

Resources

for

Pastoral Councils



Diocese of Kerry



Diocesan Prayer

Lord,
as disciples,
help us to live like Jesus
with you, with each other and with all of creation.

Keep us alert in faith
to the signs of our times
and eager to accept the challenge of your Gospel.

Heal us with your love,
nourish us with your Word,
and feed us at your table.
Open our eyes to appreciate and use the gifts of all,
signs of your Spirit among us.

May we be living witnesses
to truth and freedom, to justice and peace,
in our homes, in our workplaces and in our
communities.

AMEN

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Introduction

Vision

Our vision is of a diocese:

where we encounter a loving and merciful God, whom we worship in community and as individuals;
where we respect the dignity and giftedness of each other;
where we safeguard and nurture children and young people;
where we experience belonging and welcome;
where we listen to and learn from others;
where we engage with the challenges of an ever-changing world;
where we deepen our commitment to justice, peace and the integrity of creation locally, within Ireland and in the wider world;
where we respect and engage with other groups, cultures and faiths;
where we are committed to witness to the Gospel locally, nationally and in the wider world;
where we live in a way that protects and nourishes our endangered earth;
where we have collaborative structures and practices;
where we communicate with openness and accountability.

Pastoral Councils – Diocese of Kerry

Diocesan Pastoral Council (DPC)

The Diocesan Pastoral Council is a representative body of the diocesan community, comprising of people and clergy who work in close partnership with the Bishop to further the mission of the Church.

The main purpose of the Diocesan Pastoral Council is as a consultative group with whom the Bishop can explore, reflect and discuss pastoral matters.

It acts as the coordinating group for the Area Pastoral Councils in the Diocese.

Area Pastoral Council (APC)

The Area Pastoral Council is made up of priests and representatives from each parish within the pastoral area.

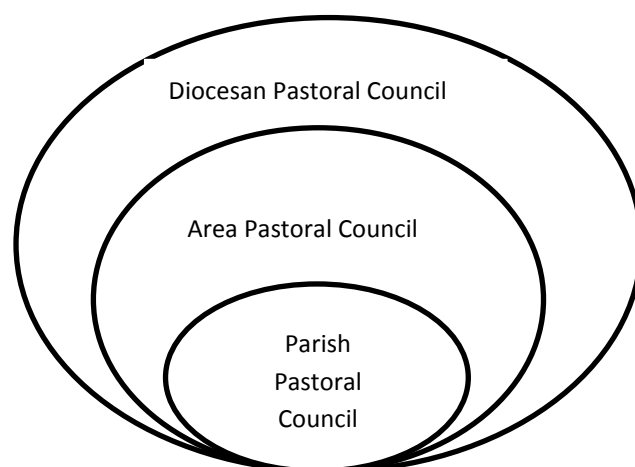
Led by the Vicar Forane, this group works in partnership in the care of their communities in response to today's needs. They enable new developments to take place at local level, by discussing the needs of member parishes and possible ways of working together to respond to those needs.

It acts as the coordinating group for the Parish Pastoral Councils in the pastoral area..

Parish Pastoral Council (PPC)

The Parish Pastoral Council is a representative body of the parish community, working in close collaboration with the priest(s) of the parish.

The aim of the Parish Pastoral Council is to enable the parish community, to share responsibility for the mission of the parish. As a group, they think and plan for the parish on an ongoing basis, to respond to present and future needs.



Diocesan Work Plan for 2011/12 - Key Priorities

Evangelisation Goal: To provide formation for all that they might have a greater understanding of Christ's call and mission.	
Priorities	Opportunities for Parishes/Pastoral Areas
Prepare for Eucharistic Congress	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participate in the Eucharistic Congress Bell Project, www.iec2012.ie/bell • Use resources available for Sunday liturgy • Attend Scripture Workshop • Participate in adult faith programmes on Eucharist • Participate in the RE Congress, www.iec2012.ie/bell
Introduce the new translation of the Roman Missal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participate in training of liturgical ministers in pastoral areas • Attend music workshops for choirs/musicians • Promote Diocesan Congregational Card - new translation of the Roman Missal
Facilitate parishes, parents and schools to develop a collaborative approach in preparing young people for Sacraments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participate in training for facilitators to lead programmes – <i>Do this in Memory and You Shall be my Witnesses</i> • Organise and support pre-sacramental preparation meetings for parents
Support families in handing on the faith	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote Grandparents' Day www.catholicgrandparents.com • Pilot Family Celebration Day
Promote Vocations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plan for fostering vocations in local parish communities www.vocationsireland.com
Working Together Goal: To foster and support collaboration among laity and clergy at parish, pastoral area and diocesan level	
Priorities	Opportunities for Parishes/Pastoral Areas
Support Pastoral Councils	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attend training for pastoral councils • Carry out planning and evaluation
Develop supports for pastoral areas where there is a parish without a resident priest	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop team ministry • Develop administration structures • Support lay participation
Increase volunteer involvement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide resources for recruitment, support and acknowledgement of parish volunteers

Justice, Peace and the Integrity of Creation

Goal: To promote an awareness of our Christian responsibility to work for justice, peace and the integrity of creation locally and in the wider world.

