

# *THE PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL*

## **Session One: Introduction to PPC's**



# THE PARISH

- The parish is primarily people
  - the family of God
  - a community led by the Holy Spirit.
- Good pastoral leadership is essential to the growth and development of a parish
- Pastoral leadership forms and nurtures parishioners to be like a leaven in society.



The primary task of the Parish Pastoral Council is to enable parishioners to fulfil their baptismal calling of building up the kingdom of God in their local community.

# THE ROLE OF THE PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

## WHAT IT IS NOT

- Parish Pastoral Council is not concerned with matters of administration or financial management.
- It is not about being in charge of the parish
- It is not a group of Father's helpers

## WHAT IT IS

- It is concerned with fulfilling the mission of Christ in the local community
- It pays attention to all that affects the faith life of the community.
- It's about Christian leadership and responding to the call to service
- It's about leadership centred on prayer, reflection and discernment.

What do you think  
a PPC is?

# CALLED AND GIFTED

- PPC members believe that every parishioner is called and gifted
- As a leadership team the PPC
- identifies
- affirms
- nourishes
- the gifts of all parishioners
- so that a parish will continue to grow a vibrant Christian community
- where every parishioner fulfills their baptismal calling.



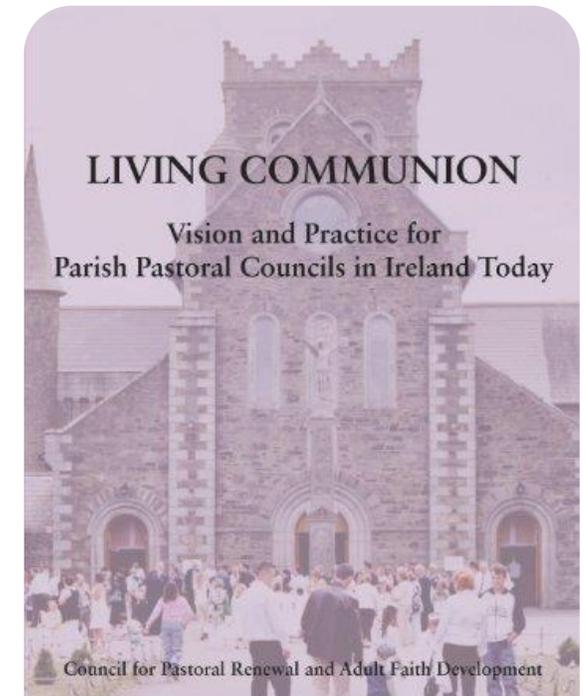
## CALLLED & GIFTED FOR THE Third Millennium

Reflections of the U.S. Catholic Bishops on the  
Thirtieth Anniversary of the Decree on the Apostolate of the Laity  
and the Fifteenth Anniversary of Called and Gifted



The Catholic Bishops Conference Ireland document  
**Living Communion- Vision and Practice for Parish Pastoral Councils Today**  
Provides us with the **INFORMING VISION** for **HOW TO BE A PPC**

*Here the Parish Pastoral Council is described as ...  
'a faith-filled leadership group  
through which priests and people work together  
as co-responsible partners  
in furthering the mission of Christ  
in their own parish.'*



# NOW REFLECT

## ABOUT THE PRESENTATION

- *What key words stand out for you in this short presentation?*
- *In what ways does the description of the role and function of the PPC connect with your current practice?*
- *How does your PPC identify, nourish and affirm the gifts of the people of the parish?*

## ON YOUR CURRENT PRACTICE

- *What would your PPC need to change now in light of your learning?*
- *How has our current situation changed your approach to the work of the PPC?*
- *What emerging needs are you beginning to notice?*

