

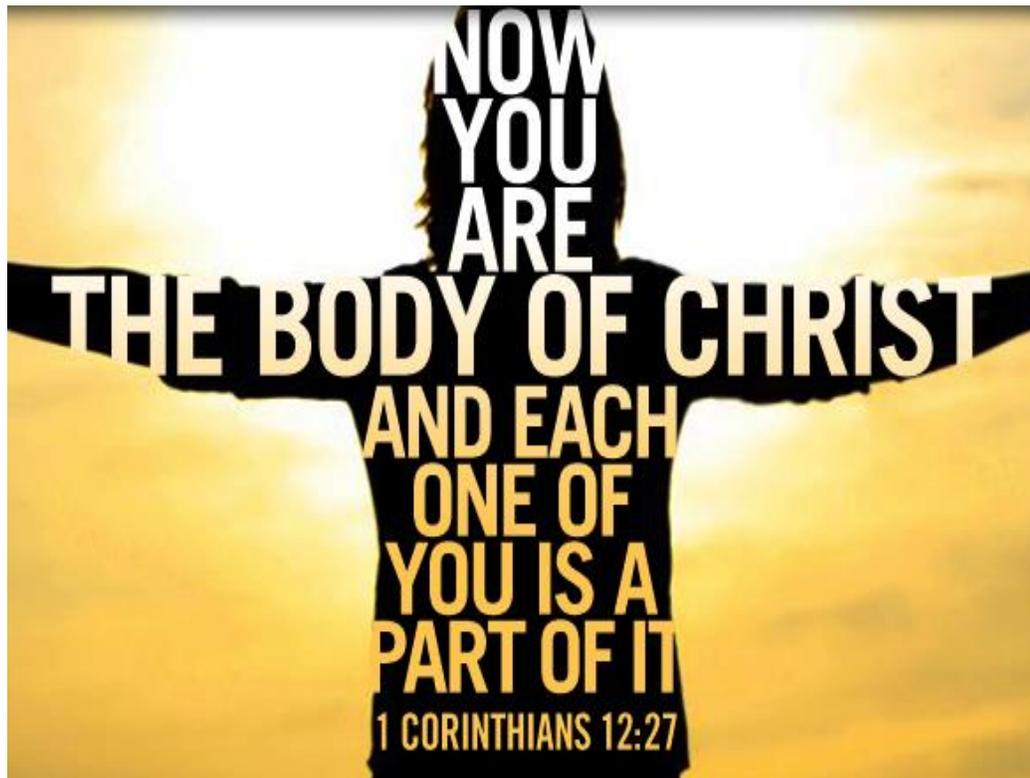


PARISH PASTORAL COUNCILS

Session Two : THE THREE P's



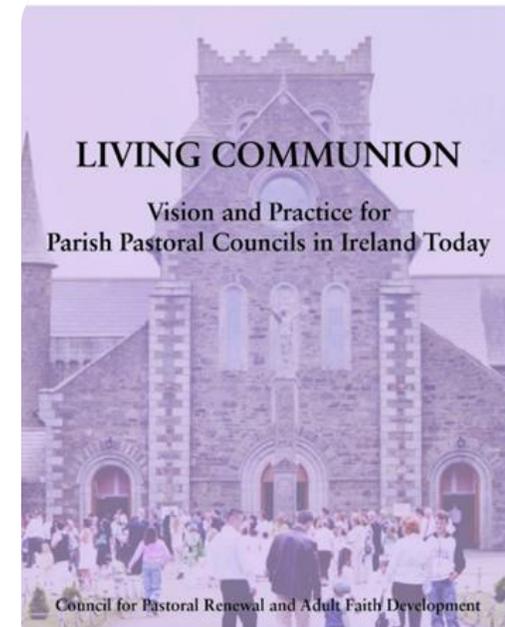
PRAYER MOMENT



- Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ.
- For we were all baptized by one Spirit so as to form one body— whether Jews or Gentiles, slave or free—and we were all given the one Spirit to drink.
- Even so the body is not made up of one part but of many.
- What does this text say to you about the PPC?

KEEP THIS DEFINITION IN MIND AS WE UNPACK THE THREE P'S

'The Parish Pastoral Council is
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.'



Council for Pastoral Renewal and Adult Faith Development

THE PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

- *Is Pastoral...* it is about *caring* and *listening*.
- It is entrusted with the *faith life* of the parish family.
- *It oversees and* represents and thinks about the *parish as a whole*, not just a particular group or activity.
- *It gives leadership...*
- It is there to *plan* for the future, to *manage change* and provide *leadership* and *vision*.

THE PPC HAS SPECIFIC RESPONSIBILITIES

- **Discerning** the pastoral and spiritual needs of the parish community and involving the whole parish in response to these needs.
 - **Supporting** parishioners in understanding and living their baptismal call as followers of Christ
 - **Providing** structures that will bring together the pastoral and spiritual needs of the parish with the talents of parishioners and the resources of the parish.
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- **Ensuring** that effective dialogue takes place within the parish, the Pastoral Area, the Diocese, and the wider community
 - **Reviewing** annually the contribution that it is making in the life of the parish and inviting the parish community to reflect on that contribution.

