



Synod Feedback Form

NAME OF PARISH	NAME OF PASTORAL GROUPING
Sacred Heart, Donnybrook	Donnybrook
VENUE OF GATHERINGS	IN PERSON OR ZOOM
Parish Pastoral Center	In Person
NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS (1 st Gathering)	NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS (2 nd Gathering)
58 participants, 9 th March	78 participants, 23 rd March

THE JOYS

WHAT EXPERIENCES ARE NAMED AND CONVERGE?	No.	WHAT EXPERIENCES ARE NAMED AND DIVERGE?	No.
“MASS AND THE SACRAMENTS”	36	“No Joy from Church at present”	3
“IN THIS CRAZY AND CHANGING WORLD, PEACE OF MIND AND SOUL”	34	“The Church Building”	1
“COMMUNITY “	28	“Beautifully decorated Churches”	1
“MUSIC IN CHURCH “	16	“Young Catholic families at mass”	1
“ALL ARE WELCOME “	12		
“THE JOYS OF BIG OCCASSIONS, WEDDINGS, CHRISTENINGS ETC.”	7		

THE SORROWS

WHAT EXPERIENCES ARE NAMED AND CONVERGE?	No.	WHAT EXPERIENCES ARE NAMED AND DIVERGE?	No.
“INABILITY OF THE CHURCH TO REACH OUT TO YOUNG GENERATION”	21	“No Music or singing”	2
“THE SEXUAL AND PHSICAL ABUSE BY CLERGY AND RELIGIOUS, AND THE COVER-UPS.”	18	“No direct funding from first and second collections for the Parish”	1
“SAD THAT THERE ARE SO FEW VOCATIONS – SO WHAT WILL BE THE FUTURE BE”	16	“Synodal prayer was negative”	1
“CHRIST’S MESSAGE IS NOT BEING COMMUNICATED AS RELEVANT IN SOCIETY TODAY”	15		
“AS A WOMAN – I HAVE NO VOICE IN THE CHURCH”	15		
“LACK OF BASIC TEACHING ABOUT THE FAITH IN SCHOOLS,	14		

<p>PARISHES, ETC.</p> <p>“LAW GETTING PRECEDENT OVER MERCY”</p> <p>“BEING RIDICULED FOR BEING CATHOLIC, OR TREATED AS SECOND CLASS CITIZENS – THE BASHING IT GETS IN THE MEDIA”</p> <p>“SMALL NUMBERS IN CONGREGATION”</p>	<p>14</p> <p>9</p> <p>5</p>		
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THE HOPES

<p>WHAT EXPERIENCES ARE NAMED AND CONVERGE?</p>	<p>No.</p>	<p>WHAT EXPERIENCES ARE NAMED AND DIVERGE?</p>	<p>No.</p>
<p>“OPENESS AND IDEALISM OF YOUNG PEOPLE.</p> <p>“KNOWLEDGE OF THE SCRIPTURE -ESPECIALLY THE GOSPELS, IS</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>“Many African Priests celebrating Mass in other continents”</p>	<p>1</p>

<p>HELPFUL FOR PRAYER AND A RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS”</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>“Seeing people willing to fight for the good of the Church”</p>	<p>1</p>
<p>“THIS SYNODAL PROCESS GIVES ME HOPE THAT THE CHURCH IS COMMITTED TO A NEW START”</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>“Too few homilies that motivate”</p>	<p>1</p>
<p>“THE FUTURE OF THE CHURCH NOW MORE THAN EVER, IS WITH THE LAITY, AND NEEDS TO BE ENCOURAGED AND FOSTERED”.</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>“Indifference is the thought of many people – not only youth”</p>	<p>1</p>
<p>“THE INCLUSIVE MESSAGE OF THE LOVE OF JESUS FOR ALL – IS HOPEFUL”</p>	<p>15</p>		
<p>“POPE FRANCIS INSPIRES HOPE”.</p>	<p>12</p>		
<p>“THE CONSTANT THIRST FOR MEANING, AND THE RESPONSE OF CHRIST IN THAT THIRST”</p>	<p>10</p>		
<p>“HOPE FOR POSITIVE CHANGE AND INCLUSIVITY”</p>			