Priorities	Opportunities for Parishes/Pastoral Areas
Support diocesan groups and organisations, whose work involves promoting Catholic Social Teaching	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create an awareness of Catholic Social Teaching • Participate in the diocesan network for pastoral ministry groups
Celebrate Diocese of Kerry Earth Week	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plan a parish project e.g. Harvest Mass, Feast of St. Francis, Blessing of Pets, etc.
Promote Mission awareness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Celebrate Mission month (October) • Promote Confirmation Project for mission support • Encourage primary schools to participate in Children helping Children project
Celebrate justice moments in liturgy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Restorative Justice Week, 14th -19th Nov. 2011 • World Day of Peace, 1st Jan. 2012 • World Day of Migrants and Refugees, 15th Jan. 2012 <p>www.catholicbishops.ie/justice/</p>

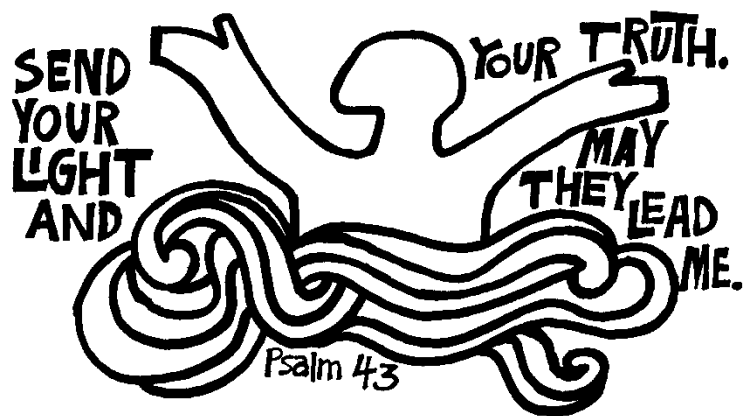
Safeguarding Children and Young People

Goal: To provide maximum safety for children and young people through the implementation and monitoring of clear policies and procedures

Priorities	Opportunities for Parishes/Pastoral Areas
Implement diocesan Safeguarding Children and Young People policy and procedures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Display posters • Monitor procedures • Register volunteers • Participate in on-going support and training for parish committees • Evaluate policies <p>www.safeguarding.ie</p>

Young People	
Goal: To reach out and engage young people enabling them to develop socially, spiritually and emotionally	
Priorities	Opportunities for Parishes/Pastoral Areas
Facilitate a Youth Ministry Training Programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recruit and support volunteers to participate in youth ministry training programme www.youthministryireland.com
Celebrate Ceiliuradh na nOg	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop links with post primary students through parish-school project
Promote the RE Congress	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participate in RE Congress, Youth Day, Oct. 7th 2011
Promote Teen Spirit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participate in and promote Teen Spirit activities www.teenspirit.ie
Collaborate with Kerry Diocesan Youth Service (KDYS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support parish youth clubs and youth initiatives www.kdys.ie
Follow up with World Youth Day Pilgrimage participants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Involve participants at local level Hold a youth assembly www.wyd2011.com
Effective Communication	
Goal: To develop and implement a strategy that facilitates clear communication for the diocese	
Priorities	Opportunities for Parishes/Pastoral Areas
Continue to up-date the diocesan web site	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Submit parish and pastoral area information to the web site Update and develop parish page Get Direct Access to Parish page to put on line Parish Newsletter
Provide resources through the medium of Irish	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide resources Develop opportunities to use Irish in liturgy and other parish settings
Facilitate training in communications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participate in communications training
Produce <i>Horizons</i> radio programme Produce <i>Just a Thought</i> daily reflections	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Submit parish and pastoral area news Promote up-coming events on <i>Horizons</i> Identify <i>Just a Thought</i> writers

Management of Resources	
Goal: To manage responsibly the gifts and resources entrusted to us as a diocese	
Priorities	Opportunities for Parishes/Pastoral Areas
Implement HR policies in the diocese	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement policies at local and pastoral area level
Develop Finance Committees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participate in training for Finance Committees



Pastoral Team

The team strives to respond to the pastoral needs of the diocese by providing training, support and resources in a coordinated and integrated manner.

