage problems, and damage to structures due to damp and woodworm. The property has now been restored to a residential standard, and Fr Paul Taylor was able to move fully over to Beechwood in August of 2022. As noted in Appendix 1, the total paid in 2022 for works was €258,700, and a further amount of €28,600 was paid in 2023.

Church and Grounds Painting & Electrical Works:

Following the identification of a number of electrical and lighting issues in the church in 2021, electrical remediation work was commissioned in 2022, as well as improvements to indoor lighting around the Stations of the Cross, to the outdoor church façade and garden lighting, as well as conversion to energy saving LED. In addition, a number of internal areas where damage was identified or attention was considered necessary were also treated and painted, including parts of the interior church walls, the sacristy, the office and the external church doors. Overall, the upgrade, painting and electrical works cost €90,700.

Cleaning and painting works to the church railings were completed in March 2022, at a cost of €17,000. The works were important to ensure the railings are protected from rust and deterioration.

The Church is also looking at the very necessary replacement of the old emergency lighting system which it hopes to advance in 2023. Costs are currently being determined.

Tea Station:

The installation of the Tea Station at the rear of the Church has been a very popular addition among our community, and the feedback to the Parish team has been very positive. In its first year of operation it has served as a gathering place for parishioners and friends to share a cup of tea after mass; for refreshments for children and their families after sacrament preparation; for pastoral care occasions. The Parish Pastoral Council has plans to organise further events around this facility in 2023 which will benefit pastoral care and the church community.

The final cost of the work which involved significant rewiring and plumbing to accommodate the new facilities, was €21,700.

Garden Works:

Fr Paul Taylor and the Pastoral Team advanced works on the Church gardens in 2022, which included new landscaping and planting, tree remediation, and new seating areas. Costs of €32,700 were incurred. A number of parishioners contributed directly to the cost of the bench seating and their support is very much appreciated. The parish has a gardening group of volunteers that meet regularly in the garden to tend to the weeding and upkeep of the shrubs and flower beds. New members are always welcome.

Pastoral Care & Social Contribution:

After so many lengthy periods apart, getting back together was a focus for the community in 2022. Our parish priest Fr Paul Taylor supports and encourages parishioners, neighbours and friends to come together through the church.

For our local school children taking sacraments of Communion and Confirmation, the Church of the Holy Name was delighted to be able to hold preparation and practice sessions this year, and see the growth of our community through these young people. The return to a normal calendar for sacraments was also very much welcomed by all.

The Archdiocese of Dublin introduced the Building for Hope Framework for its parishes in Spring 2022. Fr Paul formed a parish working group, to contribute to this initiative. A series of parish meetings resulted in a submission to the Archdiocese in order to support their strategic planning. Our parish partnership cluster of Beechwood, Rathgar, Rathmines, Mount Argus and Harold's Cross was announced in 2022, and the parish priests and committees will continue to work on the plans in the coming year.

The Pastoral Council commissioned works to the Church Garden in 2022, designed by Ranelagh based Greenedge Design, and carried out by another local firm Absolute Landscapes. Works included planting of fruit trees, building and planting of new flower beds, and the introduction of seating areas for parishioners to enjoy the gardens. The Parish is fortunate to have a number of gardening enthusiasts in the neighbourhood who have formed a gardening group to help with regular upkeep; Gonzaga College students have also volunteered their time to work in the gardens in recent months.

Community spirit and neighbourly support is at the centre of the work of the Ranelagh Community Response Team, and the Church of the Holy Name was delighted to be able to host their awards ceremony in the church in November 2022. Muckross Park College students helped out serving refreshments for our local heroes on the night. In late November, Ranelagh native Maitiú Ó Casaide brought together an ensemble of talented musicians for 'The Sounds of Samhain 'concert which was held in the church. An evening of traditional music, as well as music of their own composition, was beautifully delivered to a full Church. Liam O' Maonlaí closed the evening with a soulful performance of "Ag Críost an Síol". We are grateful to everyone involved for all their hard work in bringing this event together, and to the community for all of the positive feedback. The Pastoral Council hopes to arrange a similar event in 2023.