<p>“ALL THE CHURCH SACRAMENTS AND RITUALS PROVIDE HOPE AND STRENGTH AT SAD AND HAPPY TIMES IN OUR LIVES.</p>	<p>7</p> <p>5</p>	
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THE FEARS

<p>WHAT EXPERIENCES ARE NAMED AND CONVERGE?</p>	<p>No.</p>	<p>WHAT EXPERIENCES ARE NAMED AND DIVERGE?</p>	<p>No.</p>
<p>“I AM FEARFUL OF THE DECLINING NUMBER OF PRIESTS”</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>“Bring back Confession”</p>	<p>2</p>
<p>“I AM FEARFUL THAT THE CHURCH WON’T LISTEN, AND WILL BE RESISTANT TO CHANGE”</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>“Lack of strong Faith and Fasting not being promoted ie on Fridays and Wednesdays”</p>	<p>3</p>
<p>“PEOPLE THINKING THE CHURCH IS IRRELEVANT”</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>“Fear that our teachings will be watered down to become more</p>	<p>2</p>
<p>“LUKEWARM COMPLACENT CATHOLICS GOING THROUGH THE MOTIONS OF THE CHURCH WITHOUT UNDERSTANDING, OR A</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>“palatable” to others”</p>	

<p>RELATIONSHIP WITH CHRIST”</p>			
<p>“I FEAR OUR TEACHING FOR CHILDREN IS INADEQUATE TO GIVE THEM THE UNDERSTANDING NEEDED TO APPRECIATE THE SACRAMENTS AND TO STAY WITHIN THE CHURCH”</p>	<p>15</p>		
<p>“LACK OF VISIONARY LEADERSHIP – THOSE WHO SPEAK OUT ARE VIEWED AS RADICAL BY THE BOSSES AND ARE SILENCED.”</p>	<p>11</p>		
<p>“INFLUENCE OF MEDIA AND SOCIAL MEDIA (MANS TRUTH) IS STRONGER THAN FAITH (GOD’S TRUTH)”</p>	<p>9</p>		
<p>“LACK OF REVERANCE FOR JESUS IN THE EUCHARIST”</p>	<p>5</p>		
<p>“FEARFUL – EMPHASIS ON CLERICAL</p>	<p>3</p>		

STRUCTURE RESULTS IN ISOLATION/EXCLUSION OF WOMEN”			
“FEARFUL – CHURCH LAWS EXCLUDING MEMBERSHIP TO ALL.	3		

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

WHAT THEMES ARE EMERGING FROM THE GATHERING?

Joys

The themes that emerged from what brings joy were the strongest and simplest to discern: Mass and the Sacraments, the Spiritual experience, the sense of Community and the love of music and special occasions.

Sorrow

Within this category the themes were more diverse. There was a strong sense of sorrow over the loss of faith in the younger population, the exclusion of women, declining vocations and smaller congregations. Church abuse and its handling/cover up of this was also a major theme. There was significant concern around the quality of religious education in schools and that the Liturgy needs to be made more relevant to society today.

Hopes

The major themes here were around hope emerging from the Synodal process itself, led by Pope Francis, supported by lay people with active youth participation. There was a sense that good religious education and understanding of the message of Jesus would be very supportive of this.

Fear and Anxiety for the Future

The major concerns expressed were around the shortage of Priests and that the Synodal process will fail. Lack of Faith, a sense that the Church is irrelevant and non-inclusive were also highlighted.

WHAT MIGHT THE HOLY SPIRIT BE INDICATING IN THIS?

The Hierarchy within the Church needs to make some brave, bold decisions - and soon.

“A new journey for us all – on a different landscape.”

SIGNED	DATE
Bernie Tiernan and Donal O’Shea	27 th April 2022