

21st June 2026

Parish of Kilrea & Desertohill

Dear Parishioners,

In the month of June we take this opportunity, while presenting the Parish Financial Statement to the end of the calendar year 2025, to acknowledge my personal thanks and support you have extended to the parish in these challenging times. The financial report highlights your continued commitment to support the daily running costs of the Parish estate through the weekly collection. It also reflects your on-going commitment to Trócaire and the special Diocesan collections.

We continue to endeavour to exercise financial prudence with regards to parish finances. Reduced Mass attendance has inevitably taken its toll on parish income. The uncertainty continues into this cycle particularly with the cost of living and increased inflationary costs. However, we are very grateful to the increasing numbers of parishioners who are now using the provision of standing orders to support the parish. (Further details are available on the parish website - www.parihofkilrea.com) or alternatively contact the Parish Office.

The Parish's income for the year shows a significant increase compared with prior periods. This increase is primarily attributable to insurance settlements received in respect of storm damage sustained at Drumagarner Church and the Marian Hall, amounting to £50,510 and £28,756.40 respectively. In addition, the Parish received a further insurance payment of £26,337 from Allianz in relation to losses arising from the Covid-19 pandemic. The aggregate value of these insurance receipts was approximately £105,000. These amounts should be regarded as unexpected, non-recurring income and do not form part of the Parish's normal operating activities.

As most of the associated repair works to Drumagarner Church were not completed and paid for until early 2026, the related expenditure is not reflected within the 2025 financial year. Consequently, the surplus reported for the year is materially higher than would ordinarily be expected. The financial results should therefore be interpreted in the context of these exceptional insurance receipts and the timing difference between the receipt of funds and the recognition of the associated repair costs.

I respectfully ask for your consideration to avail of the Gift Aid scheme available to those who; pay income tax and use parish envelopes and standing orders. The Gift Aid scheme is under-used in this parish. It does not affect your personal tax; those details are private to yourself. However, the parish can benefit from the contribution you make to the parish by an additional 25% either via an envelope or Standing Order if you are a taxpayer. The only requirement is to fill in a Gift Aid card. (Gift Aid cards are available in each sacristy or the parish office). If you are interested in supporting our parish through the medium of a standing order. In this correspondence you will find the details of the **Parish of Kilrea & Desertohill - Gift Aid A/C (Bank of Ireland) Sort Code - 904982. A/C No - 92433611**. It is at your discretion if you wish to contribute to this account by weekly/monthly contributions. If you advance the standing order, (it can be processed on-line with your bank), or alternatively bring the completed mandate to your bank. We request that when you are issuing your instruction to the bank, that you do so with your personal name, in doing so we can therefore identify from whom the standing order has been authorised. Also, you can withdraw the mandate at your own discretion. We would appreciate an acknowledgement of this transaction (by email) when it is activated, so that we can have a copy for the parish records. In the information forwarded we will require your address and telephone number. This information is required to ensure that you are not offered a box of envelopes next year. If your circumstances change and you wish to withdraw the mandate and continue with the use of envelopes, could you please contact the parish email address (parihofkilrea@btinternet.com). If you wish to contribute to the parish using parish envelopes, please contact the Parish Office or forward an email to register for parish envelopes.

If you have any further inquiries or clarification of any of the above, please contact either by email or telephone 29540343/29558251.

Your continued generosity is very much appreciated in providing for the upkeep and development of the parish estate and the support of others who need our help particularly in developing countries.

Fr. Crowley.

