



Synod Feedback Form

NAME OF PARISH	NAME OF PASTORAL GROUPING
Parishes of St. Mark's, Springfield, St. Aidan's, Brookfield & St. Thomas the Apostle, Jobstown.	Parishes of St. Mark's, Springfield, St. Aidan's, Brookfield & St. Thomas the Apostle, Jobstown.
VENUE OF GATHERINGS	IN PERSON OR ZOOM
Brookfield Community Centre, Brookfield	In person
NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS(1st Gathering)	NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS(2nd Gathering)
41	37

THE JOYS

WHAT EXPERIENCES ARE NAMED AND CONVERGE?		No.	WHAT EXPERIENCES ARE NAMED AND DIVERGE?	No.
- Church & parish people of God giving & community – where faith is lived, feeling/ sense of belonging, belonging to the Tradition.	41		- Our multicultural community. It has so much to offer.	4
- Celebrating Sacraments with community & availability of the Sacraments – especially meeting Jesus in the Eucharist, Baptism, First Holy Communion, Reconciliation, Sacrament of the Sick.	18		- Teaching of the Church: social teaching, also studying theology, spirituality.	3
- Importance of celebrating the Liturgy together, celebration of the feasts.	13		- Shared faith & passing on faith.	3
- Scripture, exploring it and praying Lectio Divina.	9		- Diversity in our community. Pope Francis leadership and concern & his concern for the poor, the Earth and his openness.	3
- Joy for Faith: how much I'm loved by God, presence of God in my life, experience of God.	9		- Celebrating Sacraments with Family.	2
- Significance of singing and led singing, choirs at Mass, listening Songs of Praise.	8		- Memories of priests of youth, influence of nuns, motivation coming from them to connect with Scripture & prayer.	2
- Joy experienced in the life of prayer together & alone.	8		- Meaning of devotional prayer & lighting candles.	2
			- Linking God's Word with my life & ministry.	1
			- Pilgrimages to WYD & Lourdes.	1
			- Working in justice & for ecology and challenge of it.	1
			- Experience of joy for being in Minister of the Eucharist.	1
			- People's witness of God in their lives.	1
			- Equality of those around me.	1
			- Healing Masses & services.	1

THE SORROWS

WHAT EXPERIENCES ARE NAMED AND CONVERGE?	No.	WHAT EXPERIENCES ARE NAMED AND DIVERGE?	No.
- Concerns raised about less Community Involvement in the Church.	27	- Vatican II issues.	1
- Abuse scandal, for e.g., clerical abuse, mother & baby home, Magdalene laundry etc.	15	- Lack of financial support for the church	1
- Concerns raised about the exclusion of women from key activities and decision making in the Church.	11	- Ecumenism – inability of the Catholic Church to work with other Christian communities.	1
- Upholding the integrity of the Church and its leaders, despite the issues on clerical abuse and other abuses.	8	- Evangelism – inability of the Church to reach out to new people.	2
- Not understanding the Liturgy & Readings.	7	- Not addressing the LGBTQ+ issues and people.	2
- Lack of Leadership by the Church.	6	- Property and planning – lack of maintenance of Church properties and inadequate planning.	2
- Concern around lack of respect during Sacraments.	6	- Vocation to religious and married life.	2
- Concern raised around lack of passing on of faith.	6	- Grief and loss during Covid.	3
- Aging population of priest and lack of dialogue about the future of priesthood.	6		
- Concern around media bias against the church due to past legacy issues.	5		

