

known as the Johnson Fund or the Secular Clergy Association

The Johnson Association

Newsletter

November 2019

Administrator

Fr Paul Fitzpatrick

Secretary

Pending

Trustees:

Fr Michael Dolman

Fr Des Devenney

Fr Paul Johnson

Fr Nicholas Latham

Fr Gerard Murray

Special points of Interest

The Role of the Johnson Fund

The Johnson Association AGM

Become a Trustee

Don't be a Defaulter!

Governance

'GDPR'

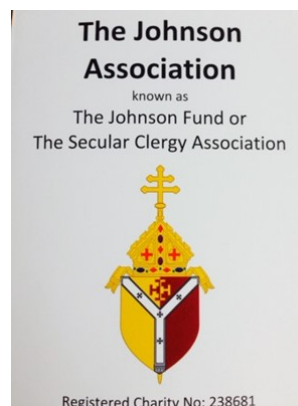
Our Financial Position

The Johnson Fund

The Johnson Association supports about 70 of the retired, sick or infirm Priests of the diocese. This is done through grants that are made to them.

Priests who are sick receive financial support during their period of illness. Priests who have retired apply for a discretionary grant which will support them throughout the retirement. Last year (2018/19) the Johnson Fund paid £382, 266 in grants.

The average age of a priest in the Archdiocese is currently 62 yrs



This means that the number of Priests applying for a grant will grow as priests are due to retire in the next 10 years.

The "Johnson Fund" was originally founded in 1710 with a small sum of money left by the Rev Daniel Fitter to provide for the needs of the clergy in sickness or old age. The Association owes its name to the first administrator who was the Rev John Johnson (1711-1739).

This year we are trying to raise your awareness of the Johnson Association .especially in this newsletter and the posters and display stands in your Church.

The Johnson Association AGM

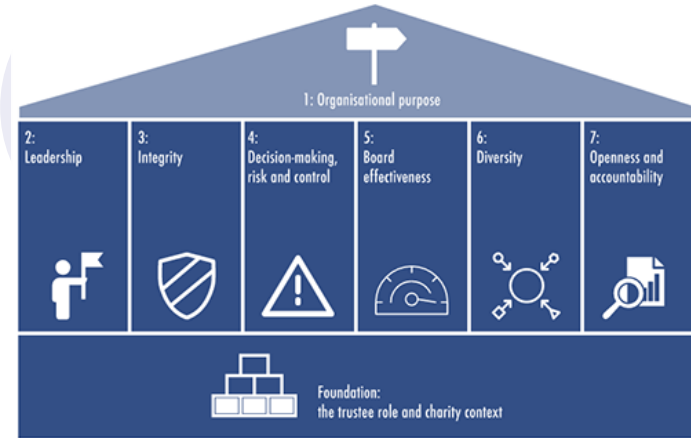
This years AGM is at the Chateau Impney on Monday 2 July, beginning at 11am, with Mass and then the meeting. If you are heading onto Oscott for the retreat, you can call there first. This is the opportunity for the Trustees to report to you, and for you to raise your questions or issues. We receive and approve the accounts, last year we increased the grant. We will review the Constitution and several other matters.

Most importantly do come to pray for those who have died during the year and enjoy a good meal.

Fr Paul Fitzpatrick

Administrator

Governance



The Trustees of the Johnson Association understand the importance of good governance. Throughout the year they devote time to Trustee Training and systematically review every aspect of the governing role of the Charity.

Over the last year the last trustees’ studied the “Charity Governance Code”.

We measured our performance as a charity in

accordance to the principals outlined in the code: Organisational purpose, Leadership, Integrity,

Decision-making, Risk and Control, Board effectiveness, Diversity, Openness and Accountability. We

envisage that the code will form the basis of our ongoing training, as well as a review of our practices and the effectiveness of our decisions.

“Twelve Priests will retire this Year”

Become a Trustee

The Johnson Fund depends on it’s trustees to act as an effective charity.

The Trustee attends four meetings a year, and is oversees the activities of the charity, in particular its Grant making decisions.

New Trustees are given training, and this allows all Trustees to be regularly

kept up to date. We have professional Charity Solicitors, Auditors & Investment Advisors to aid us in our work.

A trustee serves for five years, if you would be interested and what to know more please contact the Secretary:

Canon John Gilbert.

His details are overleaf.

We would like to thank

Fr Edwin Cownley

who is retiring as a Trustee and as the Chair of the Trustees.

Don’t be a defaulter!

