



# Parish Pastoral Councils Workshop Two

**FAMILY OF FAMILIES:  
KEEPING FAMILIES  
CONNECTED TO PARISH**

# Outline of this session

- ▶ Prayer
- ▶ The Church: A Family of families
- ▶ Cardinal Grech
- ▶ How Families stay connected
- ▶ TOOLBOX and IDEAS
- ▶ BREAK OUT SHARING
- ▶ Final Reflection
- ▶ Amoris Laetitia
- ▶ What's coming up?



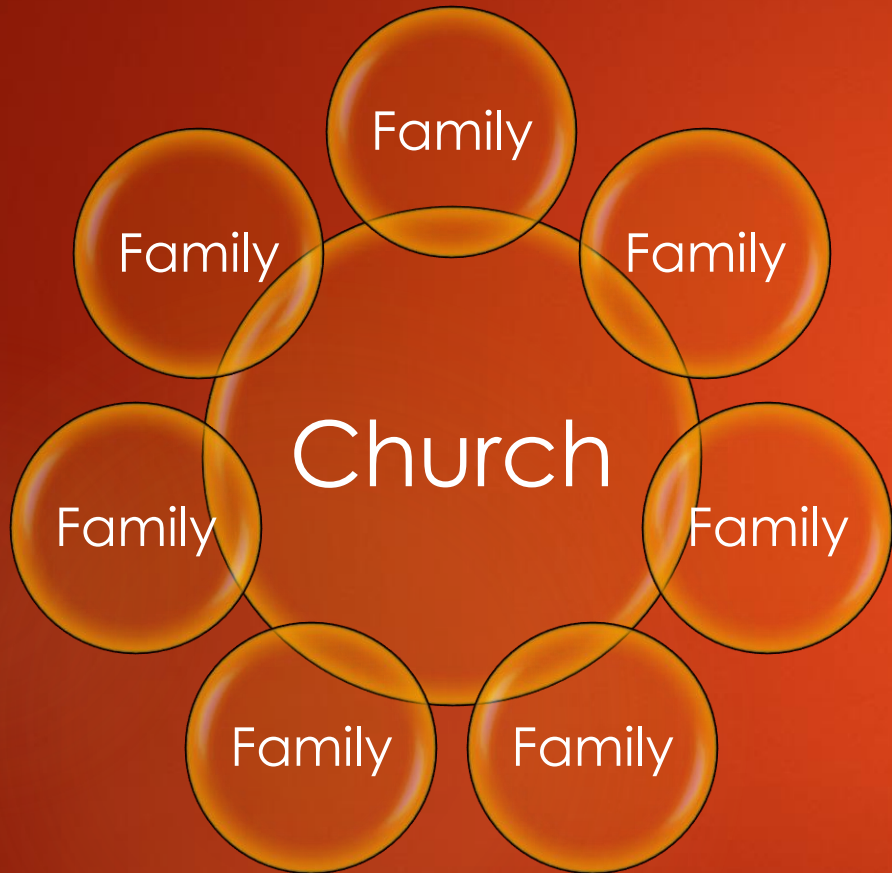
# Prayer

All who believed had all things in common;  
They would sell their possessions and goods  
and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need.

“Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple,  
they broke bread at home  
and ate their food with glad and generous hearts”  
(Acts 2: 44 - 46).

What word  
or phrase  
stays with you?

