

## Parish Priest Report – Bulletin Summary

I want to thank the parishioners who participated in our Annual Community Meeting last Monday. There were 80 people present and we had a wonderful atmosphere. The reports on the present situation of the parish showed us that the parish is in excellent shape.

Copies of my report are now available from the parish office or (while copies last!) at the entrance to the Church. I put forward a proposed way forward for the next three years which was very well received by those present. It now remains for us to implement that plan. Here are the practical conclusions:

### **Three Priorities:**

1. We need to make our Sunday worship experience a priority. We offer God and the people of our time our very best possible. That means a genuine welcome and invitation to belong, along with good music and preaching.
2. We need to reach out to non-believers and spiritual searchers and make them welcome in our parish community.
3. We need to accompany those who then seek to explore Christian faith and belonging through the RCIA. This needs to be a supportive community experience.

### **Four Initial Steps:**

1. In Lent 2018 we will have a course on Liturgy and especially the Eucharist given by Sr Kerry Willison in the Parish Centre. Following on from this we will look at how we presently celebrate the Eucharist and find out what parishioners value. We will then make some adjustments to how we do things.
2. We will invite expert guest speakers to come to the parish to speak on matter of faith in a cafe setting. We can listen to them, share food and relax together while we explore our faith through conversation with one and another and our guest speaker.
3. We will adopt the 'Alpha in a Catholic Context' programme to renew the faith of parishioners and invite others to come to faith in Christ.
4. To help improve the sense of belonging to the parish we will have a monthly "Name Tag Sunday" so that at the beginning of mass we will meet people we don't know, find out more about them, and vice versa.

Some parishioners want to form a book club to read Fr James Mallon's book "Divine Renovation: From Maintenance to Mission". If you are interested please contact the parish office.