

Living Church

Parish Group: (This is the group of people who specifically expressed an interest in working for the Living Church at Parish level)

On Monday June 11, a meeting of the Parish Team took place in the Parochial Hall, St Vincent de Paul Parish, Ligoniel. Eighteen people attended and there was a distinct feeling of energy in the room.

Following prayer we conducted an activity aimed at assessing what types of parish work people were already involved in. It was evident and encouraging to learn that there is a lot of good work going on. It was also evident that many people in one parish did not know what was going on in other parishes within the Vicariate. *(Perhaps we should explore ways in which good practice in one parish could be extended to or replicated in other parishes)*

The second activity of the evening was aimed at allowing each individual to express the particular interest they had brought to the meeting. People graciously agreed that, on our first meeting, it was impossible to develop everyone's idea and that we would make a start by looking at the areas in which most people had expressed interest. These turned out to be work with 'YOUTH' and with 'PARENTS and YOUNG CHILDREN'.

Some of those present on the evening volunteered to form 'starter groups'- which would, with inspiration from the Holy Spirit, meet to explore how to proceed.

On **Monday 25 June**, when we meet again, we hope to do two things:

1. Bring together the two groups, which would begin working on 'Youth' and 'Parents and Young Children'.

2. Explore ways of bringing together people interested in working in some of the other valuable areas, in which other participants had expressed an interest. These include;
- Hospitality: meeting and greeting people at Mass, making tea for after Mass or other services, helping make people feel more welcome.
 - Sick and Housebound: Visiting, radio communication, Healing Mass, praying for specific intentions.
 - Grandparents Association: praying for our children, handing on the faith
 - Prayer: Parish Retreats for various groups, Youth Missions, Lectio Divino, Youth Mass and other liturgy.
 - Parish Fund

If for any reason you have not attended any of the meetings to date but you think you might be interested in any of the areas identified, please feel free to come along to the next meeting.

When: 7.30pm, Mon 25 June

Where: Sacred Heart