



**AN OPEN DOOR -  
A PLACE TO PRAY**

**Church open each  
Friday**

**from**

**12.30pm –3.00pm  
for private prayer.**

**SERVICES FOR JUNE**

**Wednesday 3rd June**

11.00am Holy Communion &  
Intercessions for the sick

**Sunday 7th June**

**First Sunday after Trinity**  
8.30am Holy Communion  
10.30am Morning Worship &  
Sunday School  
7.00pm Compline

**Sunday 14th June**

**Second Sunday after Trinity**  
8.30am Holy Communion  
10.30am Morning Worship &  
Sunday School  
7.00pm Holy Communion

**Sunday 21st June**

**Third Sunday after Trinity**  
8.30am Holy Communion  
10.30am Morning Worship &  
Sunday School  
7.00pm Compline

**Sunday 28th June**

**Fourth Sunday after Trinity**  
8.30am Holy Communion  
10.30am Holy Communion &  
Sunday School  
7.00pm Compline

**SERVICES FOR JULY**

**Wednesday 1st July**

11.00am Holy Communion &  
Intercessions for the sick

**Sunday 5th July**

**Fifth Sunday after Trinity**  
8.30am Holy Communion  
10.30am Praise Service  
7.00pm Compline

**Sunday 12th July**

**Sixth Sunday after Trinity**  
8.30am Holy Communion  
10.30am Morning Worship  
7.00pm Holy Communion

**Sunday 19th July**

**Seventh Sunday after Trinity**  
8.30am Holy Communion  
10.30am Morning Worship  
7.00pm Compline

**Sunday 26th July**

**Eighth Sunday after Trinity**  
8.30am Holy Communion  
10.30am Holy Communion  
7.00pm Compline

**SERVICES FOR AUGUST**

**Sunday 2nd August**

**Ninth Sunday after Trinity**  
8.30am Holy Communion  
10.30am Morning Worship  
7.00pm Compline

**Wednesday 5th August**

11.00am Holy Communion &  
Intercessions for the  
Sick

**Sunday 9th August**

**Tenth Sunday after Trinity**  
8.30am Holy Communion  
10.30am Morning Worship  
7.00pm Holy Communion

**Sunday 16th August**

**Eleventh Sunday after Trinity**  
8.30am Holy Communion  
10.30am Morning Worship  
7.00pm Compline

**Sunday 23rd August**

**Twelfth Sunday after Trinity**  
8.30am Holy Communion  
10.30am Holy Communion  
7.00pm Compline

**Sunday 30th August**

**Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity**  
8.30am Holy Communion  
10.30am Morning Worship  
7.00pm Compline

**SERVICES FOR SEPTEMBER**

**Wednesday 2nd September**

11.00am Holy Communion &  
Intercessions for the Sick

**Sunday 6th September**

**Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity**  
8.30am Holy Communion  
10.30am Short All Age  
Family Service  
and Sunday School resumes  
followed by BBQ  
7.00pm Compline

**Sunday 13th September**

**Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity**  
8.30am Holy Communion  
10.30am Morning Worship &  
Sunday School  
7.00pm Holy Communion

**PASTORAL CARE**

It is a privilege for clergy to  
visit parishioners who are ill  
in hospital.

Please telephone the Rector  
or Ann Blair, our Pastoral  
Assistant (02891 883748),  
should a member of the  
Parish require a hospital  
visit or has returned home.



**Donaghadee Parish Church**

**IN FOCUS**

**Summer Edition**

**2026**

**Rector: Rev Ian R Gamble Tel:02891882594**

Dear Friends,

Marking a 400<sup>th</sup> birthday is quite an event, and I was delighted with the events that surround St. Patrick's tide and the many events that Donaghadee Parish Church hosted as part of the Parish and the town's celebrations of Patrick, our patron saint – "the Apostle of the Irish people." Many thanks to all of the groups who took part in the festivities and especially to Donaghadee Community Development Association and Donaghadee Historical Society, whom we partnered with for several of the events. We estimate that well over 500 people attended events in either the Church or Church Halls during the festivities.

