



Grants for Church Property

*Information on Main Sources of
Grants for Church Property*



Your church building

Church buildings hold enormous significance as places of worship 'in the which the pure Word of God is preached, and the Sacraments be duly ministered' (Article 19) in addition to this they are places of rich history. Churches' architectural and artistic value often means they are listed or protected structures. This combined with the age of the Church can pose challenges for parishes as they seek to fund the upkeep and maintenance

of these vital buildings. The Representative Church Body seeks to support parishes in their mission and administration and this short guide created by the Property Department identifies several sources of grant funding to enable work and repairs to keep your parish Church in good repair so as to allow the continuing advancement of the mission of the Church of Ireland in Ireland.

*“The Church’s one foundation
is Jesus Christ our Lord.”*

- Rev Samuel John Stone

Grant funding may be available to a parish in need of financial support, depending on the nature of their funding requirement, whether the parish is situated in Northern Ireland or the Republic of Ireland and whether the proposed project meets certain eligibility criteria of the awarding body.

The information below refers to both grants administered by the Church of Ireland and those grants administered by

other organisations outside the Church but to which Church of Ireland parishes may apply. Some grants are for purposes related to the repair of church buildings and others for the development of mission, community, outreach or heritage initiatives.





Grants Administered by the Church of Ireland

**ROI &
NI**

RCB Church Fabric and Development Fund

Grants from the Church Fabric & Development Funds may be awarded for church property purposes under the application of the fund which allows for the restoration of the fabric of a church building which is vested in the RCB.

The deadline for applications is the 1st of March and 1st of October each year.

More information including the application criteria and application form can be found on <https://www.ireland.anglican.org/parish-resources/land-buildings> .

Linked with this are the Central Development Fund and the Local Development Fund and more information about these can be found on

<https://www.ireland.anglican.org/parish-resources/parish-finance>

Marshal Beresford's Fund

The Marshal Beresford's Fund, although administered by the RCB, is an external fund under the control of trustees separate to the RCB. It is for grants for repairs to Church of Ireland churches.

The allocation of the income is made by the Archbishop of Armagh, supported by the RCB Property department. Grants are allocated in conjunction with fabric grants from the Church Fabric and Development Fund.

The deadline for applications is the 1st of March and 1st of October each year.

More information about the criteria and application forms can be found on <https://www.ireland.anglican.org/parish-resources/land-buildings>.

Grants Administered by External Organisations

**ROI &
NI**

Allchurches Trust Limited (Northern Ireland & Republic of Ireland)

Allchurches Trust Limited is a registered charity which seeks to promote the Christian religion. It provides grants to Christian churches for initiatives with an emphasis on heritage, care and the community. It supports projects for the repair of and improvement to historic buildings, preservation of heritage, and initiatives around training, mission and church growth.

Grants are made from income derived from Allchurches Trust Limited's wholly owned subsidiary, Ecclesiastical Insurance Office Plc. Information, guidance on applying and the application form can be found on

www.allchurches.co.uk

SPAB

(Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland)

The Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings has funded projects in Ireland.

Further information can be found on their website at:

<https://www.spab.org.uk/>

Grants Administered by External Organisations

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National Lottery Heritage Fund (Northern Ireland)

The Heritage Fund makes grants from National Lottery funds. It funds projects which make a lasting difference for heritage, people and communities, including the preservation and restoration of historic church buildings. The Church of Ireland has benefited considerably from such grants in recent years.

The National Lottery Heritage Fund operates a single open programme for all types of heritage project, new resources and digital guidance support. Grants will be available from £3,000 to £5million.

More information can be found on

<https://www.heritagefund.org.uk/in-your-area/northern-ireland>

Formal approval must be sought from the Diocesan Council and the Representative Church Body before an agreement may be entered into in respect of a grant.

Grants Administered by External Organisations

NI

The National Lottery Community Fund (Northern Ireland)

The Community Fund makes grants from National Lottery funds. It has a number of programmes to which parishes in Northern Ireland may apply, depending on the level of funding required, type of work being carried out and eligibility criteria being met.

The People and Communities Programme funds works to buildings such as church halls, if they are used to bring improvements to the lives of people most in need in their communities, bringing them together to enjoy a wide range of charitable, community, educational, environmental and health-related activities. Grants can be between £30,000 and £500,000.

The Awards For All Programme makes smaller grants of between £500

and £10,000 to support local people bringing about positive changes in the community. This can include small improvements grants for premises.

For more information about the available funding, criteria and making an application see the National Lottery Community Fund website: <https://www.tnlcommunityfund.org.uk/funding/northern-ireland>

Formal approval must be sought from the relevant Diocesan Council and the Representative Church Body before an agreement may be entered into in respect of a grant.



