

Hello All

Last Thursday we celebrated the Ascension of the resurrected Jesus into heaven. After dying and rising again, Jesus had been with his followers at different times over a period of 40 days or so. He was then taken away physically from their sight, telling them that he was ascending to his Father and their Father, to his God and their God.

The New Testament understands Jesus' entry into heaven in the light of the ancient worship of the Jewish Temple in Jerusalem. There, once a year on the holiest day of the year, the high priest entered the most holy part of the temple, carrying the blood of sacrificed animals to ask for the forgiveness of the sins of all the people, and to draw down God's blessing on the nation.

It is in these terms that the New Testament invites us to understand the ascension of Jesus.

Jesus in his human nature enters heaven, the holiest place, the dwelling of God, not repeatedly but once and for ever, taking with him not the blood of sacrificed animals but his own blood poured out on the cross. There he asks for the forgiveness of all our sins, and draws down the blessings of God on us.

The first of his blessings was the gift of the Holy Spirit nine days after his ascension, which we celebrate next week at Pentecost.

Today, in every age, and for all eternity, Jesus continues to ask for our forgiveness in heaven and from there sends his blessings.

Petroc.



Catholic Parish of the Holy Trinity Plymouth



16 May 2021

Seventh Sunday of Easter

(Year B: year of Mark)

Saturday Mass (of Easter)

5.30pm at St Paul's

Int: Handford & Daniels families RIP FDN

Sunday Mass (of Easter)

9am at Holy Family

Int: Fr Bernard Hassey

Mass (of Easter)

10.30am at Holy Redeemer

Int: John Douglas Cummings RIP FDN

Divine mercy devotions

6pm at Holy Redeemer

Monday Mass

Int: Robert, Mary, Jeremiah, Mary Hennessy RIP FD

Tuesday Mass (of Easter)

10am at St Paul's

Int: James McGilligan RIP

Wednesday Mass (of Easter)

10am at Holy Redeemer

Int: Sister Ita Marie Sheridan FDN

Friday Mass (St Matthias)

10am at Holy Family

Int: Margaret Doyle

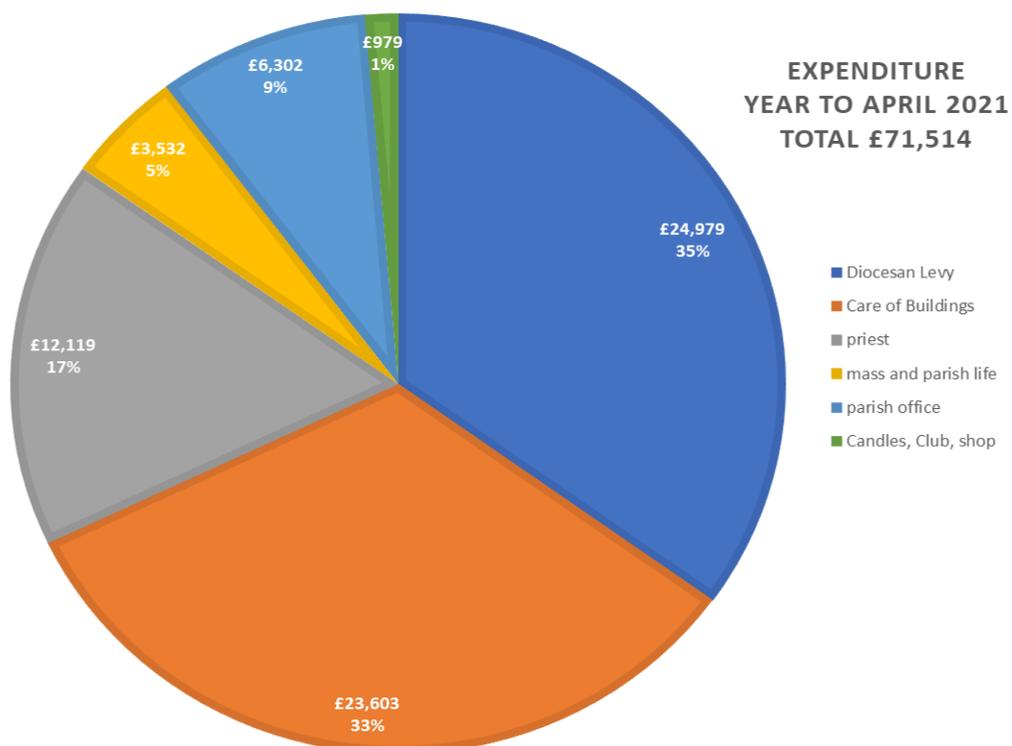
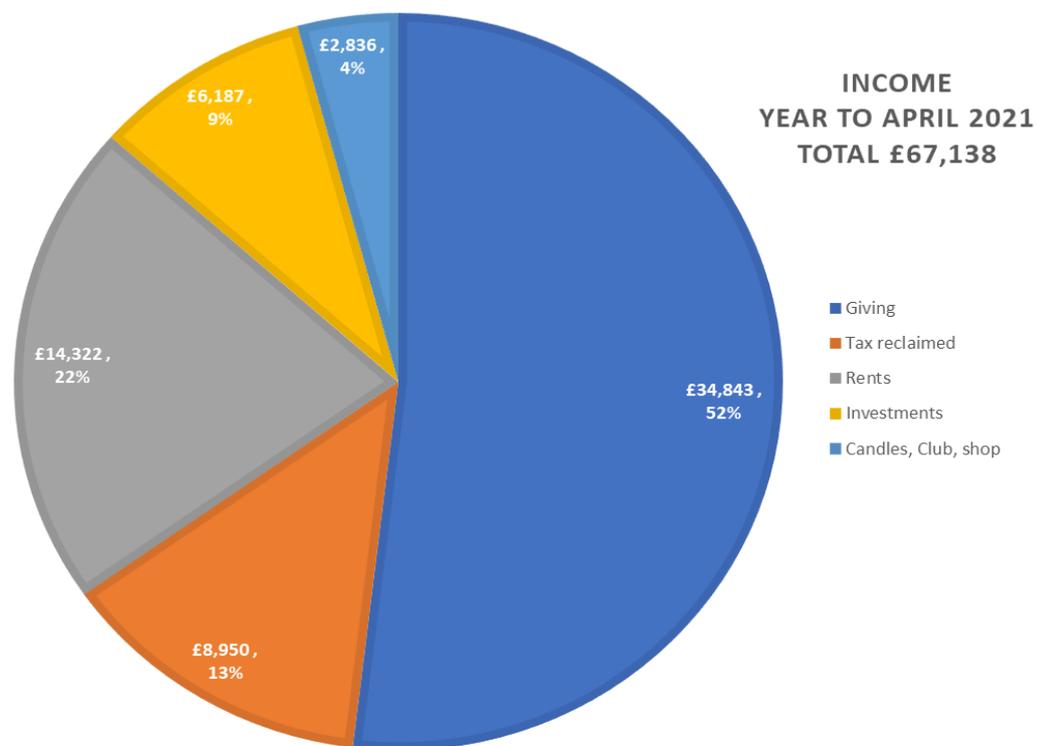
Financial Summary