THE HOPES

WHAT EXPERIENCES ARE NAMED AND CONVERGE?	No	WHAT EXPERIENCES ARE NAMED AND DIVERGE?	No.
- People found their sense of belonging in their Faith Community. Great hope now that our faith communities are more multi-Cultural.	16	- Pope Francis his compassionate presence and his writings and care for the planet and humanity.	3
- Emergence of Women: Women studying theology and questioning their leadership role (there is more to leadership than ordained ministry) and becoming more visible in Church Liturgies.	8	- Faith in Christ: Ultimately as Christians, our hope is in Christ, in whom we put our trust. He is our Way; gathering to worship keeps us focussed on this.	3
- Growth of Lay Ministry people including young people working on parish teams and taking responsibility for faith sharing	3	- Prayer: Covid highlighted the importance of prayer and how it offered so much hope while people felt helpless prayer was a light that burned brightly and kept communities in touch at least virtually.	2
- Sacraments: parents still presenting children for sacraments and sacramental preparation even from new Community National Schools.	8	- Young Clergy and Deacons: gratitude to be in parish where we have a young enthusiastic priest and a very committed Deacon.	2
- During Covid Technology supporting faith and sacraments: Great hope that tech can be used to further educate in sacramental preparation and webcam mass tuning in to parishes all around the world for Mass a real sign of hope.	7	- Faith in Everlasting Life and forgiveness: Church teaching on life after death and forgiveness offers hope for life trying to follow Christ as best, we can as flawed humanity.	2
- Inclusivity: in spite of difficult church teaching around divorce and LGBTQ+ issues ordinary people offer welcome usually seen at funerals and often First Communion or Baptisms and Confirmation.	5	- Preaching: when priest has connected the Scripture and real life today.	2
- Church renewal: Irish Church being renewed by other cultures integrating into Ireland.	5	- Scripture: Lay people finding meaning for their lives through exploring sacred Scripture through personal reading and reflection or Lectio Divina or other parish-based Scripture groups.	1
		- Youth groups: young people willing to stand up for faith and continue to build faith communities among their peers.	1
		- The Synod: again, Pope	1

		<p>Francis' great innovation offers Great hope as it's first time in the history of the Church that lay people have been involved in a listening process by the Hierarchy.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pastoral Creativity: very committed Pastoral Workers who developed ways of working and sacramental preparation during pandemic, which offered great hope and witness which hopefully continues. 1 - Evangelisation: lay people old and young taking responsibility to share faith with each other including those who argue against its importance for life in today's world. Evangelisation is the role of all baptised. 1 	
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THE FEARS

WHAT EXPERIENCES ARE NAMED AND CONVERGE?	No.	WHAT EXPERIENCES ARE NAMED AND DIVERGE?	No.
- Lack of ability to hand on the Faith and fear of losing the Faith.	14	- Parish life too dependent on the priest.	3
- Secularisation: Facebook is new gospel; materialism, media, neighbours who judge.	13	- Inward looking priests & laity.	3
- Dwindling numbers at Mass and aging population (general apathy to Mass attendance).	11	- Life style of some priests causes fear.	2
- Concern about shortage of priests and majority of them being elderly.	10	- Fear that the Synod will not bring about change. Vatican II has still not been implemented.	2
- Anti-Christian values: wars, murders, abortion, influence of internet.	9	- Sacraments only seen as the Rite of Passage.	1
- Clericalism – priests with closed minds, lack of joy and inward-looking laity.	8	- Opposition to Pope Francis.	1
- Lack of priestly vocations.	6	- Corruption at the Vatican.	1
- Youth apathy – have we lost them?	6	- Disintegration of Family life.	1
- Vatican II minded people are not listened to!	6	- Use of language in the Church which includes.	1
- Poor lay involvement due to opposition from clergy, fear of not being accepted, feeling inadequate.	5	- Concept of the Loving God is not emphasised enough.	1
- Closed mind on part of the Church leaders.	4	- Not all Church communities treated equally.	1
- Emerging fear that churches will close and Catholicism will die.	3	- Laity do not see themselves as the People of God and so they do not take responsibility.	1

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

WHAT THEMES ARE EMERGING FROM THE GATHERING?

COMMUNITY: Sense of belonging. Aging population of priests and laity. Multicultural presence is a gift. Youth Apathy - have we lost them?

FAITH: Desire to deepen personal Faith. Learn how to pass on the Faith to others.

WOMEN: Exclusion of Women from key activities. Decision making in the Church. IMPORTANCE of Laity involvement and empowerment in parish life.

Abuse scandals.

Clericalism on the part of priests and some laity.

Secularisation.

Negative attitude of Media to the Church and Christian values.

Vatican 2 and Social Issues.

WHAT MIGHT THE HOLY SPIRIT BE INDICATING IN THIS?

We are all members of The People of God.

We need to find ways of REACHING OUT and LISTENING to all.

We shall act in such a way that all feel Welcome.

More Lay Ministers need to be prepared and encouraged.

We need to address issues such as Youth Ministry, Women's Ministry, Ecumenism, LGBTQ+, Justice, Ecology, Equality and Inclusivity.

It is not too late to live as Vatican II Council proposed 60 years ago.

SIGNED	DATE
Matthew Obamwonyi Sr. Clare Dawson Deacon Derek Leonard Saule Cameron - PPW	24th of April, 2022