

## **Minutes of Pastoral Team Meeting held on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> February 2022**

### **1. Funeral and Covid Regulations**

It may have been better to bring in the lifting of restrictions on a phased basis, particularly out of respect and protections of our elderly and most vulnerable. We have reinstated the ropes on one side of the Church in respect of that.

Attendance at weekends is rising. We therefore require another Eucharistic Minister in both Churches for weekend Masses. This would mean 4 for Holy Cross and 2 for St. Mary's. Primarily we want to encourage young people to get involved. Young people from 4<sup>th</sup> year and above (16+)

The members of the Pastoral Team were reminded that it is not necessarily their task to do the work, but more about getting new people to be involved in Parish life.

A few issues with masks lately. If someone says they are exempt, ushers are to let them in without a mask. Masks are available in both Churches for anyone who comes in without one.

A lot of complaints in St. Mary's regarding the cold when the doors are open. As a compromise, it was decided the windows would be opened in both Churches to allow the door to be closed.

### **2. Parish Mission**

An excellent first meeting was held. It was a most productive, reflective and enthusiastic gathering. Conscious of how disconnected we have all become since the pandemic attacked our world, of how disconnected we have become as result, from society, disconnected from family, from friends, from God, and from Church. And of how we have all been forced into isolation from one another, and of how much fear there now is around touch and connecting, we feel imprisoned. As a result of this reflection your Mission Team have agreed to an overall theme of 'Reconnecting'. All our five guest speakers, and all our liturgy throughout the week will attempt to address this essential need to become 'reconnected'. We hope that all our parishioners, believers and non-believers, practicing and non-practicing will join us for the Mission, as we journey towards a rediscovery of our great need to be connected to society, to family, to Church and to God.

### **3. Children's Sunday Mass**

Excellent. Great atmosphere, very professional, a lot of effort, great activity in the Church. People were overwhelmed by the sense of hope seeing all the young children and families.

### **4. Net Ministries**

Currently in our Parish one week every month. We are presently discerning whether we take on a full time team in September or go down the road of employing a full-time youth worker?

A lot of work needs to be done with our teenagers, and money should not be the dictating issue.

Parishioners and young people are to be asked about their views on the Net Ministry Team, a questionnaire will be sent into St. Kevin's and out three Primary Schools to aid this.

### **Ash Wednesday**

Packets of ashes will be given out as still not allowed to distribute ashes.

### **Lent**

Stations of the Cross in St. Mary's and Holy Cross. Parishioners will be invited to attend in Church or to watch online. Each week will be devoted to a particular section of our Parish, Youth, Children etc.

Weekly Talks on a Monday night, guest speakers to be invited.

### **Date of Next Meeting:**

Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> March at 7.00pm in the Parish Centre