



Synod Feedback Form

| NAME OF PARISH | NAME OF PASTORAL GROUPING |
|--|--|
| St Brigid's Parish Killester | |
| VENUE OF GATHERINGS | IN PERSON OR ZOOM |
| St Brigid's Resource Centre Killester | In Person |
| NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS (1 st Gathering) | NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS (2 nd Gathering) |
| 40 | 30 |
| | |

THE JOYS

| WHAT EXPERIENCES ARE NAMED AND CONVERGE? | No. | WHAT EXPERIENCES ARE NAMED AND DIVERGE? | No. |
|---|-----|---|-----|
| 1. Community and sense of togetherness | 11 | 1. The pope - when he speaks is the lone listened-to voice on the world stage | 1 |
| 2. Celebration of Mass - feeling of joy being with Jesus in Blessed Sacrament of the Mass | 9 | 2. Catholicism is not divorced from Christianity | 2 |
| 3. The choir and music - bringing joy to the congregation | 5 | 3. Volunteers - giving of their time in our parish | 2 |
| 4. Life after death - death is not the end | 4 | | |
| 5. Accessibility to the church | 4 | | |
| 6. Dedicated and inspiring priests | 4 | | |
| 7. Sacraments and rituals give grace in time of need | 5 | | |

THE SORROWS

| WHAT EXPERIENCES ARE NAMED AND CONVERGE? | No. | WHAT EXPERIENCES ARE NAMED AND DIVERGE? | No. |
|--|-----|--|-----|
| 1. Lack of young people attending Mass | 13 | 1. Sermons not interesting | 1 |
| 2. Handling of church scandals, particularly at highest level | 12 | 2. Lack of recognition for work done by religious | 2 |
| 3. Historical abuse of power and culture of mixed messages, lack of accountability | 9 | 3. Celibacy - lack of choice - loneliness of priests | 2 |
| 4. Lack of vocations and lack of formation for youth and adults | 6 | | |
| 5. Falling numbers at Mass | 5 | | |
| 6. Lack of female presence in the church | 4 | | |
| 7. Lack of inclusivity of all the community | 4 | | |

THE HOPES

| WHAT EXPERIENCES ARE NAMED AND CONVERGE? | No. | WHAT EXPERIENCES ARE NAMED AND DIVERGE? | No. |
|--|------------|--|------------|
| 1. Laity and their role in the church | 12 | 1. Vocations | 1 |
| 2. Progressive leadership of Pope and his inclusivity of taboo subjects | 9 | 2. Acknowledgment of wrongdoing | 1 |
| 3. Young people being listened to and encouraged | 6 | 3. Historically what worked in the past, go back to basics | 2 |
| 4. Content of Mass and presentation of scriptures | 5 | 4. Hope that there will be more women involved at all levels in the church | 1 |
| 5. Synol - a first step | 3 | 5. Importance of Christian community when experiencing an event like the pandemic | 1 |

THE FEARS

| WHAT EXPERIENCES ARE NAMED AND CONVERGE? | No. | WHAT EXPERIENCES ARE NAMED AND DIVERGE? | No. |
|--|---------------------------------------|---|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Lack of priests for future ministry 2. Lack of young people - disconnect between young people and the church 3. Closure of churches 4. Lack of action following on from Synod - fear that voice of laity will not be heard or acted on | <p>11</p> <p>10</p> <p>7</p> <p>5</p> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Church at the top not changing - no evidence of the hierarchy listening - living in the past 2. Fear that the Vatican is not allowing the Holy Spirit to guide the Church - God has a plan for the future - Pope Francis doing all that he can 3. Division in perception of what the Church is 4. Women are excluded from ministering to our people 5. Age profile of our parish 6. Covid - caused a loss of people 7. Reduced finances in church as a result of reduced attendances | <p>2</p> <p>2</p> <p>1</p> <p>1</p> <p>1</p> <p>1</p> <p>1</p> |

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

WHAT THEMES ARE EMERGING FROM THE GATHERING?

Positives:

1. The progressive leadership of Pope Francis and his inclusivity of taboo subjects gives great hope
2. People feel there is a great sense of community and the Mass is central to this - which gives great solace
3. it is hoped the laity will be given roles of importance at all levels of the church structure

Negatives:

1. People are overwhelmingly concerned about the disconnect between young people and the church
2. The handling of church scandals, particularly at the highest level, is still a cause of great sorrow.
3. Lack of vocations and closure of churches is worrying

WHAT MIGHT THE HOLY SPIRIT BE INDICATING IN THIS?

It is recognised that there is sadness due to past events.

People are also sad at the lack of participation of young people and that women can feel marginalised.

The Spirit is showing us that there is a need for change.

The Holy Spirit will guide us, with the involvement of laity in all aspects of the church structure.

| SIGNED | DATE |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| Donie Cahalane | 29th April 2022 |
| Pauline O'Neill | 29th April 2022 |
| Claire Brady | 29th April 2022 |