Music was also a strong feature in December, with Christmas Concerts from the Ranelagh Singers, Il Coro Italiano, and the Dublin Six Consort led by Frank O' Donnell, and the performance of the Nativity play of Lios na nÓg gaelscoil. The outdoor Crib was opened in early December, and attracted many young visitors to the garden over Advent and the Christmas period.

Our Lady Immaculate Senior National School in Darndale was again the focus of the Annual Toy Collection in 2022. Parishioners, local schools and families gave generously, and so many gave time and support for organising collection and delivery. The generosity of the parish community is hugely appreciated by the school and recognised as an important support for many of their children and families at Christmas. The Parish is committed to offering support where it can to other parishes where social disadvantage might exist.

The 2023 Pastoral Calendar got off to a strong start, with further events planned throughout the year. Spring events have included a new programme of parish walks; parishioners sharing pancakes on Shrove Tuesday; Lenten Talks at Gonzaga College; the introduction of Sunday Evening Prayer and Benediction with musical support from Frank O' Donnell and the Dublin Six Consort; a joint trip to Knock with partner parishes; a gathering and blessing for families who had celebrated christenings in 2022; the Ranelagh Rockets Cake Sale and Fundraiser.

Appendix 1. Summarised Income and Expenditure Statement 2022

The figures presented here are extracted from the information supplied by the Parish Office to the Diocese for the purposes of the overall Diocesan financial statements each year. The numbers for 2022 are preliminary (draft) and subject to audit.

All amounts are reported in thousands of euro, rounded to one decimal place.

In the summarised statement overleaf, figures are presented for the year (2022, in blue font) with comparative numbers also shown for the previous years. Where relevant, prior year numbers have been adjusted to reflect the final adjustments arising from the Diocesan audit process in those years. Notes explaining the key changes between 2022 and 2021 are also included overleaf.

As is the case for all parishes in the Dublin Diocese, all monies collected during the first collection at Masses in our church, and the Christmas and Easter Dues, are submitted directly to the Common Fund of the Diocese where they are used to support clergy who are in active ministry in the Diocese (including the priests in our parish), and to support sick and retired priests. In the summer of 2022 there was again an appeal for Summer Dues to help offset some of the shortfall in the Diocesan Common Fund which is still feeling the impact of the pandemic.

The monies contributed by our parishioners for the second collection also go to the Diocese for SHARE, the diocesan fund used to support the building of schools and churches in developing areas and also as a contribution to the central administration costs of the Diocese. The SHARE collection is from time to time replaced by special diocesan collections such as appeals for the St Vincent de Paul, Crosscare and Mission Sunday. The parish is very grateful to parishioners who continued to make contributions for the support of priests in the Diocese and for the Share and other diocesan collections in 2022.

Funds that are not retained in the parish, are shown in the shaded section of the table overleaf for information. They are <u>not</u> included in the income or the net cash deficit of the parish. The funds collected at Masses during 2022 have increased substantially from 2021 and 2020 levels, back to a level more in line with pre-covid 2019 collections. This is reflective of a return of greater numbers of individuals attending mass in person.

For information, at the end of the table overleaf, we show the total funds generated in the parish, which in 2022 amounted to €291,600 (2021: €230,300).