Our Quadricentennial history published in March tells the story of our building over the last four centuries and beyond, and intrinsic to this is the story of the congregations, past and present, whose lives and faith has been rooted in the stones of our church building. As I am constantly reminded, buildings - a home, shop or public building - speak constantly to us, and as a building bears changes, marks and scars, this too reflects the changes in our own lives. This reminded me of a beautiful hymn, the first verse of which roots our lives in Christ the living stone:

*Ye that know the Lord is gracious,  
ye for whom a corner-stone  
stands, of God elect and precious,  
laid that ye may build thereon,  
see that on that sure foundation  
ye a living temple raise,  
towers that may tell forth salvation,  
walls that may re-echo praise.*

I rejoice that the bell of our church tower, and the people within, reflect the message of this hymn that has been proclaimed each Sunday for generations: "You a living temple raise, towers that may tell forth salvation, walls that may re-echo praise."



In our summer edition of In Focus I have included an article from the CMS Ireland web blog for our magazine. In this our 400<sup>th</sup> Anniversary I thought it was a good reminder of the stability we have known as a parish. One church building since 1626, here is a very different story of a church building, St. Luke's, Ibba, South Sudan.

The final verse is a beautiful testimony of lives touched by Jesus Christ:

*Tell the praise of him who called you  
out of darkness into light,  
broke the fetters that enthralled you,  
gave you freedom, peace and sight:  
tell the tale of sins forgiven,  
strength renewed and hope restored.*

In our Parish, we find the reality of the blessings this hymn proclaims in worship and in our lives, week by week. Could I encourage you to ponder; When was the last time I rejoiced because I experienced the joy of sins forgiven and the blessings of freedom, peace and sight?

Very soon we will celebrate Trinity Sunday. May you know the reality of the blessing proclaimed on that day:

God the Holy Trinity  
make you strong in faith and love,  
defend you on every side,  
and guide you in peace and truth.

Revd Ian Gamble  
Rector



**DONAGHADEE SHARING IN MISSION WITH CMS**  
**From a series of hardships, St. Luke's rises from the ashes**

Andrew and Joanne relocated to South Sudan in 2024 to partner with Bishop Wilson Kamani and his staff team in holistic discipleship and ministry in Ibba. The vision of Ibba Diocese is to facilitate peace building and reconciliation, engage in evangelism and prayer, as well as promoting sustainable community development – a vision which the Quills share.

Using their skills in pastoral ministry and counselling, Joanne and Andrew are supporting CMSI's partners in Ibba Diocese as God's kingdom work continues in South Sudan.



Reverend Andrew Quill and his wife Joanne, CMS Ireland Mission partners in South Sudan. Andrew is a Church of Ireland clergyman who served in Dromore Parish, Clogher Diocese.



The original St. Luke's Church damaged by a storm.



St. Luke's temporary Church with the new Church in the background.

In the heart of Ibba, South Sudan, a community is proving that faith isn't just about the building you sit in — it's about the resilience of the people inside it. On Sunday, April 19th 2026, St. Luke's Parish held a vibrant fundraiser with one singular, urgent goal — to finally put a roof on their new church building. The journey to this point has been a literal trial by wind and fire.

The story of St. Luke's over the last two years has been one of incredible perseverance. In April 2024, the original church — a traditional structure of mud walls and grass thatch — was levelled by a fierce storm at the start of the rainy season. Undeterred, the congregation moved their services under the shelter of nearby mango trees, worshipping in the open air.

**Very sadly St. Luke's temporary church was destroyed by an accidental fire. St. Luke's now face the loss of two church buildings.**



**PARISH RECORDS**

**Christian Burial**

**9th April**  
Joan Charlotte Mawhinney

**7th May**  
Allan James Wilson

We extend our sympathy to these families. Please remember them in your prayers.

**PARISH TODDLER GROUP**  
**EACH FRIDAY (term time)**  
**9.30am—11.30am**



Games, songs and lots of toys. Mid-morning we take a break and enjoy a healthy kid's snack and tea/coffee with some tasty refreshments for the adults. Why not come along and enjoy a fantastic morning!