Grants Administered by External Organisations

NI

National Churches Trust (Northern Ireland)

The National Churches Trust has changed its funding programme which is now split into three separate streams instead of the original 5 streams. The new streams are as follows:

Foundation Grants – for maintenance works, items identified within in Quinquennial Inspection Report/survey reports/ other sort of report, small investigative works/surveys. Projects should cost up to £10,000. Grants offered of £500 - £3,000. Gateway Grants – for project development work up to RIBA stage 1; strategic or capacity building projects. Grants offered of £3,000 - £10,000.

Cornerstone Grants – for structural repairs/maintenance issues costed over £100,000; installation of kitchen and toilets over £30,000. Grants offered of £10,000 - £50,000.

More information can be found on

<https://www.nationalchurchestrust.org/our-grants>



Grants Administered by External Organisations

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Treasure Ireland (Northern Ireland)

Treasure Ireland is a new project run by the National Churches Trust from 2020 - 2023. It offers grants for repairs and help and advice with maintenance.

Treasure Ireland will also provide training on funding applications, building maintenance and tourism.

Further information can be found at:

<https://www.nationalchurchestrust.org/treasure-ireland>

Listed Places of Worship Grant Scheme (Northern Ireland)

The Listed Places of Worship Grant Scheme provides grants towards VAT paid on eligible repairs, maintenance and alterations to listed

buildings both that are used principally as places of worship and which are now redundant.

The scheme is administered by the Listed Places of Worship Grant Scheme office of the Department for Culture, Media and Sport in the UK. More information can be found at www.lpwscheme.org.uk

Covid Charity Fund (Northern Ireland)

The Covid Charity Fund is open for applications from organisations in the Charity Sector in Northern Ireland from 9am on Wednesday 6 January to Friday 22 January.

More information can be found at:

<https://communityfinanceireland.com/covid-charity-fund-is-open-for-applications/>

Grants Administered by External Organisations

The logo for the Rural and Community Development Programme, consisting of the letters 'ROI' in a bold, white, sans-serif font inside a dark teal square.

LEADER Funding (Republic of Ireland)

LEADER is a European funding initiative which is managed by the Department of Rural and Community Development. It enables local development by devolving decision-making to many different companies throughout rural areas in the Republic of Ireland. The name of the relevant company will vary depending on region; names commonly used are Integrated Local Development Company, Leader Company, Leader Partnership or a Local Action Group (LAG).

Each LEADER organisation administers a particular rural development fund and will have different priorities based on their local plan and the needs of the area. The Church of Ireland has benefitted from grants for building works which fall into relevant criteria, such as the upgrading of rural

heritage and renewal and development works.

Further information on LEADER 2014-2020 is available on the Department of Rural and Community Development website: <https://drcd.gov.ie/about/rural/rural-development/leader/>

(A Transitional LEADER Programme will be introduced in 2021 until the next EU LEADER Programme begins in 2023.)

For information on how to contact your local LEADER group and how to apply for funding:

[www.pobal.ie/
FundingProgrammes/LEADER/
Pages/LEADER.aspx](http://www.pobal.ie/FundingProgrammes/LEADER/Pages/LEADER.aspx)

Grants Administered by External Organisations

The logo for the Republic of Ireland (ROI) is displayed in a white rectangular box. The letters 'ROI' are in a bold, dark teal, sans-serif font.

Built Heritage Investment Scheme & Historic Structures Fund (Republic of Ireland)

These are two schemes that are jointly managed by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage and between them support the owners and custodians of protected structures in every local authority area in the country in the repair of conservation of the historic built environment. They run from year to year with a limited application window which is usually between the periods of November to February.

Built Heritage Investment Scheme – This scheme was developed to assist with the repair and conservation of structures that are protected under the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended). In certain cases,

the scheme is also available for the conservation of structures within Architectural Conservation Areas (ACAs) where, in the opinion of the local authority, a need for works to enhance the character and appearance of an ACA has been demonstrated. The primary purpose of the scheme is to support privately owned properties in need of repair and conservation. This is achieved through the leveraging of private capital for investment in a significant number of labour-intensive, smallscale conservation projects throughout the country and to support the employment of skilled and experienced conservation professionals, craftspeople and tradespersons in the repair of the historic built environment.

Historic Structures Fund (formerly the Structures at Risk Fund) – This fund will enable

Grants Administered by External Organisations

larger scale conservation works to be carried out on heritage structures which are deemed to be significant and in need of urgent support, encourage the regeneration and reuse of heritage properties and to help to secure the preservation of protected structures and/or historic- culturally significant assets and support the investment of private capital in labour-intensive projects to conserve historic structures in public and private ownership for community use.

There are two streams of funding: -

1. For grants of between €15,000 and €50,000 for essential repairs and smaller capital works for the refurbishment and conservation of heritage structures.

