

# KILGEEVER PARISH

KILLEEN & LOUISBURGH

## Archdiocese of Tuam

communion  
participation  
mission



For a synodal Church

communion | participation | mission

Dear Parishioner / Visitor

At a recent meeting of our Parish Pastoral Council, we had an initial discussion about the synodal pathway that Pope Francis has set our Church on. Our understanding is that a synod is a gathering, and a pathway implies a journey. So we are going to be journeying together for a significant length of time, it seems that this synodal way of doing things is going to become a permanent way of being in the Church.

Right now, we are only at the start, so we are in the learning phase. We are learning how to listen well so that we might truly understand each other. We are learning how to rely on the Spirit more than on ourselves, and we are especially learning how to dialogue so that everyone's voice is heard. We are doing this in phases and stages and right now we are in the initial phase, the 'Local Phase' which is leading us towards 2023 when there will be a Universal Synod.

As part of this initial stage we have decided to consult as widely as possible with people in our parish to see what you think about how we can include your voices in this process.

We know that many young people have left the church, and this is true also of many other groups who do not feel that their voice has been listened to and who do not feel welcome in our Church today. We hope to consult with all groups.

We hope to learn in this initial phase:

- What are the things that inspire people in church and in parish life?
- What are the things that discourages people from being actively involved in parish life ?
- How can our Church be more inclusive and welcoming to all?

Our recent Pastoral Council meeting had a lengthy discussion on the fact that we have answered these questions before and very little has changed. We are cautiously optimistic that this time will be different.

We would welcome any ideas, suggestions, or feedback as we make a start on the pathway.

The attached questionnaire can be returned to the church or to the parochial house. There is no need to sign it.

Kind regards,

Elaine Duffy

Chairperson of Kilgeever Parish Pastoral Council.

Mattie Long, Parish Priest

What are the things that inspire you in church and in parish life?

What are the things that discourages you from being actively involved in parish life ?

How can our Church be more inclusive and welcoming to all?

Any other suggestions or comments you would like to have included?