

05 December 2021

**Relaunch of the Report
to St Brigid's Parish
on the
Parish Pastoral Assembly
held on 24 October 2019**



The (Covid interrupted) story so far

You will recall that the **Parish Pastoral Council** ('**PPC**') organised a Parish Pastoral Assembly in October 2019 which considered the pastoral future of our parish community, incorporating both Blanchardstown and Pelletstown. We reported on it in February 2020 but just as we were moving to the next stage Covid lockdown struck. With confidence in the guidance of the Holy Spirit we are now relaunching the process.

We considered five core areas of parish life:

- Faith formation
- Prayer
- Community Life
- Care
- Celebration

each under two main headings:

- what works well
- what needs improvement / development.

A large number of ideas were generated and recorded. These were reviewed, collated and summarised. Where possible, action has been taken already. On the other hand, many of the ideas require more detailed consideration before any significant action can be taken.

The **PPC** saw some clear patterns in the suggestions and is now reminding you of these.

The current membership of the **PPC** is:

*Fr Michael Carey, Alice O'Connell,
Ellen Power, Fr Frank Drescher, Dcn Jim Adams,
Jim McKeon, Máirín Keegan,
Dcn Michael O'Connor, Sean Feeney.*

Proposed Pastoral Priorities

The areas appearing to be of greatest concern to the largest number of participants are:

1. **Improve faith formation** - with separate plans for each age group in the parish:
 - a. young children / passing on the faith
 - b. older children / sacramental preparation
 - c. teenagers
 - d. young adults
 - e. middle aged adults
 - f. seniors

2. **Improve outreach**
 - a. Social Justice group
 - b. Youth initiatives
 - c. People in need (eg our sick, housebound, aged, bereaved, homeless, etc)
 - d. Newcomers to the Parish

3. **Improve usage of the Parish Pastoral Centres** (Blanchardstown & Royal Canal)
With a greater range of pastoral activities to help build the faith community.

4. **Improve communications**
 - a. Appoint a communications officer and team
 - b. Sound system (in church)
 - c. Noticeboards, signage, newsletter (in and around the church)
 - d. Web site & social media (outside the church)

Next Steps

Some items are started already, eg:

- New sound system installed (unfortunately with more than the expected teething problems!).
- Outreach to Haiti established.
- Multiple prayer initiatives during Covid.

We welcome **feedback** on the **proposed Pastoral Priorities**. This can be done:

- in person, with any member of the **PPC**,
- in writing, to the Parish Office,
- by email, to stbrigidsppc@gmail.com,
- using the form enclosed with this leaflet.

We are very conscious that all the good ideas generated can only succeed with **the full support of committed parishioners**. We respectfully suggest that you think, and pray, about the proposed Pastoral Priorities and consider to which of them you feel attracted or to which of them you could apply your talents.

We want to form **teams** to work on each of the agreed Pastoral Priorities. You can be involved in progressing your chosen area; developing detailed plans and implementing them. We will hold a **SIGN-UP SUNDAY** on **22/23 January** during which you will all be invited to put your faith into action, and to share your talents and abilities, by joining one of the teams.

Thank you for all your support so far.

May the Holy Spirit continue to guide and help us as we carry out God's work here in our parish.

*The Parish Pastoral Council
04/05 December 2021*