Member	Area of responsibility	Contact details
Fr Ger Godley	Coordinator of Pastoral Development Development of Pastoral Councils Implementation of the Pastoral Plan	gergodley@dioceseofkerry.ie Telephone 064 6632644
Frances Rowland	Training and formation Support and train Ministry groups Diocesan Liturgy Committee	francesrowland@dioceseofkerry.ie Telephone 064 6632644
Bernie McCaffrey	Training and formation Coordinate and support pre-sacramental preparation Youth Ministry Strategy Group	berniemccaffrey@dioceseofkerry.ie Telephone 064 6632644
Edwina Gottstein	Support Religious Education at post-primary level Liaise with teachers and principals Support chaplains Promote Catholic Ethos of schools	edwinagottstein@dioceseofkerry.ie Telephone 064 6632644
Sr. Noreen Quilter	Support Religious Education at primary level Liaise with teachers and principals Promote Catholic Ethos of schools Support sacramental formation	noreenquilter@dioceseofkerry.ie Telephone 064 6632644
Mary Fagan	Produce Horizons Provide PR/Communications for diocese and parishes Promote and support the use of the website	maryfagan@dioceseofkerry.ie Telephone: 066 7123787
Joan Buckley	Administration Support	pastoralcentre@dioceseofkerry.ie Telephone 064 6632644
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Pastoral Council Meetings

Productive meetings enable Pastoral Councils to be effective. Careful planning before, during and after the meeting is required to ensure that time is well used and that members participate fully.

Elements that contribute to working well together at meetings include:

Before the meeting

Pre-Planning

The chairperson, parish priest/VF and secretary meet to prepare for the meeting; they clarify the purpose of the meeting, prepare the agenda, prioritise items and allocate a time to the items. **The secretary** notifies all members of the group of the upcoming meeting and circulates the agenda in advance.

Who decides what is on the Agenda?

The chairperson is primarily responsible for setting the agenda with the parish priest/VF and the secretary. Agree how members can put forward items to be included on the agenda

An agenda is simply a list of things you want to discuss at the meeting. It is useful because:

- It helps you plan the meeting
- It helps you to get through the business of the meeting efficiently
- It helps people at the meeting follow what is going on
- It gives people the opportunity to think about and prepare for the meeting in advance

Items to consider in drawing up an Agenda

Prioritise items so that those needing attention can be dealt with first in case the meeting runs out of time.

Make each important matter a separate item.

Look through the minutes of the last meeting – are there items to be reported back on, or items that need to be discussed again.

Limit the number of items on the agenda and avoid causing frustration by a long agenda with work left undone or skimmed over quickly.

Not all items need to be introduced by the chair – members may be asked in advance to prepare an input

Possible Headings to be included in an Agenda

1. Prayer

Time is allocated for prayer and reflection at the meeting. The work of the pastoral council is carried out in a spirit of prayer, trusting that God's spirit will direct and empower the process.

2. Minutes and matters arising

The purpose of this is to agree the minutes of the last meeting are accurate and reflect what happened. It also ensures that nothing is forgotten or left unfinished.

3. Updates

This allows for feedback and discussion on actions and various initiatives undertaken by the pastoral council.

4. Pastoral Issues

Issues raised by parishioners, ministry groups, committees that need to be considered or dealt with.

5. Next Steps

After discussion, clarify with regard to decisions taken who is to do what, and when.

Future needs for the parish may be identified from the meeting.

Items may be identified for the next agenda.

Confirm the date of the next meeting.

Decide who will lead the prayer for the next meeting.

6. AOB

This should be kept to a minimum.

Welcoming environment

Ensure that the venue is comfortable and organise seating in a way that is conducive to the active participation of all members. Check that the heating is adequate and that there are facilities for refreshments after the meeting.

During the Meeting

Prayer

Allocate time for prayer and develop prayer as part of the life of the group and as its source of inspiration. Members can share the responsibility for preparing and leading the prayer.

Agenda

Timeframe

Begin and end each meeting according to the time schedule agreed by the group.

Try to make sure the important discussions get the time they need and that minor issues do not expand to take over the whole meeting.

While allocating a timeframe for items there is always a need to be flexible if required

Social Dimension

People need to get to know each other and build up good relationships if they are to work well and happily as a group. The chat and the cup of tea after the meeting provide a non-threatening and enjoyable way of building social interaction.