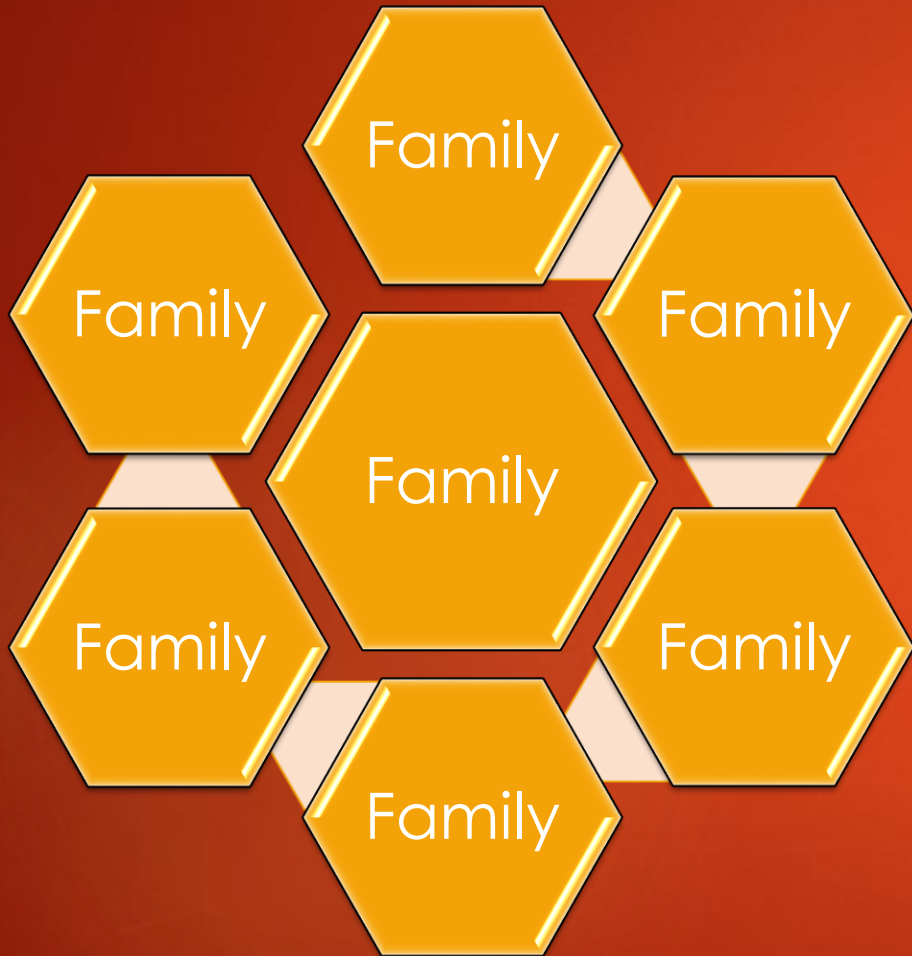
# The Church: A Family of families



## ▶ **MODEL ONE**

- ▶ The Family makes up the Church
- ▶ Here the family makes the connection with the Parish
- ▶ The Family comes to the Church
- ▶ The Family returns home
- ▶ The connection with Church is through Church going

# The Church: A Family of families



## ▶ **MODEL TWO**

- ▶ Here the family is the Church
- ▶ The family is the basic cell of the Church
- ▶ The Church is a family of families
- ▶ This is seen most clearly when the Church gathers
- ▶ The first gathering is in the HOME or DOMESTIC CHURCH
- ▶ Where prayer and service happens
- ▶ The Larger gathering for Eucharist is the highlight gathering for families
- ▶ Here families celebrate the Christian life they are living

# Cardinal Grech

## Secretary to the Synod of Bishops

- ▶ What does the rediscovery of the home suggest?
- ▶ *It suggests that the future of the Church lies here, namely, in rehabilitating the domestic Church and giving it more space, a Church-family consisting of a number of families-Church*
- ▶ We must live the Church within our families.
- ▶ There is no comparison between the institutional Church and the domestic Church.
- ▶ The large community Church is made up of small Churches that gather in houses.
- ▶ If the domestic Church fails, the Church cannot exist.
- ▶ If there is no domestic Church, the Church has no future!
- ▶ The domestic Church is the key that opens horizons of hope!

# CHAT FUNCTION

- ▶ What's staying with you about Domestic Church?

