

DIOCESE OF FERNS
CENTRAL FUND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2023

CENTRAL FUND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

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CENTRAL FUND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The attached financial statements of the Diocesan Central Fund in respect of the year ended 31st December 2023 are hereby approved on the recommendation of the Diocesan Finance Committee at its meeting of the 2024.

Tom Brazil,
Chairman

Date: _____

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Mr. Tom Brazil, Chairman

Ms. Annette McCarthy
Fr. Patrick Cushen
Fr. Thomas Dalton
Ms. Martha Cooney

Msgr. Joseph McGrath
Fr. James Fegan
Mr. John Murphy
Bishop Ger Nash

CENTRAL FUND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

SUMMARY INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

	<u>Appendix</u>	<u>2023</u> €	<u>2022</u> €
<u>INCOME</u>	1	583,916 -----	546,499 -----
<u>EXPENDITURE</u>			
Parish Support Costs	2	188,575	182,718
Other Support Costs	3	72,683	84,623
Administration Costs	4	249,216	226,392
		-----	-----
		510,474	493,733
		-----	-----
<u>OPERATING SURPLUS FOR YEAR</u>		73,442	52,766
Exceptional Item – CMT repaid		-	171,096
Supplementary Budget – surplus	5	80,187	81,209
Settlements and Legal Costs		(42,721)	(34,102)
		-----	-----
<u>SURPLUS, TO RESERVES</u>		110,908	270,969
		=====	=====

CENTRAL FUND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

APPENDIX 1: INCOME

	<u>2023</u> €	<u>2023</u> €	<u>2022</u> €	<u>2022</u> €
Parish Envelope Contributions		414,714		414,714
<u>Education Income:</u>				
Diocesan Collection	32,737		5,045	
Donations & Legacies	635		-	
St Joseph's Young Priests Soc	6,000		-	
Investment Income	884		717	
	-----	40,256	-----	5,762
Catechetics, Parish Receipts		30,057		31,122
Education Office, Parish Receipts		7,883		8,642
Conference Fees (Net)		-		782
Mensal Contribution		50,577		40,715
Rent Received		11,350		-
Miscellaneous Receipts		4,253		14,910
Charities Act – Income	38,005		37,670	
- Expenditure	(38,179)		(32,818)	
	-----	(174)	-----	4,852
Investment Fund Management Fee		25,000		25,000
		-----		-----
		583,916		546,499
		=====		=====

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APPENDIX 2: PARISH SUPPORT COSTS

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2022</u>
	€	€	€	€
<u>Education & Formation:</u>				
Seminarians	20,350		30,556	
Laity Education	560		2,030	
Sabbaticals, Ongoing Education	4,085		15,190	
	-----		-----	
		24,995		47,776
Priest Supports		5,759		-
Regional Marriage Tribunal		14,333		15,456
<u>Catechetics:</u>				
Primary Level	13,392		13,392	
Second Level/Diocesan Centre	36,422		32,388	
	-----		-----	
		49,814		45,780
<u>Pastoral Development:</u>				
Salaries & Office Expenses		41,046		9,225
<u>Pastoral Outreach/Safeguarding:</u>				
Salaries & Expenses		33,791		52,179
<u>Education Secretariat:</u>				
Salaries & Expenses		18,837		12,302
		-----		-----
		188,575		182,718
		=====		=====

APPENDIX 3: OTHER SUPPORT COSTS

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
	€	€
National Bishops' Conference	58,082	62,426
Synodality	-	10,000
Special Needs Support	3,811	3,811
Conferences, Retreats, net cost	2,404	-
World Meeting of Families	8,386	8,386
	-----	-----
	72,683	84,623
	=====	=====

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APPENDIX 4: ADMINISTRATION COSTS

