

Church's Ministry of Healing – Report 2003

**THE CHURCH'S MINISTRY OF HEALING IN IRELAND
REPORT 2003**

Egan House, St Michan's Church, Church Street, Dublin 7
11 The Mount, Belfast BT5 4NA
St Peter's Church, Culmore Road, Londonderry BT48 8JD

PATRONS

The Archbishops and Bishops of the Church of Ireland

WARDEN

Vacant

DEPUTY WARDEN

Mrs Jean Thompson, BA (Hons), Member of BAC, APCC, ACC
(Accreditation of Pastoral & Community)

MEMBERSHIP

Executive Committee

Rev Canon C Leslie Maconachie, MA, MDiv, PhD (Chairman)

Mrs Valerie Swanwick, BA (Sc Mods) (Vice-Chairman)

Rev Cecily West (Priest in charge) (Dublin)

Mrs Jean Thompson, BA (Hons) (Deputy Warden)

Rev Matthew E G Moore, DPS (Diocesan Warden (Derry))

Rev James Stewart (Armagh)

Rev Canon John Hay (Clogher)

Rev Nigel Baylor (Connor)

Rev Colin Hall-Thompson (Connor)

Rev Canon R J Stewart, (Derry &
Raphoe)

Rev Dr Pat Mollan (Down & Dromore)

Mrs Iris Hunter (Down & Dromore)

Rev Canon Brian Loughed (Limerick)

Mrs Valerie Swanwick (Limerick)

Very Rev Robert Townley (Kildare)

Rev Anthony Whiting (Lismore)

Mr George Clarke (Dublin & Glendalough)

Miss Elaine Graham (Dublin &
Glendalough)

Mr WT Marsden (Hon Treasurer)

Miss Hilda B Bleakley (Hon Secretary)

Co-opted

Rev W John Scott (Down & Dromore)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Belfast Centre new venues established

Dublin Centre summary of events

Diocesan Committees examples from across Ireland of how the theory of the
Ministry of Healing is put into practice

Financial Reports how your donations are spent

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BELFAST CENTRE - KEY EVENTS 2002

- National Thanksgiving Healing Service with Archbishop Eames in St Anne's Cathedral in March.
- Conference Park Avenue Hotel in May with Bishop Henderson and others.
- Day Seminar in Listening and Ministry ethics and skills in October.
- Six Unit Prayer Counselling training course St Macartin's Cathedral Enniskillen September – November 2002.
- Launch of three new National Key Venue Lunch Time Healing Services:
 - St Macartin's Cathedral Enniskillen in March
 - Holy Trinity Portrush (Ballywillan) in May
 - St Mark's Portadown in October

INTRODUCTION

We have been blessed again with a very successful year, much has been achieved, and new ground opened up. I thank God and each one of those who have supported, donated and worked to make it all possible.

Our teams continue to grow each with its own report of how our God works through His Church, with our Emergency Prayer Line, and intercessory teams, local, diocesan and national, and our very special team of counsellors.

Also our faithful clergy who give of time and effort, in particular those on our Cathedral Service Rota in St Anne's Cathedral, where we are now more comfortably placed in the beautifully refurbished Chapel of Unity, with grateful appreciation to Dean Houston McKelvey.

COUNSELLING

Our counselling team has known a year that has had it stretched, yet we rejoice in so many "clients" helped and healed. Counselling is demanding in time and effort, and has been provided entirely by very experienced, trained volunteers, some travelling long distances and giving very extended time.

SERVICES AND CONFERENCES

Our National Thanksgiving service with Archbishop Eames in St Anne's Cathedral in March was once again a very special event with people speaking of the help and insights they gained months afterwards.

Our May Conference in the Park Avenue Hotel with Bishop Henderson, Miss Lynn Farr, General Practice counsellor, and Miss Naomi Duff, Missionary Executive with Mission Africa, all combined to make a very successful conference.

TRAINING

I would like to stress that I believe, in the current climate with its demands for informed procedures and ethics, that it is essential for the ministry in our national centres, key venues and parishes to have a reserve of trained laity and professionals.

PRAYER COUNSELLING COURSE IN CLOGHER

I was very pleased with the response to all the hard work by Clogher Healing Committee and our team, in our first diocesan counselling training course of its kind – other courses were always held in the Belfast centre.

The attendance by professionals and laity from many parishes, and a variety too of denominations, I believe helps create a structure that not only has a national face, but works towards creating a network of mutually supportive trained teams.

CONNOR

I also commend Connor Healing Committee and its well planned and run Listening and Ministry Conference in St Patrick's Ballymena – and for all that committee's support in the past – it meant our Deputy Warden only had to do the lectures.

