



DONNYBROOK PARISH

CHURCH OF THE SACRED HEART

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PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL (PPC)

SEPTEMBER 2022 REPORT

The PPC met on 19 September 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 meetings. These five priorities 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 began on 13 September, with 11 people signed up. It involves 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: discussion of this was deferred as members of the sub-group were unable to attend the meeting.
- (3) Introduction of Taize-style prayer: Some further inquiries and steps are required before this initiative will be ready to commence.
- (4) Developing our ministry of hospitality (especially after-Mass hospitality): On 18 Sunday 18 September, there was a special promotion of the ministry of a new welcome and hospitality team in the parish. Several parishioners stepped forward to join the new team and it is hoped that more will soon follow.

- (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: There was a report from this sub-group following their meeting with a media and communications expert. It was decided that this initiative should start with an overhaul of the parish's use of social media, starting with its Facebook page. This work will be progressed by a sub-group of the volunteers.

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:

Mgr Ciarán informed the PPC that **Sr Fiona** has notified him of her intention to retire from the Parish Pastoral Council. The Council recorded its appreciation for her years of service on the Parish Pastoral Council and also noted its profound gratitude for the enormous contribution Sr Fiona has made and continues to make to so many aspects of the life of our parish community

Safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults is a special item on the PPC agenda every three or so meetings. This month it was reported that there had been training day in the Parish Pastoral Centre on 6 September 2022. 28 parish volunteers registered and more attended on the day. 25 September 2022 is Safeguarding Sunday (to raise awareness of its importance). Safeguarding training must be down every three years by every parish volunteer.

Following our meeting with members of Booterstown Parish Pastoral Council on 25 July 2022, a request has been received from **Milltown parish** for officers of our PPC and their PPC to meet. This meeting will be arranged in the near future to explore opportunities for dialogue and co-operation with our neighbouring parish.

The next meeting of the PPC is on **Monday 17 October 2022**.

Report by: Paul Brady, Deputy Chair, Donnybrook PPC

Date: 25 September 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

Past PPC Reports can be found at www.donnybrookparish.ie/ppc-reports