**THE PILGRIM DISCIPLESHIP STUDY GROUP**

**Tuesdays at 7.45pm in the Sanctuary.**

**MONDAY CLUB**  
**Fun, fellowship and great craic!**

**Coffee ..... Quizzes ..... Poetry**

**Every Monday 2.00pm—4.00pm in The Sanctuary.**

**Come and join us!**

**CONTACT**

CONTACT	NAME	PHONE
Pastoral Assistant	Ann Blair	91883748
Diocesan Lay Reader	David Monahan	91884278
Rector's Church Warden	David Martin	07976845733
People's Church Warden	Thomas Cunningham	07354255479
Rector's Glebe Warden	Ian Henderson	07968151156
People's Glebe Warden	Gary Robinson	07860197082
Hon. Secretary	Diane Finlay	07740250143
Hon. Treasurer	Heather Heaney	07754506415
Scouting Association	Katie	07870556767
Guiding Association	Wendy	07711518836
Parish Toddlers	Mandy Humphreys	077595699
Indoor Bowling Club	Frank Humphreys	91452862
Parish Secretary	Lilian Cunningham	91882962
Female Faith	Avril Walker	91861445
Monday Club	Katie Henderson	91274206
In Focus Convenor	George Goggins	91883458

**OFFICE HOURS**

Wednesday & Friday mornings

9.30am - 12.30pm

Website: [www.donaghadeeparish.co.uk](http://www.donaghadeeparish.co.uk)

# ST PATRICK'S DAY CELEBRATIONS



Donaghadee Parish hosted our town's St Patrick's Tide celebrations. We partnered with Donaghadee Community Development Association and Donaghadee Historical Society. Events included an evening of Irish Dancing with traditional Irish music. Dr Tim Campbell from the St Patrick's Centre, Downpatrick, and Ken Dawson and Tom Neill (both local historians) provided an evening of history talks.



Our Mayor, Cllr Gillian McCollum, joined us for several of our celebrations.



We hosted the Donaghadee Harp Festival with Ruth Corry and the Sky Harp Ensemble along with the Harp Angels, Heavenly Harps and Harping On. This was an amazing evening and hopefully the beginning of an annual Harp Festival. We also hosted pianist Cian Sweeney from Cork and concluded the week with a performance by The Rock Choir following a St Patrick's Church Service on the final Sunday evening.



Once the rains subsided, parishioners gathered dry grass to make temporary repairs, allowing them to move back inside.

The cycle of rebuilding temporary structures was broken thanks to a heartwarming international connection. Following news of the collapse, an American church sent a generous donation.

With this seed money, the parish decided to dream bigger. They began construction on a permanent structure designed to withstand the elements, featuring fired bricks, reinforced concrete pillars and a durable iron sheet roof.

Just as hope was building, disaster returned from an unexpected source. Last month, locals were burning scrub across the road when a freak twister caught the embers. The whirlwind carried the fire directly onto the church's thatch roof and vestry hut. In moments, the temporary church was burned to the ground.

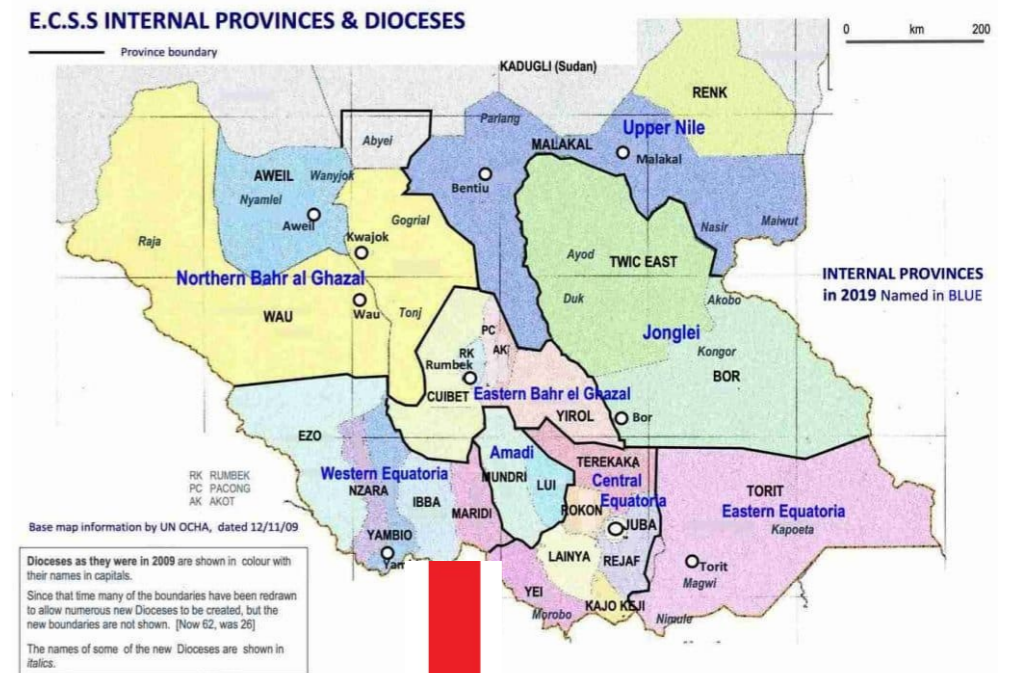
While the fire was a devastating blow, it has only served to renew the community's resolve. However, building a permanent structure in South Sudan — consistently ranked as the world's poorest country — is a monumental task.

