

Diocese of Kerry Pastoral Plan 2016 – 2020

Review

Vision To be a welcoming compassionate faith community,

with Christ at its centre,

calling forth the gifts of all

for the good of the world

to the glory of God

Goal 1 *Develop welcoming, faith filled communities relevant to the age we live in.*

- Ongoing training provided for the various parish committees:
 - Pastoral Council
 - Safeguarding Children Committee
 - Finance Committee
 - Liturgy groups
- Each year a resource book for Parish Pastoral Councils was prepared and distributed. These books contained information about the role and purpose of the PPC, discussion topics and a prayer resource.
- During the lifetime of the plan, 6 parishes were supported to transition from a situation where they had a resident priest to one of where they are ministered to by the clergy of the pastoral area.
- A gathering for the 8 parishes without a resident priest was held in November 2019. The purpose of the gathering was to support those parishes and learn from the experience.
- 40 Area Pastoral Council meetings were held each year.
- 4 Diocesan Pastoral Council meetings were held each year.
- Each year a training day was held for parish secretaries.
- In 2018 a Diocesan Assembly was held in the Brandon Hotel, Tralee. The theme of the meeting was support for family life. Over three hundred participated with representation from every parish.
- A year-long preparation for the World Meeting of Families was undertaken.
- The gathering for the World Meeting of Families was promoted with large numbers attending from the diocese.

- Various resources were prepared and distributed to parishes to assist with the preparation of children and parents for the sacraments of First Confession, First Holy Communion and Confirmation.
- Each year a number of music ministry workshops were organised.
- Several workshops for both adult and youth choirs were organised each year.
- Resources for each liturgical season were developed and made available on the diocesan website.
- Each year two training workshops for sacristans were organised.
- Training was provided at pastoral area level for the various parish ministries.

Goal 2 *Enable people to deepen their faith and proclaim the Good News of Jesus.*

- The Course in Pastoral Ministry was held in 5 different locations throughout the diocese with an average of thirty participants in each course.
- A programme of Lenten talks was promoted each year, as well as an open talk as part of the Clergy Assembly in January.
- Various resource materials on prayer and faith formation were prepared and distributed.
- Each year the Youth Ministry Courses was held in different locations. In total fifty people participated in these courses.
- Several times each year network gatherings for those involved in youth ministry were organised.
- A pilgrimage to Taizé was organised each year.
- Young people from the diocese participated in World Youth Day 2016 in Poland.
- Ceiliúradh na nÓg, a youth initiative supporting the faith life of Transition and Fifth year students, took place each year, with the participation of 400 students yearly.
- KDYS provided a variety of programmes responding to the personal, social and recreational needs of young people.
- Communications was prioritised through:
 - The weekly radio programme Horizons
 - The diocesan Webpage
 - Facebook,
 - Parish Newsletters,
 - News papers
- Catholic Schools' Week was celebrated each year in primary and secondary schools.
- Second level schools

- Two In-services for RE teachers were organised each year
- A resource pack for RE teachers is compiled regularly and distributed to teachers.
- Networking is promoted through the second level RE teachers and their KART magazine.
- Network gatherings and retreat days were provided for school chaplains
- A gathering for principals of post-primary schools were hosted biannually
- Primary schools
 - The *Grow in Love* catechetical programme was introduced to all primary schools.
 - A series of training days for teachers was organised to support them in the introduction of the *Grow in Love* programme annually.

Goal 3 *Be a catalyst for compassion and justice*

- A public Lenten Justice talk was organised each year
- A public talk was organised during Mission Month each year highlighting different aspects of mission.
- Resources for the celebration of the Season of Creation were prepared and distributed each year.
- The needs of migrants and asylum seekers were highlighted through a number of public talks and events.
- The issue of trafficking was highlighted.

The implementation of the diocesan plan was overseen by the Diocesan Pastoral Council.

Its implementation was supported by:

- The Priests' Council;
- The Diocesan Office;
- The Pastoral Team;
- Diocesan Education Committee;
- Diocesan Finance Committee;
- Human Resource Management Committee;
- Diocesan Liturgy Committee;
- Diocesan Property Committee;
- Diocesan Safeguarding Children Committee.