

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL (PPC)

AUGUST 2022 REPORT

The PPC met on 22 August 2022.

Following a period of prayer, some of the key issues discussed and decisions taken at our meeting were the following:

1. Pastoral planning for our Parish

Work continued on the drafting of a Parish Pastoral Plan for 2022/2023 and the formulation of SMART [specific – measurable – achievable – relevant – timetabled] goals to advance the five initiatives identified as priorities for coming 12 months at the previous PPC meeting. These are:

- (1) Delivering two faith development opportunities courses for adults and parents starting from September: Work on these has been advanced by Maeve Davidson, the Parish Faith Development Officer. ‘Let’s talk about Faith’, a course based on the Catechism of the Catholic Church begins on 13 September, involving facilitated interaction and group spiritual direction. The second is the Alpha Programme which will commence on 26 September.
- (2) A series of talks relating faith and life: A memo with possible topics and speakers was discussed and the further steps required to prepare the series of talks will be taken by a sub-group of the PPC.
- (3) Introduction of Taize-style prayer: Thanks to the generous support and assistance of the Sisters of Charity in our parish, an opportunity for weekly Taize prayer on Tuesday evenings will commence in October on a trial basis.
- (4) Developing our ministry of hospitality (especially after-Mass hospitality): A memo setting out the philosophy and key next steps to develop the ministries of welcome and hospitality in the parish was discussed. It was decided to organise a “sign-up Sunday” for Sunday 18 September in order to encourage more parishioners to become involved in this ministry or to consider becoming involved with the other new initiatives being developed.

- (5) A communications campaign designed to reach out to baptised Catholics living in our parish boundaries who have disconnected from the Church and the practice of their faith: It was decided that this initiative may be more productive if it occurs in October or November when there is more information available on the above new initiatives which could be included in any campaign materials. The work on preparing this campaign will be progressed by a sub-group of the PPC.

If any person would like to become involved with any of the above five initiatives, please make contact with Ms Rita Kinsella, Honorary Secretary, Donnybrook PPC at the Parish Office or via secretary@donnybrookparish.ie.

2. Other items & date of next meeting

Some other items discussed at our meeting:

A very productive **meeting between the officers of the Parish Pastoral Councils of Booterstown and Donnybrook** took place on Monday 25 July 2022. It was agreed that the two PPCs should continue to remain in contact with a view to seeing what fruitful collaboration or sharing between the two parishes could take place in order to further the shared and common mission of both faith communities.

It was agreed to encourage the creation of a **Laudato Si Parish Team** who would take charge of liaising with the Diocesan Laudato Si programmes and parish schools in order to progress and promote initiatives and events within the parish, with a particular emphasis on the inclusion of teenagers and young adults, that will address environmental issues and increase awareness of the Church's social teaching on the care of creation. This will also be promoted as part of the "Sign-up Sunday" on 18 September.

As part of the PPC's discussion of pastoral planning, there was also discussion and consideration of **the recently published "Synthesis of the Consultation in Ireland for the Diocesan Stage of the Universal Synod 2021-2023"**. It was agreed that the experience of parishioners being able to meet in a structured way and listen to each other's viewpoints and thoughts as part of the synodal process had been a very positive and encouraging experience. It was agreed that such gatherings should be facilitated again in the future and that further consideration would be given to the possibility of a further parish gathering to give parishioners an opportunity to share their thoughts on the Synthesis document.

The next meeting of the PPC is on **Monday 19 September 2022**.

Report by: Paul Brady, Deputy Chair, Donnybrook PPC

Date: 23 August 2022

If you have any comments or feedback on the above report or wish to make contact with the PPC please write to Ms Rita Kinsella, Honorary Secretary, Donnybrook PPC at the Parish Office or via secretary@donnybrookparish.ie

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