While locals can provide bricks, wood, sand, and water, the specialized materials required for a permanent home must be imported.

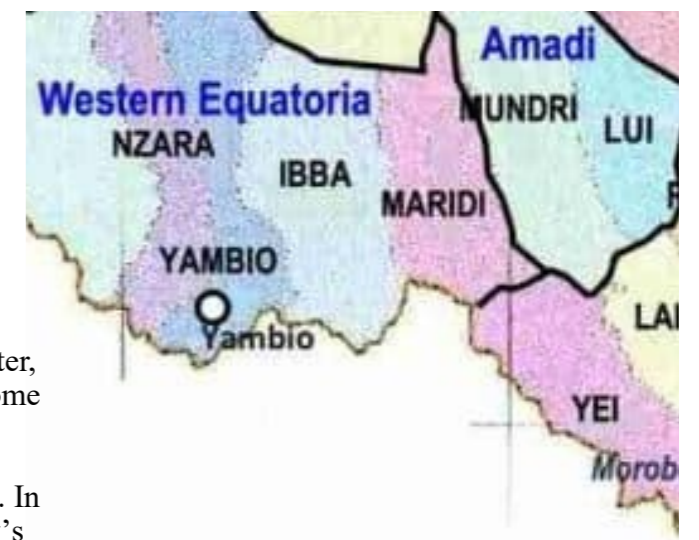
The people of Ibba are primarily subsistence farmers. In a region where cash is a rare commodity, the "widow's mite" is seen in every donation.

The fundraiser in April was a beautiful display of sacrifice and community spirit. The Parish are beyond grateful for the local contributions that poured in, including cash donations, formal pledges, materials for construction and goods for sale such as local treasures like groundnuts and Ibba's famous honey.

Andrew writes: 'We thank God for the strength of this parish. They have survived storms and fires; now, with a little more help, they will finally have a roof over their heads that no wind can move and no spark can ignite.'



Ibba Diocese in Jubba South Sudan is next to Maridi Diocese with whom the Diocese of Down & Dromore is linked through CMS.



**Please keep St. Luke's Parish in your prayers as they continue this ambitious building project. Every brick laid is a testament to a faith that refuses to be knocked down or to be burned out. We have much to learn from our brothers and sisters in South Sudan.**

**I wonder how we can help St. Luke's in our 400th Anniversary year?**

IG



## DONAGHADEE PARISH CHURCH

### SUMMER FAYRE

SATURDAY 6TH JUNE

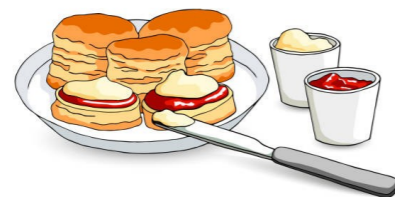
10.00am - 1.00 pm

£3.00 ENTRY INCLUDES COFFEE AND A TREAT

STALLS

CRAFTS

KIDS' CRAFT SESSION  
WITH SARA - FREE FOR  
ALL CHILDREN



CAKES

POT LUCK

CAR WASH

COFFEE/TEA

AND MUCH MORE!

OUR PARISH FAYRE IS A WONDERFUL OPPORTUNITY TO REACH OUT INTO  
OUR COMMUNITY. WHY NOT BRING ALONG SOME FRIENDS!

# SPECIAL SERVICES

SUNDAY 14th JUNE

10.30am

CHILDREN'S DAY SERVICE

SUNDAY 6th SEPTEMBER

10.30am

Come and join us!  
Sunday School resumes.

SHORT ALL AGE  
FAMILY SERVICE

followed by  
BARBEQUE  
at the Church Hall.



