

What is a Parish Pastoral Council?

The Pastoral Council is a Parish group which exists to ensure that we focus on our vocation as Christians: the continuation of the mission of Jesus Christ in our time and place. One question is at the heart of the work of every Pastoral Council: where and how is God calling us as a Catholic community? In this respect we are called to do three things:

- ◇ **Review** Pastoral Matters: in other words to find out what is happening in the Parish and to ask what else could be happening
- ◇ **Reflect:** we pray, discuss and discern these matters
- ◇ **Recommend:** we recommend practical ways forward to enhance the mission of the Parish according to our planned Pastoral Themes

The Pastoral Council of the Parish of Aghagallon and Ballinderry has been established to assist the Parish Priest in his leadership role of planning, organising, initiating, promoting, coordinating and reviewing evangelism, worship, religious education and various spiritual, pastoral or communal activities within the Parish. We will aim to achieve this in line with the following Pastoral Themes:

- ◇ **WELCOME**
- ◇ **PRAYER AND REFLECTION**
- ◇ **STRONG, VIBRANT PARISH FAMILY**



L-R Fr Declan Mulligan PP, Ann Clenaghan, Catherine McQuillan, Clare Ward, Collette Baine, Sharon Livingstone, Oliver Haire

If you are interested in learning more about the work of our Parish Pastoral Council or if you would like to become involved, please speak to us after Mass or via the contact details below

Parish of Aghagallon and Ballinderry

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PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Our Mission Statement

Guided by the example of Jesus, through prayer and reflection, we will continue to build a welcoming, vibrant and inclusive parish family where everyone is valued, supported and encouraged to be involved in parish and community life



Pastoral Theme
WELCOME

We will build a **WELCOMING** Parish

- ◇ Hospitality Team
- ◇ Develop our Welcoming Group
- ◇ Information Pack for Parishioners



Pastoral Theme
PRAYER AND REFLECTION

We will provide opportunities for us all to deepen our relationship with God through **PRAYER AND REFLECTION** both as individuals and together

- ◇ Provide more opportunities for Personal Prayer and Reflection
- ◇ Prayer Cards will be available at regular intervals throughout the year
- ◇ Provide Daily Reflections and information on Feast Days via our Social Media and online presence



Pastoral Theme
STRONG, VIBRANT PARISH FAMILY

We will encourage all within our Parish to know they are part of our **FAMILY** and that they **BELONG** and have a role to play

- ◇ Opportunities for **EVERYONE** to participate in Parish Life
- ◇ Provide regular updates via Social Media on Parish activities and events
- ◇ Promote more opportunities for young people to engage in Parish Life including:
 - **GIFT** (Growing In Faith Together) Yr 8 - Yr 11
 - **JPII** (Pope John Paul II Award) Yr 13 – Yr 14
- ◇ Outreach:
 - Community Centre
 - Voluntary Organisations
 - Provide Pastoral Support and opportunities for all to engage in Parish Life