

## COMPETITIONS

Location: Dundrum, Co. Dublin

Promoter: Holy Cross Parish Development Building Committee.

Winner: Niall D Brennan Associates

# HOLY CROSS PARISH CHURCH

Holy Cross Church, a protected structure is located on Main Street, Dundrum Village, Co. Dublin since the 1800s. The village has seen enormous physical change to the built environment around it in the last number of years. The physical importance of the church, as a significant part of the village, has reduced against the new backdrop of commerce generated by the new Dundrum Town Centre, large apartment blocks and the bypass roadway. The range of issues to be addressed and the potential for conflicting solutions required skilful balance in the ideas put forward and made for challenging responses in the 23 diverse submissions received. The competition, administered by the RIAI, was of considerable benefit to the Parish of Holy Cross in clarifying the brief to secure innovative improvements to the church.

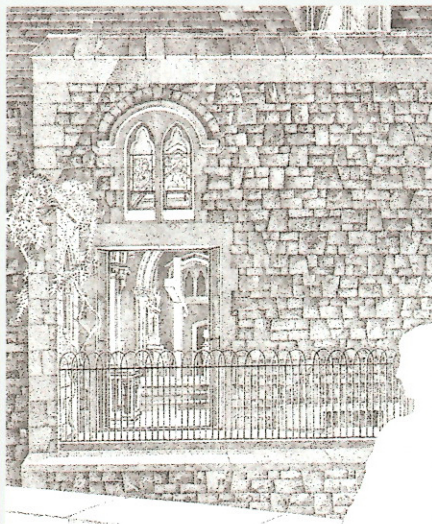
The jury noted that the winning submission concept addressed areas of particular interest in the brief. The creation of a Welcome Area including the baptismal font would add to the enjoyment of and participation in church celebrations and sacraments. A simple glazed entrance screen incorporating images of the parish notices was considered to be very successful and movement and circulation were well considered for all liturgical events. The modest opening up of the forecourt area by the removal of the existing railings together with the continuation of the paving proposed for the church grounds across the public footpath and street immediately in front of the church was considered to be a successful approach in making the church more accessible.



**WINNER:** Niall D Brennan Associates



**HIGHLY COMMENDED:** Lawrence + Long Architects



**COMMENDED:** de Blacam and Meagher Architects