On the next couple of pages you will find a financial summary for the year which we have just finished this April. As you can see, we made an overall loss of £5,000. This is what we expected from the middle of the year due to the effects of Covid, and it is something we can absorb.

When the members of the finance committee last addressed the parish at mass earlier this year, when we explained we expected to make £5,000 loss. It was against a background of what could have been much worse.

We have managed this by making savings on expenditure and by people have responded magnificently in these hard times to continue to support the parish. Thank you to everyone.

Summary of our financial year 2020–2021



Notes on Income

Giving. This is the giving by parishioners. It includes giving through the bank by standing orders, and giving using the envelopes and by cash at mass.

Tax Reclaimed. This is the tax already paid by parishioners which the parish can claim back from the government if individuals give their permission for us to do so.

Rents. These are the rents we have from Saint Pauls pre-school at St Budeaux (£7,000), Peter Pan pre-school at Keyham (£6,000), and Holy Family hall at Beacon Park (£1,322). This year the rent from Holy Family hall is down because Covid has prevented people from being allowed to hire the hall.

Investments. This is the income from our “deposit account” which is invested centrally by the diocese.

Candles, Club, Shop. This is money which comes from donations given for the votive candles lit in church (£1,000), contributions to the 200 club (£1,356) and sales in church repositories (£480)

Notes on Expenditure

Diocesan Levy. This is the money that we pay to the diocese to run the departments which support the parishes, like safeguarding, finance dept., the property dept., the bishop’s office, HR dept., I.T. dept., the marriage tribunal and chancery. It also includes the insurance on all our buildings.

Care of Buildings. This is the money which we have to spend to use our buildings and to maintain and repair them. About ¼ of this is the cost of heating and lighting (£6,491), about another ¼ is the cost of water and drainage (£6,240) and just over ½ is on repairs and maintenance (£13,717). This year we had a large repair bill to cure the ceiling timbers of St Paul’s church of wood worm (£6,046). It also includes regular gas and electrical inspections, fire extinguisher and alarm servicing, building condition inspections.

Priest. This is what the priest is paid.

Mass and parish life. This includes all the things we use in mass, candles wine bread, hand and furniture covid sanitizer (£2,329), the priests travelling expenses going around the parish and diocese (£1,203).

Parish Office. This includes all the administration that is needed to run the parish, photocopying, computing, record keeping, accounts, postage etc and also includes cost of the parish secretary.