SUNDAY 5TH JULY

PRAISE SERVICE

CELEBRATING OUR  
QUADRICENTENNIAL

ANNIVERSARY

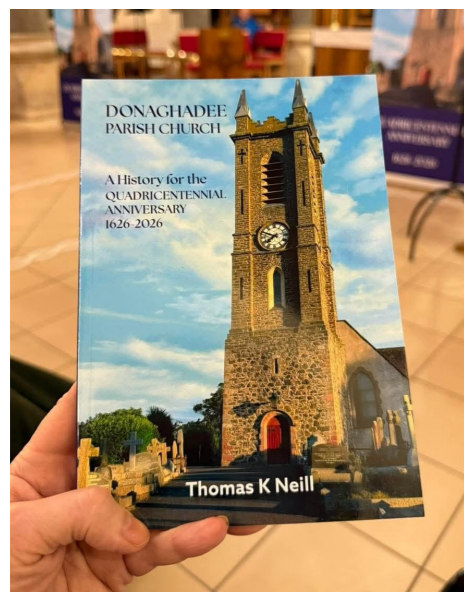
10.30am

A morning of favourite hymns and  
worship songs led by our  
Organist Stephen McManus.

## *Donaghadee Parish Church. A History for the Quadricentennial Anniversary 1626-2026*

Copies will be  
available to purchase  
for £12.00 each at the  
Summer Fayre.

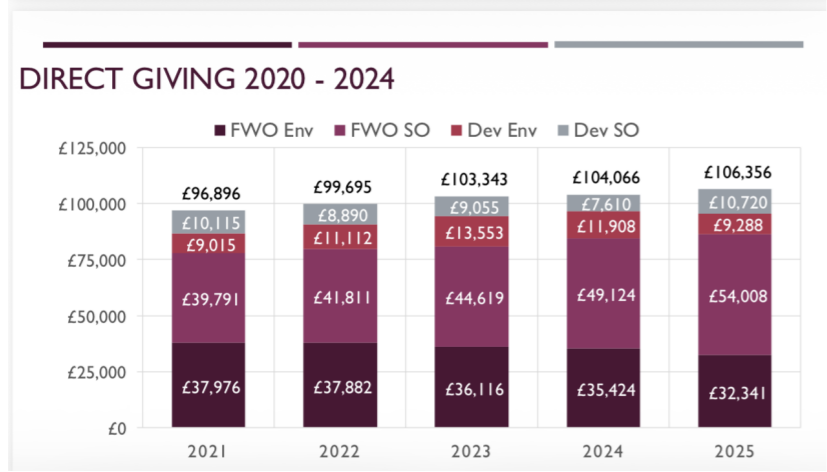
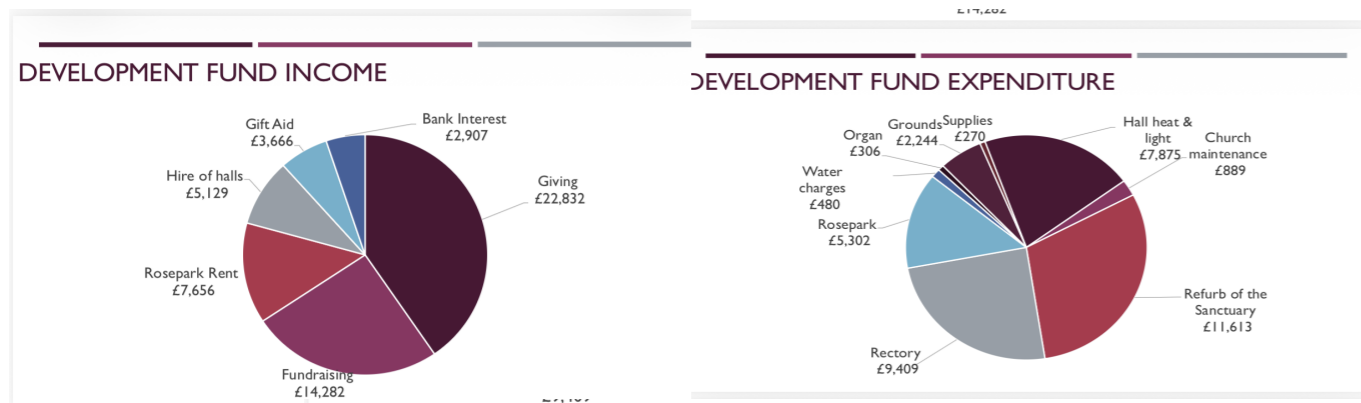
Dr Tom Neill will be  
available to sign  
copies on the day.



