

# PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL (PPC)

## JULY 2022 REPORT

The PPC met on 11 July 2022.

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

### **1. Report to Diocese on Building Hope Parish Gathering on 31 May 2022**

The PPC submitted the Parish's Response to the Diocese on 5 July 2022. The Parish's Response will be published on the parish website.

### **2. Report from Faith Development Worker Maeve Davidson**

Maeve circulated a detailed written report setting out her pastoral work since her appointment in February 2022 and indicating the further initiatives that are planned in coming months. The PPC thanked Maeve for her dedication and commitment to supporting development and renewal in many ministries of pastoral and parish life. Among the work carried out to date:

- Supporting sacramental preparation with presentations to parents of children preparing for Sacraments, catechesis on the Sacraments, and re-establishment of the Do This In Memory Programme for First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion;
- Organization of Confirmation Retreats for both schools;
- Establishment of Baptism Team, Liturgy Group, Hospitality Group;
- Support for the Family Mass Group;
- Support for preparation of the Liturgy for the celebration of the Sacraments;
- Facilitation and preparation of lay-led liturgies for the Reconciliation Service in Holy Week in collaboration with the Liturgy Group;
- Support for participation of parishioners in Holy Week Ceremonies;
- Work with UCD students on the Stations of the Cross and Preparation of the children's Stations of the Cross on Good Friday;
- Organization of practices for all celebrations involving participation of volunteer parishioners;
- Celebrations of blessing of engaged couples and of those celebrating significant wedding anniversaries, including those who were married in the past three years;
- Support to Ministries with mornings of reflection for Ministers of Holy Communion and Ministers of the Word;

- Lecto Divina Group established that meets on Monday mornings;
- Support of Synodal Pathway and Building Hope initiatives;
- Promotion of the Parish Pastoral Centre as a place for Community and establishment of Hospitality after morning Masses on Sundays;
- Invitation to parishioners to engage in Parish Programmes and Parish Life.

### **3. Pastoral planning for our Parish**

Work began on the selection of specific priorities for parish development in the coming 12 months and the identification by 8 August 2022 of SMART [specific – measurable – achievable – relevant – timetabled] goals to advance those priorities. The themes of “mission”, “reaching out” and “community” were identified as key themes for our pastoral planning across various aspects of our parish life in the coming 12 months. In particular, it was agreed to work on SMART goals in relation to the following five initiatives:

- (1) Delivering two evangelisation courses for adults and parents starting from September (One is the Alpha Programme course which requires no prior knowledge of Christianity and the other is a catechism study course which is aimed at adult Catholics who want to deepen their understanding of the faith);
- (2) Organising a series of one-off talks by guest speakers on practical themes relevant to family and professional life, and looked at from within a faith perspective;
- (3) Creating opportunities for Christian meditation / Taize-style prayer;
- (4) Developing our ministry of hospitality (especially after-Mass hospitality);
- (5) A communications campaign designed to reach out to and connect with those living in our parish boundaries who have no connection with our faith community or do not attend Mass, by bringing to their attention in an attractive and inviting way all of the above new initiatives which may be of interest to some as a first step towards discovering or re-discovering the joy of the Gospel.

**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](mailto:secretary@donnybrookparish.ie).**

#### **4. Other items & date of next meeting**

Some other items discussed at our meeting:

A meeting between the members of the Parish Pastoral Councils of Booterstown and Donnybrook will be organised to foster communication and co-operation between our two parishes in the light of the recent appointment of Mgr Ciarán O'Carroll as Parish Priest of Booterstown Parish in addition to our parish.

The Parish completed and submitted its Safeguarding Audit to the Diocese at the end of June.

The next meeting of the PPC is on **Monday 22 August 2022**.

**Report by:** Paul Brady, Deputy Chair, Donnybrook PPC

**Date:** 18 July 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](mailto:secretary@donnybrookparish.ie)*