LAUNCH OF THREE NEW VENUES

2002 saw the successful launch and running of three new Lunch Time Healing services and I pay tribute to all the rectors and those involved:

- St Macartin's Cathedral Enniskillen in March
- Holy Trinity Portrush (Ballywillan) in May
- St Mark's Portadown in October

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THE WIDER PICTURE

I should like to pay tribute to all our colleagues in Dublin who gave so generously and conscientiously to the ministry this year in the absence of an All Ireland Warden and in particular Mr Bill Marsden and Miss Hilda Bleakley. Also our Diocesan Warden, Rev Matthew Moore, in Londonderry for all his dedicated work and support.

CONCLUSION

Perhaps I could finish with again thanking each of you and God, but also remind ourselves of the precious ministry of the CMH – of the need to work as a ministry with a National vision and with loving care for those in need, but also for each other. As someone said, if a church does not care for its own, it is almost a blasphemy.

DUBLIN CENTRE

The Centre at Egan House has progressed well under the guidance of the Priest in Charge, the Rev Cecily West, helped by Elaine Graham, our Diocesan Lay Reader, during the vacancy of the Warden's position.

The weekly Healing Services have continued at St Michan's Church aided by guest preachers, by kind permission of the Vicar, and under the invitation of the Select Vestry.

The Annual Service of Thanksgiving which included the rededication of intercessors, took place on Gift Day 3 July 2002 also at St Michan's Church. The Rev Andrew Orr, Rector of Castleknock, gave the address.

On 20 October during St Luke's, the 70th Anniversary of The Church's Ministry of Healing was celebrated at a service of Evensong in Christ Church Cathedral, by kind permission of the Dean, at which the Archbishop of Dublin, the Most Rev John Neill presided. The address was given by the Rev Canon Leslie Maconachie, Chairman of C.M.H.. The Priest in Charge and three former wardens took part.

The Annual Ecumenical Healing Service took place on 22 January 2003 at St Michan's Church, conducted by the Rev Cecily West, assisted by the Rev Alan Boal, Presbyterian Church, the Pastor Fritz-Gert Mayer, Lutheran Church and Canon Tom Haskins, Church of Ireland, who gave the address.

REPORT FROM DICOESAN COMMITTEES

Armagh

The Committee, which has been in existence since 1972, meets in Church House twice a year. In June to organise venues for services for the following year. We make a point of going to different parishes each year. At the November meeting we review the services held during the year, receive accounts and make allocations to central funds.

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We are pleased to report that all services are well attended and the numbers coming forward for the ministry of healing are most encouraging. His Grace, the Archbishop, is most supportive and makes a point of participating in one service during the year.

We are also encouraged by the number of parishes in the diocese that have healing services on a regular basis.

Clogher

Two special developments this year:

Lunch time Healing Services now take place every second and fourth Thursday of each month at St MacCartan's Cathedral, Enniskillen. This outreach began in March 2002. It is very much a diocesan venture, as most of the clergy in the diocese are involved, either leading or preaching, and of course, in the laying on of hands. Our thanks go to all concerned, but a special thank you to the Rector of the Cathedral, Precentor Brian Courtney, on whose shoulders fall the responsibility of organization and general oversight.

Beginning on 9 September 2002, and taking place every Monday evening, Mrs Jean Thompson of The Mount conducted a six-week Healing and Counselling Course - again in St MacCartan's Enniskillen. About 25 people attended. Attendance was maintained throughout - something which denotes the success of the Course, and the keenness of those taking part. Our sincere thanks to Mrs Thompson, also to the Rector and Select Vestry of St MacCartan's.

Connor

Connor Diocese continues to hold three services annually throughout the Diocese which are always appreciated by those attending.

The main event organised by the Committee in 2002 was a Conference on Listening and Prayer run by Jean Thompson from The Mount, in October. This was extremely informative and beneficial to those who attended. This highlighted the excellent training that is available from Jean and her team, which should be availed of by many more clergy and lay people in the Diocese and beyond. We also welcomed Bishop Alan Harper as our Patron following in the footsteps of Bishop James Moore, who always gave strong support to the healing ministry in the Diocese.

Derry & Raphoe

The Committee meets for fellowship and discussion three times each year and continues to use as a study book 'The Heart of Healing' by George Bennett.

A Healing Service is held on the fourth Sunday of each month at 4.00 p.m. in St Peter's Church, Londonderry.

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A Healing Service, and Celebration and thanksgiving of thirty years of the Church's Ministry of Healing in the Dioceses of Derry and Raphoe, was held in St Peter's Church, Londonderry on Friday 18 October 2002. The preacher was the Rt Rev Richard Henderson, Bishop of the Dioceses of Tuam, Killala and Achonry. The Rt Rev Ken Good, Bishop of the Dioceses of Derry and Raphoe, Mrs Jean Thompson, Deputy Warden and the Rev Canon Leslie Maconachie, Chairman of The Executive Committee and a former Chairman of the Diocesan Committee also shared in the Service.