(P30-31 Living Communion: Vision and Practice for Parish Pastoral Councils in Ireland Today)

CENTRALITY OF PRAYER

- The very dynamic of prayer has at its core **God calling** us and our response underscores the collaborative spirit in which we are all called to engage with one another in the parish.
- The direction in which prayer leads us sets us on the path of **God's work**, a work greater than our selves but a work in which we are all called to participate in for the building of the kingdom in the places in which we dwell.

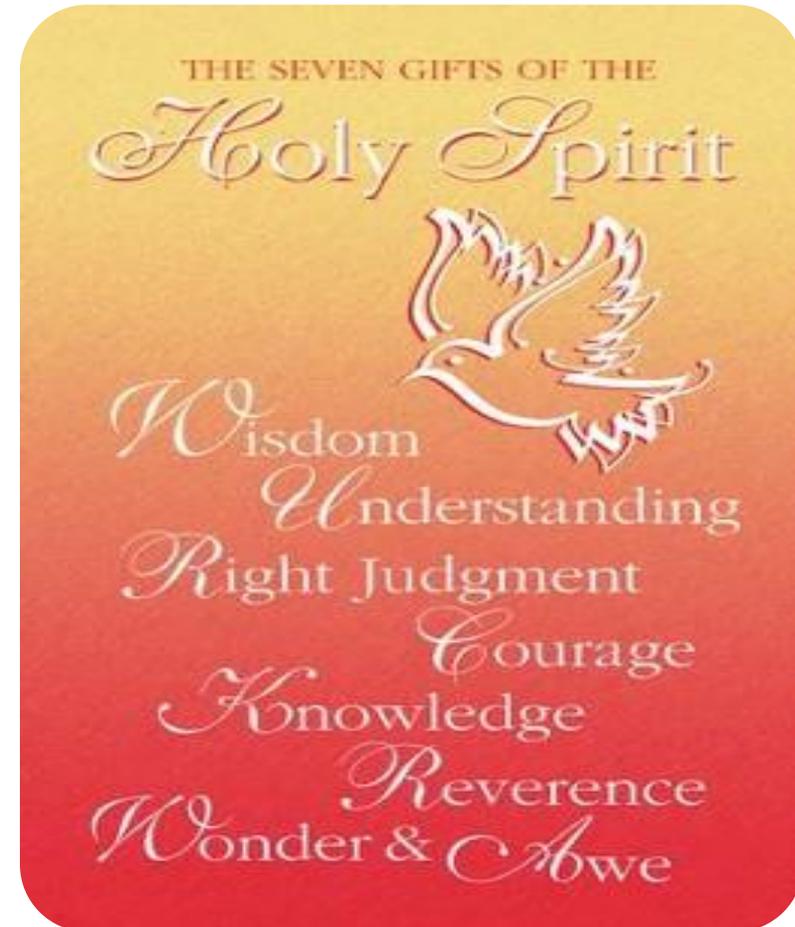


PARTNERSHIP - WORKING TOGETHER FOR MISSION

- **Collaboration** is a journey of mutual respect and discovery. It is a process of the gospel in action.
- The challenge is there for ordained and non-ordained ministry.
- Each group needs to know their role and discover their gifts.
- The Laity are called to serve not to be subservient.
- **True** collaboration requires an appreciation of the **distinction** and **differentiation** of roles and responsibilities in the Body of Christ, together with a clear recognition of the **fundamental equality of all the baptised**, ordained and non-ordained.
- For effective collaboration to occur, each one must believe that he or she has something to offer, and trust the gifts that others bring to our common task.

HOW DOES THE PPC WORK?

- *Builds on, supports & encourages* the good things already happening
- *Listens* carefully to the needs
- *Reflects & discerns* priorities in the light of the Parish's Mission Statement
- *Identifies* realistic goals & objectives
- *Enables* the participation of others by identifying & encouraging *people's gifts*
- *Ensures* there is good communication
- *Reviews* & evaluates



PASTORAL PLANNING

- A **Mission Statement** is a tool which can help the P.P.C. identify the needs of the parish and prioritise its activities.
- It can determine a direction through the development of goals and objectives.
- It is a brief description of the identity and overall direction of the parish.



Question

- In the light of our Mission statement and the light of the needs we have identified in our parish, how can the Parish Pastoral Council improve the quality of faith in our parish in one year, two years, three years time?
- What is possible?



NOW REFLECT

FOR YOURSELF

- *Did anything help you or challenge you in this presentation?*
- *How have you affirmed the gifts of others in the parish?*

ABOUT THE PPC

- *How has Prayer, Partnership and Planning developed in the Parish Pastoral Council?*
- *How might the P.P.C. now improve its way of working and being effective as a leadership team?*