# How Families can stay connected

- ▶ ONLINE REGISTRATION
- ▶ A NEW WAY OF KEEPING CONNECTED
- ▶ SOCIAL MEDIA – Parish and Faith based media
- ▶ WHAT'S APP for mobilising groups
- ▶ *POPULAR MOMENTS*
- ▶ *FAMILY MASS*
- ▶ *CHILDREN'S LITURGY*
- ▶ *IMPORTANT HOME PRAYER SPACES*
- ▶ *FEEDING FAMILIES – Practical Social outreach*
- ▶ *TEACHING FAMILIES TO PRAY – Where to begin?*

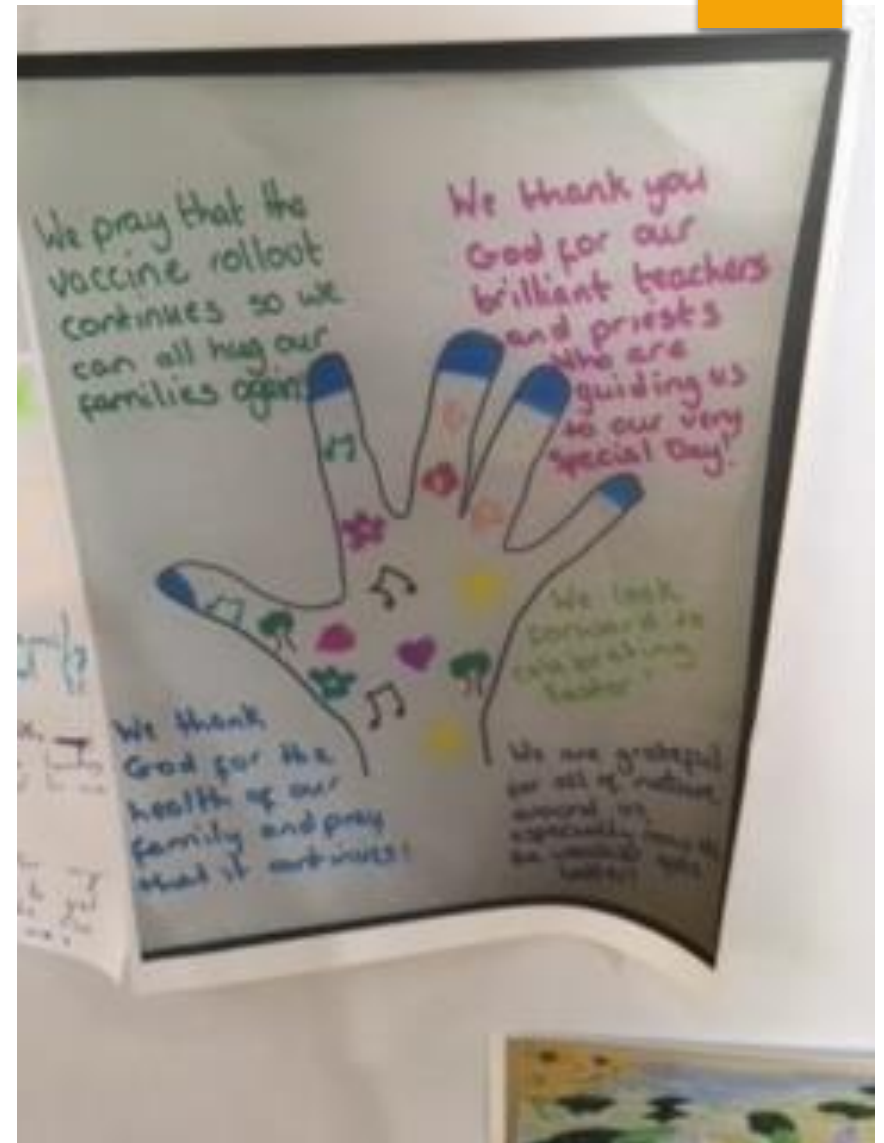


# TOOLBOX and IDEAS

## ▶ FAMILY FAITH SPACE –Glasnevin



## ▶ Two PPW's Experience



# BREAKOUT SHARING

- ▶ Share ONE IDEA
- ▶ for Family Prayer
- ▶ at home or in parish



# A Final Reflection

All of us should be able to say,  
thanks to the experience of our life in the family:  
“We come to believe in the love  
that God has for us” (1 Jn 4:16).  
Only on the basis of this experience  
will the Church’s pastoral care for families  
enable them to be both domestic churches  
and a leaven of evangelization in society.

**Amoris Laetitia 290**



# Whats coming up next week?

- ▶ 27<sup>th</sup> April 7pm
- ▶ Preparing for a Parish Assembly