Down & Dromore

The Committee has met six times during the year.

The Committee organised a Diocesan Healing Service in Holy Trinity Church at Drumbo, on Wednesday 8 May 2002 at 8.00 p.m., at which Canon Tom Keightley was the preacher. The Anglican Order of Celebration for Wholeness and Healing was used and found to be well received.

The Committee had followed up the survey of parishes in the Diocese, which was conducted two years ago, in order to encourage parishes where healing services were not part of the normal church rhythm. To this end a series of Rural Deanery healing services was planned and the first of these took place in St Patrick's Church, Ballymacarrett on 11 November 2002 at which Canon John Bell preached.

An article on healing was submitted to the Diocesan Magazine.

Our members continue their involvement in the Ministry Team at weekly Healing Service in St Anne's Cathedral, Belfast each Friday at 1.05 p.m. and at the Holy Communion Service on Tuesdays at 10.00 a.m. in The Mount.

We record our thanks to the Bishop for his continuing support and encouragement to the Committee.

Dublin & Glendalough

The Rev Canon John Clarke, Rector of Wicklow, was appointed Diocesan Chairman by the Archbishop of Dublin in place of the Rev Cecily West who retired from the position in October 2001.

The committee has worked to raise the profile of The Ministry and through this endeavoured to bring the healing of Christ to as many as possible.

A successful Art Exhibition was run in February 2002 with the Mageough Home to raise funds for both organisations.

A Quiet Day, held during Lent 2002, at Kill o' the Grange Church, was led by the Rev Canon Stanley Baird. This event is gaining in support yearly.

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The Annual Diocesan Healing Service took place in November at St Maelruain's Church Tallaght, by kind permission of the Rector. It was the concluding event of the Parish's Power to Change programme.

A Healer Prayer Group was initiated in the Parish of Wicklow.

FINANCIAL REPORT

The accounts for the last financial year indicate a reasonable and fair response to the work carried out during that year. We were fortunate to receive, with gratitude, legacies from Mrs Florence Mundy, Miss Muriel McCormick, Miss Estelle Raynor and a contribution in memory of Mr Douglas McCowan.

In September the Executive Committee had the financial position of the Church's Ministry of Healing reviewed over a ten year period in response to a kind offer by the Honorary Auditor, Mr Arthur Nowlan. His finding was, similar to the Gault Report, carried out in 1999, that the Church's Ministry of Healing needs to become better known, and its valuable work more appreciated throughout the Church.

The burden of this must not be placed on any one person, however it is clear, that the engagement of a new Warden, whose position has been vacant for a year, will improve matters greatly, with the support of the loyal staff and supporters.

We look forward with optimism, that God in His providence will bless the work, and continue to restore His healing ministry this year and, in the years to come.

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The Parochial & Diocesan Contributions from each Diocese are given hereunder for the year ending 31 December 2002.

	2002	
	£	€
Armagh	700	
Cashel & Ossory		1,047
Clogher	1,937	235
Cork, Cloyne, Ross		648
Connor	2,420	
Derry & Raphoe	500	
Down & Dromore	5,613	
Dublin & Glendalough		6,620
Kilmore, Elphin & Ardagh		409
Limerick, Ardfert & Killaloe		461
Meath & Kildare		1,144
Armagh Diocesan Council	350	
Connor Diocesan Council	250	
Kilmore Diocesan Council	55	563
Down & Dromore Diocesan Council	350	
TOTAL	<u>12,175</u>	<u>11,127</u>

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RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT – YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2002

	2002	2001
	€	€
RECEIPTS		
Donations & Legacies	22,008	121,695
Grants	9,587	9,206
Contributions	27,141	30,987
Collections	7,947	8,115
Dividends & Interest	8,996	12,916
Courses & Seminars (net)	1,308	1,482
Fund Raising Events (net)	2,090	477
Rent from Warden's House	12,423	11,483
Proceeds of Sale of Investments	0	22,041
Insurance Claim	0	150
Miscellaneous	1,050	19
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	92,550	218,571
PAYMENTS		
Salaries & Social Insurance	56,081	69,400
Pension Contributions	3,808	6,261
Travelling Expenses	1,858	6,857
Warden's House Expenses	826	768
Repairs – The Mount, Belfast	851	1,150
Chapel & Office Expenses	13,026	16,502
Subscriptions & Donations	228	190
Bank Charges	443	1,145
Egan House	2,563	899
Legal Fees	0	3,845
Book and Tapes	530	575
Miscellaneous Payments	4,044	2,033
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	84,258	109,625
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EXCESS OF RECEIPTS OVER PAYMENTS	8,292	108,946