## SUNDAY 27th SEPTEMBER HARVEST SERVICES

8.30am Holy Communion  
10.30am Harvest Thanksgiving Service & Sunday School  
Speaker: Bishop David McClay  
7.00pm Harvest Evening Service





## EUROPEAN HERITAGE OPEN DAYS SATURDAY 12TH & SUNDAY 13TH SEPTEMBER

This is the 400th Anniversary of Donaghadee Parish Church - an event marked by the visit of the Primate of All Ireland to commemorate the Quadricentennial Anniversary of this important church building.

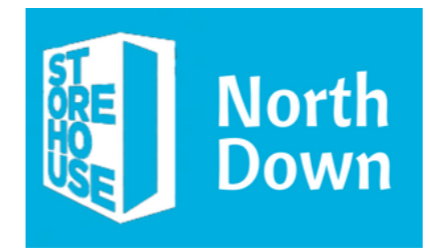
There is a tradition that Saint Patrick himself marked out the site of this prominent church. Timber foundations located during the building of the Church Halls have been dated to 700AD.

It is known that the earlier church on this site was rebuilt by Sir Hugh Montgomery in 1626 at the Settlement of Ulster – hence our 400 years of history. This building largely remains today with additions and widening in 1833 and 1881.

The church clock was installed in the Church Tower in 1892 as a Memorial to Ellen de Lacherois of the Manor House Donaghadee. Beneath the church lies the vault of the De Lacherois Family.

There are many interesting plaques and memorials on the walls including that to Donaghadee’s VC hero William David Kenny who earned this prestigious award posthumously in the Waziristan Campaign of 1920.

The Church today is a vibrant Church of Ireland Parish Church and will be open on Saturday 13th September for a talk and graveyard tour by noted local historian Tom Neill at 11.00am and 2.00pm. Tom Neill is the author of the Quadricentennial History of the Church.



## STOREHOUSE NORTH DOWN

Our parish supports Storehouse North Down, a vital ministry to those who find themselves in need of food and household support.

**The Church Hall is open Wednesday and Friday mornings 10.00am—12.30pm to receive items for Storehouse.**

**Thank you all for your continued support.**

North Down Storehouse are always keen to replenish their stores with a wide range of items including baby food, jam, tinned food, drinks and household cleaning products.

### Items that we are in particular need of currently include:

Tinned Sweetcorn, tinned snacks – ravioli, meatballs, sausage & beans etc., tinned meals to serve with potatoes – chunky chicken, mince & onion, stewed steak etc.  
Long grain rice, tinned ham, Fray Bentos pies, tinned custard, long life milk, cooking oil, breakfast juice, diluted juice.

### Jars:

Baby food, jam, bolognese sauce, pasta sauces.

### Tins:

Tomatoes, tuna, tinned meals, custard, rice, ham, fruit, baked beans, vegetables, sweetcorn, spaghetti, soup.

### Drinks:

Diluted juice, breakfast juice, long life milk.

### Other:

Pasta large/small, dried rice, cereal – small variety or large box, biscuits, salt pepper, cooking oil, cuppa soup, tea, coffee, jelly, washing up liquid, cleaning products.



**Sincere thanks for a wonderful Birthday party after church celebrating my 60th Birthday. Thank you for all the cards and presents from our wonderful congregation. IG**



# EASTER GENERAL VESTRY

## OFFICE BEARERS & FINANCIAL REPORT



### MEMBERS OF SELECT VESTRY 2026/2027

Our Easter General Vestry was held after Morning Service on Sunday 22nd March. A summary of the accounts was presented to the meeting. This summary is presented here for your information.

Detailed accounts can be obtained from the Church Office.

At the meeting the following were appointed as Wardens and elected as members of the Select Vestry.