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
	€	€
Light & Heat	12,716	12,305
Security	418	492
Postage	6,510	7,837
Stationery & Printing	3,891	6,308
Telephone & Internet	5,383	4,891
Insurance	3,943	3,791
Rates & Service Charges	885	856
Salaries, Pensions & Training	99,080	98,170
Housekeeping & Hospitality costs	14,754	15,642
Building repairs & maintenance	42,229	37,867
Subscriptions, Library and Presentations	5,511	12,900
Audit Fees	5,535	1,845
Data Protection Compliance	4,920	4,100
Meetings, Travel, Subsistence	-	206
Legal Fees	-	369
St. Aidan's Trust costs	1,613	1,496
Promotion Costs	1,580	-
Miscellaneous Expenses	6,924	2,219
Computer & Website Expenses	11,357	12,599
Equipment lease & maintenance	1,353	1,348
Bank interest and charges	1,026	1,151
Rental property costs	2,220	-
Rental property amortisation	17,368	-
	-----	-----
	249,216	226,392
	=====	=====

CENTRAL FUND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET,
EXPENSES FUNDED BY DIOCESE AND
FRIENDS OF FERNS

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
	€	€
<u>Income:</u> St Peter's Campus	100,000	100,000
Friends of Ferns	25,685	24,383
	-----	-----
	125,685	124,383
	-----	-----
 <u>Expenditure:</u> Towards Healing	 15,624	 13,487
Bank Term Loan Interest	29,874	29,687
	-----	-----
	45,498	43,174
	-----	-----
 <u>Net Surplus</u>	 80,187	 81,209
	=====	=====

STATEMENT OF MOVEMENT IN
RESERVES

	€	€
Surplus from Income & Expenditure Account	73,442	52,766
Exceptional Item – CMT Repayment	-	171,096
Surplus, Supplementary Budget	80,187	81,209
	-----	-----
<u>Operating Surplus</u>	153,629	305,071
Settlements & Legal Costs Paid & Provided	(42,721)	(34,102)
	-----	-----
 <u>Surplus, to Reserves</u>	 110,908	 270,969
Reserves, Opening Balance (Deficit)	(1,032,674)	(1,303,643)
	-----	-----
 <u>Reserves, Closing Balance (Deficit)</u>	 (921,766)	 (1,032,674)
	=====	=====

CENTRAL FUND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

BALANCE SHEET

	Note	<u>31/12/2023</u> €	<u>31/12/2022</u> €
<u>TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS</u>	3	121,571	-
		-----	-----
<u>FINANCIAL ASSETS</u>			
Diocesan Investment Funds	3	232,641	231,876
		-----	-----
<u>CURRENT ASSETS</u>			
Debtors, falling due within one year	4	205,159	211,985
Cash at Bank and on Hand		81,590	44,530
		-----	-----
		286,749	256,515
		-----	-----
<u>CURRENT LIABILITIES</u>			
Creditors, falling due within one year	5	(486,922)	(449,448)
		-----	-----
<u>NET CURRENT LIABILITIES</u>		(200,173)	(192,933)
<u>CREDITORS, not falling due within one year</u>	6	(1,075,805)	(1,071,617)
<u>year</u>		-----	-----
<u>TOTAL NET LIABILITIES</u>		(921,766)	(1,032,674)
		=====	=====
<u>REPRESENTED BY:</u>		€	€
General Reserve, Deficit		(921,766)	(1,032,674)
		=====	=====

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

NOTES ON AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

- The financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention.
- These financial statements are denominated in Euro (€).

TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS & DEPRECIATION

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost or at valuation, less accumulated depreciation. The charge to depreciation is calculated to write off the original cost or valuation of tangible fixed assets, less their estimated residual value, over their expected useful lives as follows:

Land and Buildings, freehold - 2% straight line

- (i) Freehold Land, is valued at fair value based on the current use value of the land as the Charity is in the not for profit sector. There are no land or buildings held for investment.
- (ii) Freehold buildings: functional buildings (i.e. that are for the purpose of the charity and are still in use). The original cost of buildings was not available, therefore the Charity has based its accounting policy on the insurance value of these assets as at 31st December 2015 which was then discounted back to the year of acquisition or construction using the consumer price index (the CPI was benchmarked at the earliest date available 1922) to arrive at the estimate of the acquisition cost. The acquisition cost was then depreciated over the buildings' useful life to arrive at its current net book value.
- (iii) Office equipment, fixtures and fittings and computer equipment are carried at cost less accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses. Office equipment, fixtures and fittings and computer equipment costing over €5,000 are capitalized and depreciated in accordance with the policy set out below.

