

# Office for Mission and Ministry

Welcome...



Lorraine Buckley (Faith Development Coordinator),  
Bishop Fintan, and Eilís Casey (Parish Life  
Coordinator).

...to the Office for Mission and Ministry.

Our mission is to support and serve the Parishes and Families of Parishes in the Diocese of Cork and Ross to encounter Christ personally through the Eucharist, the Sacraments, prayer and within the community.

**We are here to support you.**

Parishes and/or Families of Parishes are very welcome to contact Eilís or Lorraine to discuss the particular needs you have and to see what further supports or resources we can offer you. Please check out our autumn programme.

## Autumn Programme

### Parish Pastoral Councils/Assemblies

*Parish Pastoral Councils/Assemblies are "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." (Living Communion, Irish Catholic Bishops' Conference)*

We are very pleased to offer formation/training to new Pastoral Councils/Assemblies (PPC/A) and those already in existence this autumn. We are offering three 2-hour evening sessions **from mid-October onwards**. These sessions will focus on the purpose, structure and mission of the PPC/A (including membership and representation, roles, working groups, and practical skills). PPC/A will be provided with a training support pack containing helpful resources, templates and tools. Parishes who wish to avail of this training please register through your Co-Parish Priest or Moderator by **Thursday, October 19th**.



# Ministers of the Eucharist and Ministers of the Word

## Ministers of the Eucharist

*Through baptism, Christians receive the right and duty to participate in the sacramental life of the Church and, above all, in the Eucharist. Ministers of the Eucharist are called to share the Body and Blood of Christ with those who come to the Lord.*

We are offering to visit Families of Parishes to provide an afternoon of reflection, formation, and spiritual nourishment for **current Ministers of the Eucharist**. If your Parish or Family of Parishes would like to avail of this, please contact us through Co-Parish Priest or your Moderator.

## Ministers of the Word

*Those who proclaim the Word of God in the liturgy are the Ministers of the Word. They become prophets who speak the Word of God through the proclamation of the Word of God.*

We are offering to visit Families of Parishes to provide an afternoon of reflection, formation, and spiritual nourishment for **current Ministers of the Word**. If your Parish or Family of Parishes would like to avail of this, please contact us through Co-Parish Priest or your Moderator.

If you are interested in becoming a Minister of the Eucharist or Minister of the Word, we will be offering **training for new ministers in January 2024**.

## Baptism Preparation Teams

We will be piloting a programme of formation for Baptism Preparation Teams with a number of Parishes. We hope to roll out this programme across Parishes/Families of Parishes in the near future.

## Formation for Altar Servers

*"Offer your hands, thoughts and time to Jesus" (Pope Francis to Altar Servers).*

We are available to offer support to Parishes and/or Families of Parishes in the formation of altar servers. Please contact us for more information.



## Diocesan Alpha Information Day

Alpha provides an opportunity for people to reignite their personal relationship with Jesus, as well as bringing new life and energy back into the parish community. It is also a way for those who are disconnected to reconnect with Jesus Christ. Alpha creates a friendly environment for people to talk about life, faith, and God. It is currently run in a number of our Parishes with great success and we are hoping that other Parishes would consider introducing Alpha.

We are, therefore, hosting a Diocesan Alpha Information Day on **Saturday, November 25th** at Ovens Parish Centre. This day will explore what is Alpha, why run Alpha and how to run Alpha. Please contact us if you are interested in attending this information day.

# Celebrating young people in their faith

*Young people are not the future of the Church. They are members of the Church now.*

## Are you struggling to get young people involved...

...in your Parish/Family of Parishes? Here in the Office for Mission and Ministry we are very conscious of encouraging more young people to be involved in parish life. If you, as a Parish Pastoral Council/Assembly or Family of Parishes, are interested in involving more young people, please contact us.

## Pope John Paul II Award (for 16-18 year olds)

The Pope John Paul II Award enables young people to take an active part in the life of their Church – in the life of their community and society. It enables young people to become more aware of the teaching and role of the Catholic Church in the world and to engage at a deep level with Christ. The Award was created to commemorate the late Pope Saint John Paul II who was so committed to young people and who had such belief and confidence in them.

- The Award is for anyone from the age of 16 – 18 inclusive: in 4th, 5th or 6th year, or not in post-primary education.
- The Award is non-competitive, flexible and voluntary and requires an ongoing commitment.

Please contact us if you are interested in running or supporting the Pope John Paul II Award in your Parish.



Fr. John Heinhold Co-PP, Mrs. Anne Collins (mother of Kassey and Megan Collins), Molly Gregory Long, Rachel Crowley, Bishop Fintan & Ciara Dennehy.

## Becoming a Catholic as an adult

### Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)

Are there people enquiring about becoming Catholics? The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is a way through which non-baptised adults enter the Catholic faith.



It is also for those baptised in a different Christian tradition who wish to become Catholic, or for baptised Catholics who haven't been confirmed. It includes several stages marked by study, prayer and rites at the community celebration of the Eucharist (Mass). Please contact us if you would like support for RCIA in your Parish or Family of Parishes.

# Current Resources

## Pentecost Gathering videos - Julianne Stanz



Videos from our Diocesan Pentecost Gatherings 2023 are available on our Cork and Ross YouTube channel. These thought-provoking and inspiring sessions led by Julianne Stanz of the Diocese of Green Bay may be useful for your Parish Pastoral Council/Assemblies to encourage reflection and discussion:

Session 1: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f7KiIcR3UJY>

Session 2: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zfKRte40LWU>

## Staying in touch

News from the Office of Mission and Ministry will be published through the Diocese of Cork and Ross website and social media accounts:



Web: [corkandross.org](http://corkandross.org)



YouTube: [DioceseofCorkandRoss](https://www.youtube.com/DioceseofCorkandRoss)



Facebook: [CorkandRossDiocese](https://www.facebook.com/CorkandRossDiocese)



Instagram: [diocese\\_cork\\_and\\_ross/](https://www.instagram.com/diocese_cork_and_ross/)

We will be producing regular online newsletters to update and remind you about events and news from Families of Parishes etc.

## Parish Life Coordinator

Eilís Casey is our Parish Life Coordinator. She will work to support the implementation of the vision of the Family of Parishes' way of being Church in the Diocese identifying and responding to the needs of Parishes and faith communities as they develop new ways of ministry and new structures to serve the mission. She will also resource the ministry of priests as they develop team ministry in collaboration with Parish Leadership Groups navigating together the transition to Families of Parishes.

## Faith Development Coordinator

Lorraine Buckley is our Faith Development Coordinator. She will work in collaboration with Eilís Casey, with teams of priests and with lay leaders across Parishes in the Families of Parishes in the delivery of faith development programmes. Lorraine has worked both at Parish and Diocesan level in various areas of faith development and has been involved in Parish Councils and Pastoral Areas.

## Contact Us

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