#### WARDENS

**Rector's Church Warden**  
David Martin

**People's Church Warden**  
Thomas Cunningham

**Rector's Glebe Warden**  
Ian Henderson

**People's Glebe Warden**  
Gary Robinson

#### SELECT VESTRY

**Honorary Secretary**  
Diane Finlay

**Honorary Treasurer**  
Heather Heaney

Frank Humphreys  
David Monahan  
Gerry McGrath  
Sara Gregg  
Garth Boyd  
Steven Bain  
Barry McWilliams  
Sophie Glendenning  
Gerard McKeown  
Norman May

**SYNODS PERSONS**  
Gerard McKeown  
Andrew Walsh

**SUPPLEMENTAL**  
Ian Henderson  
David Mackey

**UNDER 30'S SYNOD PERSON**  
Hannah Petrie

**SUPPLEMENTAL**  
Helen Boyd

Our 2025/2026 accounts give us much to be thankful for. A sincere thank you to those who subscribe to the ministry and maintenance of Donaghadee Parish Church. The Rector and Select Vestry appreciate your sacrificial generosity. Our worship each Sunday is offered to a God who loves us and who is all giving and all caring. These values are at the centre of all that we do in pastoral care to those who are ill and to the bereaved, our teaching ministry and Sunday worship. Our adult and young people's organisations provide much needed friendship and fellowship. Your weekly offering makes all this possible. If you do not give, please consider doing so by contacting our Treasurer, Heather Heaney.

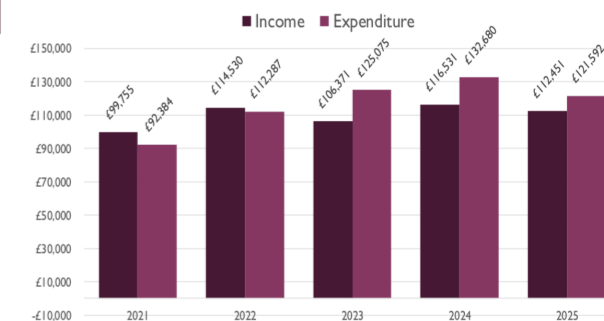
Our accounts are a snapshot of a year in the life of Donaghadee Parish, our running account (No 1 account) is causing us some concern and shows a deficit. In order to sustain our work the Select Vestry would ask that all subscribers would review their giving in the light of increased church running costs. If we all increase our Freewill Offering, or our standing order subscriptions then our running account (No 1 account) will no longer be in deficit. Your support is vital in this.

If you do not give currently please consider using a Standing Order or Free Will Offering envelope. May our finances with the grace of God continue to provide for God's work in Donaghadee Parish Church.

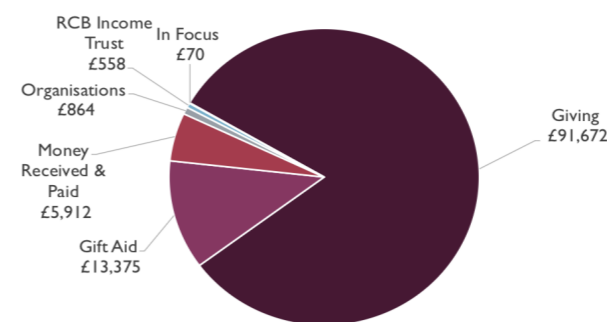
#### OVERVIEW

	No. 1	Dev Fund
Opening Balance @ 01/01/2025	-£833	£228,783
Income	£112,451	£56,472
Expenditure	-£121,592	-£38,388
Closing Balance @ 31/12/2025	-£9,974	£246,867

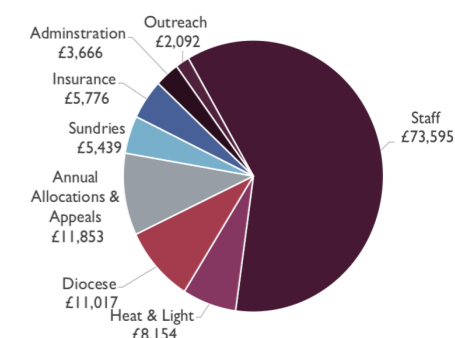
#### NO. 1 ACCOUNT 2020 - 2024



#### NO. 1 ACCOUNT INCOME



#### NO. 1 ACCOUNT EXPENDITURE



#### STANDING ORDERS

Please consider making your parish contribution by Standing Order. This is simple to arrange (please speak to our Treasurer). Your offering is sent from your account, so you are fully in control. Subscribing by Standing Order reduces our administration and bank costs. It is also a much safer way to give.

#### NO. 1 ACCOUNT EXPENDITURE 2025 VS 2024