Each member of the Johnson Association is required to celebrate a number of Masses each year, normally about twelve.

These are offered by our benefactors and the monies are invested for the welfare of Priests.

Celebrating these Masses is the covenant we make with our benefactors, the Association and our fellow

priests of the Archdiocese.

We may forget to notify the secretary that we have done so, which is understandable, but a failure to celebrate the Masses is not .

So please don’t default, let Canon John Gilbert know, by email, phone or letter.

“Last year the

Johnson Fund

gave over

£367,000 in

Grants”

The General Data Protection Regulation 'GDPR'.

All of us are having to become acquainted with GDPR, and the Johnson Association is no exception, We are registered with the Information Commissioner, and are fully compliant with its conditions and rules.

The Trustees, Secretary and Administrator have studied these matters, having received professional

advice and training, from our Solicitor Mark Lewis.

Fr Paul Fitzpatrick has been appointed our Data Manager.

The Data we hold is contained in the Grant Application Form, which may be special category personal data. We do not divulge any of this data to any third party

(unless required by law).

The reason we hold this data is to enable us to pay your grant. You have the right to review the information we hold about you, and to have it removed -

but please be aware that without these records we may not be able to continue to pay your grant.

It is YOUR data that we hold, and our policy is outlined in our Privacy Notice which will accompany this newsletter.

The Secretary and Administrator

Administrator:
Fr Paul Fitzpatrick
Sacred Heart
Presbytery

31 Vicarage Road
Henley on Thames
Oxon
RG9 1HT

The Administrator is the point of contact for those Priests who have retired, or are about to retire. He also works closely with the Chair of Trustees and manages the day to day financial organization of the Fund. He organizes the Annual General Meeting.

The Secretary is the point of contact for the

benefactors and members of Johnson Association.

He ensures that the Masses are distributed to each of the members and ensures that they have notified the association after these Masses have been celebrated.

He co-ordinates the quarterly Trustees meeting and minutes the meetings.

Each serve for a period of 3 years, after which they may be re-elected, or step down.

Remember us in your Will

Remembering the Johnson Association in your will is a particular act of kindness and support. Over the last five years we have received several legacies, which have enabled the Johnson Fund to support the Sick and Retired Priests.

In some cases this has been a monetary amount, but we have also received property and shares. A legacy from your will enables us to support many more priests in the



future. This is especially important as we know that the number of Priests retiring, and depending on the Johnson Fund will rise significantly.

Your generous gift will enable us to offer the pastoral care

that our Priests require, both today and in the future.

If you would like to remember the Johnson Fund in your will, please contact the Secretary:

Canon John Gilbert.

Details overleaf.

A Financial Update

CONTACT

contact the Secretary to the association:

Canon John Gilbert,
St Gregory's
Presbytery, Heathcote
Road,
Longton,
Stoke on Trent,
ST3 2JU.

At the AGM our auditors and financial advisors make their annual report to the members. At the 31 March 2018, our Total Funds were £15,169,554.

This included seven legacies totalling £26,556; Investment income of £393,411; donations and appeals of £146,962.

Charitable Activities—Expenditure was £399,725. Grants paid was £367,201 and other expenditure was £32,524. This means that 92% of our expenditure is on grants for Priests.

We currently hold no property as we sold a house earlier this year, and re-invested the income.

This resulted in higher than usual Solicitors and Estate Agents costs, which is why our other expenditure was as high as 8%.

Our designated Funds (those within our portfolio at 31 March 2018) was £14,471,126.

The Trustees of the Johnson Fund review the Financial Risk to the portfolio at the start of each year. Our current risk level is MEDIUM.

New Gift Aid Envelopes

Email

secretary.johnsonassociation@gmail.com

Every Church in the Diocese has been given new Gift Aid envelopes and an attractive stand within which they will stand. We would be most grateful if you could use the Gift Aid envelopes as a means of making donations to the Johnson Association.

Each year on the first weekend in November there is the annual second collection for the Johnson Association. We ask you to encourage your parishioners to be generous in their donations – but we also ask that you encourage those who are a tax payer to consider using one of the new envelope to GIFT AID your donation. This means that our income, on your donation, will increase by 25%.

You might also consider becoming a Benefactor to the fund. By making a donation of £10 two Masses will be celebrated either for you – or for the person whose name you wish the Masses to be offered for. The same is true for any legacy that may also be made to the fund.

Masses are offered for their intentions.

Please encourage Parishioners to become Benefactors.

92%
Of our
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was on
Grants for
Priests.