

Parish of Thomastown Finances 2010

Dear Parishioner,

Firstly, we take this opportunity to thank you for your financial support for the Parish in 2010. These times are difficult for people financially, and yet many people continue to show great generosity. Thank you.

You will notice from the figures below that for the first time in many years we spent more than we took in for badly needed capital items. The Parish contributed to the development of sports facilities at the National School. This is the main cause of the deficit, and will be resolved when the old Boys School is sold. We also had long term maintenance work at the Church. We are fortunate that we can pay for these from our reserves.

And you were generous in 2010. Weekly collections were increased by five thousand euro. The Weekly envelope collection showed a loss of two thousand euro on 2009.

Our biggest undertaking in 2011 will be the painting of the Parish Church, and the works to prepare for that task. When doing that we will also do some additional work, like emergency lighting and security cameras in the Sanctuary. The main steps into the Church are to be replaced, and planning permission sought for a ramp to facilitate people who have difficulty with the steps, and the work completed. The gates into the Church grounds must be replaced also. In the current economic climate the Parish is happy to undertake work which generates employment.

Already Mass goes support the Offertory Collection at weekend Masses. You are also asked to support the weekly envelope collections. Your ongoing contributions to the weekly collection means that we have some money in reserve for the big projects. You support the six collections for the support of the priests of the Parish and Diocese. The Parish benefits from tax reclaims when you contribute to the envelope collections. There are also the collections that take place monthly, like the St. Vincent de Paul Society collections, and annually, such as the Lenten collection for Trocaire, for the work of the Missions. We have little control over the Church gate collections. However, if informed we will inform you on the Newsletter of the previous week, so that you are not caught unawares.

We are grateful for the work of the Finance Committee over the last year. The members offer sound judgement 'to help the Parish Priest in the administration of the goods of the parish' (Canon 537.). The Finance Committee undertook to establish a Website. The website has been launched this June - www.thomastownparish.ie - and the Finance statement and other information can be accessed there. To keep you informed, the weekly income is included on the Parish Newsletter, which can also be accessed on the website.

Thanks to our collectors, envelope distributors, counters, accountant and Parish Secretary. We depend on you. Thanks too to Michael O'Brien, who has stepped down after many years on the Finance Committee. His contribution to the deliberations, specially around the building of the new National School, was

invaluable.

We call upon you, Parishioners, once again, to be generous in your support of the Parish, according to your means. If you are not on our list of subscribers, then please contact us, or the Parish Office, and we will be happy to include you when we distribute envelopes. If you wish to contribute by standing order, the form is available on the Parish website. If you prefer to support the Parish anonymously, thank you too.

With all good wishes,
On behalf of the Parish Finance Committee,

Richard Moore,
Chairman.

Fr. Dan Bollard,
Parish Priest.

Income & Expenditure Statement 2010

<u>Income</u>	€
Weekly Collections	55,961
Weekly Offertory Collections	57,774
Church Fees & Other Income	50,584
Tax Rfds, Grants, Investments & Donations	<u>29,294</u>
	193,612
<u>Costs</u>	
Running Costs	106,463
Maintenance	23,634
Outside works (cemetery, fencing, wall)	27,150
Church Structural Works	31,367
School Pitch	<u>84,683</u>
	273,297

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