Summarised Income and Expenditure Statement – Beechwood Parish

All amounts in euro 000's		Note	2022	2021	2020
			draft		
Funds collected locally and paid to Diocese			02.4	20.0	22.4
First and Second collections at Masses			82.4	38.0	33.4
Christmas, Easter and Summer Dues	_		30.6	38.0	28.3
Total paid directly to Diocese `	Α		113.0	76.0	61.7
Parish income (cash received)					
Standing orders/envelopes, donations, bequests		1	68.4	73.9	84.0
Tax refunds on donations		2	36.9	31.8	45.7
Rent and other income (mainly Parish Pastoral Centre)		3	47.0	23.0	20.5
Income from shrines (candles), sacraments, other		4	26.3	25.6	19.2
Total income retained in the parish	В		178.6	154.3	169.4
Device (case outlove)					
Parish Costs (cash outlays)		E	44.0	39.9	37.0
Facilities (including insurance, utilities, cleaning) Repairs and maintenance		5 6	44.9 27.3	39.9 28.0	37.0 23.4
Staff and contractor salaries/remuneration		7	57.4	28.0 57.4	25.4 36.5
All other costs		8	77.1	57.4 57.1	38.2
	С	0	206.7	182.4	
Total cash costs incurred by the parish	Ľ		200.7	182.4	135.1
Net cash (outlay)/income for the year	B less C		(28.1)	(28.1)	34.3
Net cash (outlay)/ income for the year			(20.1)	(20.1)	54.5
Other key figures not included shows					
Other key figures not included above:					
Non-cash depreciation expense attributed to the parish			(21.9)	(22.3)	(22.0)
Cash impact of Once-off / Exceptional Items in the year		9			
Proceeds from sale of 67 Edenvale Road				1,090.0	
Auctioneers' fees, legal costs and Diocesan Tax				(37.6)	
Renovations of Parochial House 43 Beechwood Avenue			(258.7)	· · /	
Church and grounds:					
- Painting, upgrades and electrical works			(90.7)		
- Tea station and associated works			(21.7)		
- Church railings			(17.0)		
- Garden development			(32.7)		
•			(420.8)	1,052.4	
Total once-off items			/	,	
Total once-off items					
Summary of total funds generated in the parish:			142.0	76.0	64 -
Summary of total funds generated in the parish: Total paid directly to Diocese	A		113.0	76.0	61.7
Summary of total funds generated in the parish: Total paid directly to Diocese Total income retained in the parish	A B A plus B		113.0 178.6 291.6	76.0 154.3 230.3	61.7 169.4 231.1

Notes to the summarised income and expenditure statement:

Note 1: Standing orders/envelopes, donations, bequests

Regular contributions are the main source of income to meet your parish's running costs, and the parish is very grateful to those parishioners who give regular weekly or monthly contributions. Income from regular standing orders and weekly envelopes decreased in 2022, but was partly offset by an increase in online donations and bequests. Contributions can be made using the Donate button on the website, or by cash or cheque through the parish office.

Note 2: Tax refunds on donations

As a registered charity, the Parish is entitled to claim tax relief from the Revenue Commissioners in respect of cumulative donations in excess of €250 from individual parishioners in a calendar year. This tax relief, which is of significant benefit to parish funding, does not give rise to any additional costs to the donor. There is significant paperwork involved in claiming the relief: the Parish office needs to contact each parishioner who has donated more than €250 to get their PPS number in order to make the claim, and also needs to keep a record of all payments by parishioner, as no tax claim can be made for anonymous donations. A lot of work has been done on this area in the past year or so, and the significant amounts reclaimed in the past three years reflect the collection of tax credits in respect of prior years.

Note 3: Rent and other income (mainly Parish Pastoral Centre)

The Parish Pastoral Centre is used by a number of third parties who pay rent for the use of the facilities. 2022 saw a significant uptake in use, as a result of a resumption of more normal activity post – Covid-19. The primary rental receipts were up by approximately €12,000 versus 2021, and this rental income is important to allow the upkeep and running costs of the Centre to be covered. Also included under this heading is the €3,900 income from the paid car parking in the Pastorial Centre, which was up approximately €3,000 compared with last year.

Other income for 2022 includes an insurance receipt of €6,800 which represented the parish's allocation of a total Covid-19-related claim agreed with the Archdiocese's insurer, and a contribution of €1,500 from the Sounds of Samhain concert.

Note 4: Shrine income and contributions for sacraments (Confirmations, Weddings, Communions, Baptisms)

We saw a decrease of approximately €4,500 in our shrine income in 2022, but nonetheless at a total of €12,500 for the year, the contribution from parishioners to light candles remains an important source of income for the parish.

Resumption of more normal arrangements for the sacraments was possible in 2022, and as a result related contributions increased to €13,800, well ahead of last year (€8,800), more than offsetting the decline in shrine income.

