**Update from your Parish Pastoral Council**

**Our Changing and Challenged Church**

Over the centuries the church has always changed. Now the winds of change are again blowing. In 2020, the imminent serious shortage of priests instigated the PPC to study how our parish might adapt to this new reality. Then earlier this year Archbishop Dermot Farrell took the initiative to formally consult all parishes on this topic via a Task Force. In July your parish submitted its recommendations and initiatives already undertaken by the parish communities in a document entitled:

“Parish Transformation - An Answer to Parish Viability Concerns” *(see link attached*).

 A letter of acknowledgement and thanks has been received.

In October 2021 Pope Francis formally launched a two-year global consultation process (Synodal Pathway) with a call to “look others in the eye and listen to what they have to say.” Archbishop Farrell then asked all parishes in the diocese to get involved and asked that each parish appoint two local Synodal Animators to act as facilitators in the local consultation process over the next six months to April 2022. (*See www.dublindiocese.ie*)

The PPC recently had a special meeting to consider how best to realise an authentic consultation process and would welcome expressions of interest particularly from our younger parishioners for the above-mentioned role. They will work through and be supported by the active participation of the PPC and our local communities.
In this way it is hoped that a process of authentic consultation can take place to hear the views of **all** sections of our Christian community, especially our younger generation who are the future of the church.

In the meantime several interesting discussions have been taking place in our parish hosted by Aideen Darcy, Pastoral Coordinator for Bray/Enniskerry and a member of our PPC, on the subject of a Lay Led Parish. The next one is on **Saturday 13 November in St. Mochonog’s Parish Hall, Kilmacanogue at 11:00 a.m.** All are invited and welcome.

The result of all these wide-ranging consultations will feed into the Parish Transformation Process we in Enniskerry are already embarked on. It will point to a new and exciting way forward for our church; a church that is welcoming, open and that truly listens to the words of Jesus; a church for all the people of God!

Any inputs from anyone would be very welcome!