Candles Club Shop. This is the cost of buying the votive candles used in church, the money paid out by the 200 club, and the cost of buying things to sell in the repositories.

Financial Position of the Parish

Considering the Covid dominated year we have just been through, everyone in the parish needs a great big thankyou for the great effort made to support the parish financially. We made a loss of just under £5,000 which is what was predicted and is something we can cope with.

Next year we expect covid restrictions to lessen so that the income from Holy Family hall should increase. We will also be renting out St Budeaux presbytery from June. We hope therefore to not make a loss in the year coming.

Parishioners can help by (1) moving over to giving through their banks by standing order if this suits them, (2) giving us permission to reclaim the tax they have already paid if they are a UK tax payer, (3) if they are able to increase their giving – in these covid times not many will be in a position to do this and your families must come first, and (4) remember the parish in your will alongside all your other beneficiaries.

Despite the difficulties of the year, we managed to support several charities as a parish. For the Catholic Childrens society we collected and sent £51, to the Retired Clergy Fund £102.25, and to CAFOD a huge £1,083.83. Thank you to everyone.

Some thoughts from Pope Francis

The letters of pope Francis are a great source of wisdom, inspiration, and insight from him as our chief shepherd, yet they are not often read by the people of God, so I am going to include digestible bits in the next few newsletters to share his wisdom.

I dream of a “missionary option”, that is, a missionary impulse capable of transforming everything, so that the Church’s customs, ways of doing things, times and schedules, language and structures can be suitably channelled for the evangelization of today’s world rather than for her self-preservation.

As John Paul II once said to the Bishops of Oceania: “All renewal in the Church must have mission as its goal if it is not to fall prey to a kind of ecclesial introversion”.

The parish is not an outdated institution; precisely because it possesses great flexibility, it can assume quite different contours depending on the openness and missionary creativity of the pastor and the community.

We must admit, though, that the call to review and renew our parishes has not yet sufficed to bring them nearer to people, to make them environments of living communion and participation, and to make them completely mission-oriented.

Since I am called to put into practice what I ask of others, I too must think about a conversion of the papacy. It is my duty, as the Bishop of Rome, to be open to suggestions which can help make the exercise of my ministry more faithful to the meaning which Jesus Christ wished to give it and to the present needs of evangelization.

Pastoral ministry in a missionary key seeks to abandon the complacent attitude that says: “We have always done it this way”. I invite everyone to be bold and creative in this task of rethinking the goals, structures, style and methods of evangelization in their respective communities.

New giving envelopes

These are now available at the back of each church. As more people move to give direct through their bank via standing order, we need less giving envelopes. This year we need less than 40, so if historically your envelope number is over 41, you will have been allocated a new number. The name of the person for whom the envelopes are intended is on each. We have some spare, so if anyone would like a set please ask.

Standing Order Forms

For anyone who has missed out on making a standing order to support the parish and would like to do so, please pick up a form from the back of church, fill it in at home, and return the notification slip.

Gift Aid Forms

If you give to the parish and pay UK tax, the parish can reclaim the tax you have already paid if you give your permission. To give your permission pick up a Gift Aid form from the back of church and fill it in.

Newsletter by email

If you would like to receive the parish newsletter by email automatically each week, please sign up using the form at the back of the church. A confirmatory email will be sent to you for you to say that you do want to receive the newsletter.

Eucharistic ministers

From May 17th Eucharistic ministers can resume taking the blessed sacrament to those who cannot get to mass. It seems that now is therefore a good time to renew DBS checks and have a re-commissioning blessing on the Sunday after 17th, which happens to be the feast of Pentecost. If you already carry out this important ministry and are willing to continue please sign the list at the back of church if you haven't already.

Servers

We will have the presentation of servers medals for those who have completed one year's serving, and this year we have two silver medals to present to two servers who have both been serving for ten years.

First Holy Communions

Preparation for first holy communions will take place starting in June, and first holy communions will be in July. The preparation at Keyham Barton school will be at the end of the school day on Tuesdays, and the preparation at St Pauls will be at the end of the school day on Mondays. We will work out other times for anyone in the parish who goes to another school. Please let your teacher or priest know you want to make your first Holy Communion this year.

Children's Confirmation

If you and your parents think you are ready for the sacrament of confirmation, and you want to make your own commitment to God that was made for you at baptism and receive the gifts of the Holy Spirit, let your priest know. Once we know who will be in the group we will find a convenient time to have the meetings to prepare for the sacrament, and set a date for the celebration itself.

Adult confirmation and being received into full communion

There are some adults who wish to celebrate the sacrament of confirmation and some who wish to be received into full communion with the catholic church. We can start the preparation for this after May 17th. If anyone else would like to join them, please let the priest know.