Note 5: Facilities

Facilities costs, which comprise primarily insurance, heating, electricity, lighting and cleaning costs, were up 12.5% approximately in 2022. The impact of the global increase in energy costs filtered through in the last quarter of the year, but usage and cost continues to be monitored by the Parish Team to minimise costs. The significant investment in electrical upgrades during 2022 is expected to minimise future energy costs.

Note 6: Repairs and maintenance

Repairs and maintenance costs of €27,300 in 2022 were slightly lower than 2021, and exclude certain one-off costs noted in Note 9.

Note 7: Salaries

The parish employs a Parish Secretary, a Sacristan and Children's Choir Director, and also engages individuals for project work on part-time basis. Costs in 2022 were broadly similar to 2021.

Note 8: Other costs

This caption includes all the other normal costs incurred in running the parish, including office equipment, printing, publications, legal and professional fees, bank charges and catering. Also included here is €24,200 related to the enhancement during 2022 of the overall liturgical music programme primarily for the 11.00am Sunday mass, including the *Dublin Six Consort* choir.

Note 9: Exceptional / Once off Items

With the benefit of the proceeds from the sale in 2021 of number 67 Edenvale Road a number of long overdue projects were completed in 2022, and the associated expenditures (described in detail on pages 4 and 5 above) are considered once off or exceptional as they do not represent ongoing operational costs of running the parish.

Appendix 2:

SUPPORTING BEECHWOOD PARISH

The ongoing costs of running our parish, which include the upkeep of the church, insurance, salaries of the lay staff, heating and lighting, supplies for the altar, pastoral initiatives and communications etc., are financed primarily by contributions from parishioners. There are a number of ways in which you can donate:

Donate via our website:

🖸 DONATE

www.beechwoodparish.com

The Donate facility on the parish website allows you to make once-off contributions or to set up recurring weekly/monthly donations to the parish, and also to contribute to specific projects such as the garden project, flowers in the church. You can also pay for

Sacramental Schools Programs, Baptism/Confirmation certificates and Mass Intentions via the website.

Tap and Go

There is a dedicated Tap and Go machine for contributions towards the running of the parish at the rear of the Church.

Envelopes/Standing orders/Annual donations:

You can make regular contributions using a family offering envelope or by standing order or by online bank transfer. You can set up a standing order using your own online banking facility, or by requesting a standing order form from your Bank. Each bank generally has its own process for submission of standing order forms, but if you have any queries, the Parish Office is happy to help where it can. We are also very pleased to accept cash or cheques which you may leave in the Parish Office.

Strikepay: Recently introduced in 2021 for our candle stands, the Strikepay contactless payment system allows you to scan the QR Code and Pay with your phone.

SUPPORTING THE DUBLIN DIOCESE

As is the case for all parishes in the Dublin Diocese, all monies donated during the Sunday Mass collections in our church, and the Christmas, Easter and Summer Dues, are submitted directly to the Common Fund of the Diocese.

Weekly church collections:

There are 2 collections at each weekend Mass:

- The 1st collection is used to support all diocesan clergy, those in active ministry and priests who are ill or retired.
- The 2nd collection is for Share and allows the Diocese to provide support to parish communities in child safeguarding, education and schools, repairs to buildings, prudent financial management, human resources and training people to work in evangelisation and catechesis.

Parishioners can contribute to these collections in a number of ways:

- a) In cash, at the physical collections during Sunday and Holy Day Masses
- b) Using the diocesan 'Tap & Go' stands at the back of the church
- c) By cheque, made out to the Church of the Holy Name , and handed in to the Parish Office
- d) Via the Donate button on the website

Christmas, Easter & Summer Dues:

Dues are used by the Diocese to support clergy who are in active ministry in the Diocese and also in support of retired and/or ill clergy. Envelopes are distributed to each household in the parish in the weeks preceding Christmas and Easter, and last year for the Summer Dues Collections. Envelopes are also available in the church at these times. You can return envelopes with cheques (made out to Church of the Holy Name) to the parish office. You may also make Dues contributions via the donate button on the parish website, by selecting the Dues/Offerings option.