Depreciation

Land is not depreciated. Depreciation of other fixed assets is calculated using the straight line method over their estimated useful lives, as follows:

Freehold Buildings	50 years (2%)
Refurbishments to rental properties	8 years (12.5%)
Office equipment, fixtures and fittings	5 years (20%)
Computer equipment	3 years (33.3%)

The assets' residual values and useful lives are reviewed and adjusted, if appropriate, at the end of each financial year.

2 SCOPE AND RESPONSIBILITY

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The Central Fund accounts encompass the payments from parishes to the Diocese from the envelope collection, together with income from collections and investments allocated towards the education of priests, seminarians and laity, and other minor sources of income. The income of the Central Fund is used to fund the various programmes and services provided by the Diocese, and for administration and establishment costs.

With effect from the 1st January 2010 the Central Fund accounts also incorporate the accumulated costs of child sex abuse settlements, expenses, and costs associated with the Government inquiries. These were previously financed by a number of bank loans, now consolidated into a single term loan facility as detailed in note number 7. Ongoing costs are dealt with through the supplementary budget, as set out in Appendix 5 of the financial statements.

The Diocese is responsible, through the Diocesan Finance Committee for maintaining proper books of account, and for ensuring the preparation of annual accounts, which present fairly the state of affairs of the Central Fund, and of its income and expenditure for that year.

In preparing these statements the Committee is required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis, unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Central Fund will continue in operation.

3. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

<u>Cost</u>	<u>Rental Property</u>	<u>Freehold Land & Buildings</u>	<u>Office Equipment, fixtures, etc</u>	<u>Total</u>
	€	€	€	€
Balance January 1 2023	-	49,684	62,894	112,578
Additions	138,939	-	-	138,939
	-----	-----	-----	-----
Balance December 31 2023	138,939	49,684	62,894	251,517
	-----	-----	-----	-----
<u>Depreciation</u>				
Balance January 1 2023	-	49,684	62,894	112,578
Charge for year	17,368	-	-	17,368
	-----	-----	-----	-----
Balance December 31 2023	17,368	49,684	62,894	129,946
	-----	-----	-----	-----
<u>Net Book Value</u>				
At December 31 2023	121,571	-	-	121,571
	=====	=====	=====	=====
At December 31 2022	-	-	-	-
	=====	=====	=====	=====

3 DIOCESAN INVESTMENT FUND

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
	€	€
Capital funds of the former Seminary	55,758	55,303
Education Bequest, M Donoghue	109	109
Unallocated Funds	-	118
Youth Ministry	5,000	5,000
CMT Repayment Funds	171,774	171,346
	-----	-----
	232,641	231,876
	=====	=====

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

NOTES ON AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, continued

4	<u>DEBTORS</u> , falling due within one year:	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
		€	€
	Parish contributions	64,612	67,188
	Other debtors and prepaid expenses	140,547	144,797
		-----	-----
		205,159	211,985
		=====	=====
5	<u>CREDITORS</u> , falling due within one year:	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
		€	€
	Creditors, accruals, deferred income	166,430	143,343
	Parish loan	40,000	40,000
	Other loans	20,543	23,533
	Other short term funds held	108,343	96,199
	Bank overdraft	-	8,558
	Bank term loans, Bank of Ireland	137,815	137,815
	Term loan, St Aidan's Cathedral Parish	13,791	-
		-----	-----
		486,922	449,448
		=====	=====
	Short term funds held represent amounts lodged to Diocesan accounts for onward payment to other Church agencies and bodies.		
	Only that portion of bank loans repayable within twelve months of the balance sheet date is included as a current liability.		
6	<u>CREDITORS</u> , not falling due within one year:	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
		€	€
	Bank Term loans, Bank of Ireland	644,187	751,617
	Term loan, St Aidan's Cathedral Parish	124,118	-
	Provision for future settlements, including legal costs	307,500	320,000
		-----	-----
		1,075,805	1,071,617
		=====	=====

7 **BANK TERM LOAN**

The term loan facility advanced by Bank of Ireland in respect of consolidated liabilities incurred in prior years is secured by a fixed charge on Bishop's House, Summerhill, Wexford, to a maximum amount of €1,804,000.

The loan facility advanced by St Aidan's Cathedral Parish for refurbishment of rental property is repayable over 10 years.