2. For a small number of grants from €50,000 up to €200,000 for larger enhancement, refurbishment or reuse projects involving heritage structures, where a clear community or public benefit has been demonstrated.

More information can be found on

<https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/32ae3-financial-assistance-for-architectural-heritage/?referrer=http://www.housing.gov.ie/heritage/built-heritage/financial-assistance-architectural-heritage>



Further Resources for Grant Funding

Irish Georgian Society:

<https://www.igs.ie/education/conservation/sources-of-funding>

Burial Ground Grants

<https://www.tipperarycoco.ie/content/burial-ground-maintenance-thurles-md>

Inquire with your local council

Grants for Organs:

<https://www.bios.org.uk/>

British Institute of Organ Studies doesn't provide grants itself but offers a source of potential grant funders <https://www.bios.org.uk/downloads/biosgran.pdf>

Pilgrim Trust

This trust provides grants to a wide array of organisations in GB and Northern Ireland.

<https://www.thepilgrimtrust.org.uk/>

There are numerous other grant funding bodies that may provide funding for your parish, if you have any further queries feel free to contact the Property Department. With our experience with Church restoration and maintenance we are happy to be of assistance.

We can be reached at property@rcbdub.org or by post at Property Department, Representative Church Body, Church of Ireland House, Church Avenue, Rathmines, Dublin 6, D06 CF67

Further Resources for Grant Funding

Local Authorities regularly offer grants for Community and Heritage purposes, below is a directory of Councils in Northern Ireland and the Republic.

Checking the website of your corresponding local

council will mean you will be up to date on any available grant funding.

They often open in Autumn and have deadlines in January. Checking their website is the best way to hear about any new grants on offer.

Northern Ireland

Northern Ireland	Web Address:
Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council	http://www.antrimandnewtownabbey.gov.uk/
Ards and North Down Borough Council	http://www.ardsandnorthdown.gov.uk/
Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council	http://www.armaghbanbridgecraigavon.gov.uk/
Belfast City Council	http://www.belfastcity.gov.uk/
Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council	http://www.causewaycoastandglens.gov.uk/
Derry City and Strabane District Council	http://www.derrystrabane.com/
Fermanagh and Omagh District Council - Enniskillen Office	http://www.fermanaghomagh.com/
Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council	http://www.lisburncastlereagh.gov.uk/
Mid and East Antrim Borough Council	http://www.midandeastantrim.gov.uk/
Mid Ulster District Council - Dungannon	http://www.midulstercouncil.org/
Newry, Mourne and Down District Council	http://www.newrymournedown.org/

Republic of Ireland

Leinster	Carlow County Council	http://www.carlow.ie/
	Dublin City Council	http://www.dublincity.ie/
	Dún Laoghaire–Rathdown County Council	https://www.dlrcoco.ie/en/
	Fingal County Council	https://www.fingal.ie/
	South Dublin County Council	https://www.sdcc.ie/en/
	Kildare County Council	http://kildare.ie/CountyCouncil/
	Kilkenny County Council	https://www.kilkennycoco.ie/eng/
	Laois County Council	https://www.laois.ie/
	Longford County Council	http://www.longfordcoco.ie/
	Louth County Council	https://www.louthcoco.ie/en/
	Meath County Council	http://www.meath.ie/
	Offaly County Council	http://www.offaly.ie/eng/
	Westmeath County Council	http://www.westmeathcoco.ie/en/
	Wexford County Council	https://www.wexfordcoco.ie/
	Wicklow County Council	https://www.wicklow.ie/
Munster	Clare County Council	http://www.clarecoco.ie/
	Cork City Council	https://www.corkcity.ie/en/
	Cork County Council	https://www.corkcoco.ie/
	Kerry County Council	http://www.kerrycoco.ie/
	Limerick City and County Council	https://www.limerick.ie/
	Tipperary County Council	https://www.tipperarycoco.ie/
	Waterford City and County Council	http://www.waterfordcouncil.ie/
Connacht	Galway City Council	https://www.galwaycity.ie/
	Galway County Council	http://www.galway.ie/en/
	Leitrim County Council	http://www.leitrimcoco.ie/eng/
	Mayo County Council	http://www.mayococo.ie/en/
	Roscommon County Council	http://www.roscommoncoco.ie/en/
	Sligo County Council	http://www.sligococo.ie/
Ulster	Cavan County Council	http://www.cavancoco.ie/
	Donegal County Council	http://www.donegalcoco.ie/
	Monaghan County Council	https://monaghan.ie/

*Unless the LORD
builds the house,
its builders
labour in vain.*

- Psalm 127:1

**FOR FURTHER PARISH
RESOURCES**

<https://www.ireland.anglican.org/parish-resources>