After the meeting

Succinct Minutes

The minutes are a record of the issues addressed and the agreed outcomes. They are a record of the proposed actions and the person(s) responsible for carrying them out. Minutes should be circulated shortly after the meeting to allow members act on agreed matters.

Follow up on agreed actions

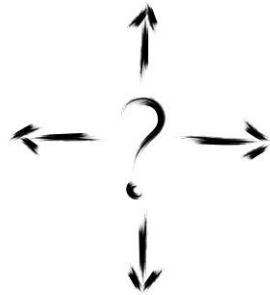
The overall effectiveness of a pastoral council depends on the participation of its members. Agreed actions need to be carried out and reported on at the next meeting.

Planning

One of the key tasks of a pastoral council is planning.

Why the need to plan?

Planning provides direction; it enables a parish/pastoral area to decide on what it wishes to achieve and how to do so.



Through planning, pastoral councils answer the questions:

- Who are we as a parish/pastoral area?
- What are we called to do?
- How are we going to do it?

The planning process involves:

- identifying the needs of the parish/pastoral area
- agreeing actions that will meet these needs

Prayer at Meetings

“Where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there in your midst”

Matt 18:20

When we gather as pastoral councils, we gather in the presence of God. These prayer services offer some ways of praying together as a group. They are only suggestions – feel free to adapt them to the needs of your group.

- Sacred Space

This offers a simple focal point to your prayer time. It allows us to centre on a candle, image, symbol during the prayer...it also appreciates that God speaks to us in many ways, not only in words.

- Pause/silence

During these times of prayer, we invite you to use silence and pauses, to enable us to hear what has been said, to allow the words to find an echo in our hearts and to let us be touched by God.

- Time and pace

Take your time with these prayer times, so that we can all slow down a little! When we are leading something, it can sometimes be hard to get a sense of our speed. A good rule of thumb is to count...after a reading or a reflection, count to 30...if you have invited the group to think about a question for their own life, count to 40...gradually we will all become comfortable with the pace of the prayer.

- Preparation

The time you put into being prepared and organised for leading the prayer moment, will make it easier for you, and more enriching for all of us. Perhaps your experience of prayer has been of the rosary, prayer books, novenas...or maybe it has been one of silence, quiet, of hopeful yearnings.

Take your time to pray with the prayer service, so that when you come to lead the prayer, it has become your prayer. Write on your page. Highlight what you are saying and what others are saying. Make notes for yourself so that you are comfortable with what you are doing. Remember these are just a help – make your own of them, and trust the Holy Spirit.

- Practice

For most of us, leading a prayer time is a new experience. And like all new things, it takes time to get used to. So practice for all of us will ease the way!

Prayer Service 1: Trust in God's presence among us and within us

Leader: *As we gather to reflect and discuss, to share and to make decisions as a pastoral council, we take a moment to place ourselves in the presence of our God and creator..PAUSE....we light a candle to remind us of God's presence with us now. [Candle is lit and placed in the centre of the group]*

Leader: Living God,
You call us to be the hands and feet of Christ in our world.
Stand us now in your presence,
that we might be refreshed and renewed by your love and guidance.

Reflection - Some thoughts on vocation – David Konstant

Reader: In God's plan, every single person is called upon to grow. Each life is a vocation. From birth, each one of us carries within ourselves the seeds of personal growth. Each one of us can bear the fruit proposed for us by God.

PAUSE

Scripture Reading – Ephesians 3:16-19

Reader: Out of his infinite glory, may he give you the power through his Spirit for your hidden self to grow strong, so that Christ may live in your hearts through faith, and then, planted in love and built on love, you will with all the saints have strength to grasp the breadth and the length, the height and the depth; until, knowing the love of Christ, which is beyond all knowledge, you are filled with the utter fullness of God.

PAUSE

Taking the candle from the sacred space, the Leader says

We pause for a few moments to pray that the spirit of Christ might grow strong in each of us...as we pass the candle from one to another, we pray silently for each one of our group....

PAUSE

Leader:	For the gift of this time shared together	<i>Lord, hear us....</i>
	For the openness to be your hands and feet in the world	<i>Lord, hear us....</i>
	For each of us in our particular vocation	<i>Lord hear us</i>
	For all whom we serve in our parish	<i>Lord, hear us....</i>

*... Gathered by the One Father, together we say, **Our Father....***

Closing Prayer

The leader invites each one to place their right hand on the shoulder of the person on their right and together all say:

**Lord, help us to work together this year
that we may fan the flame of Christ's light in our parish,
and enable all to be the hands and feet of Christ in our community.
We make this prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Prayer Service 2: Actions speak louder than words

Prayer Time

At the beginning of the prayer time, light a candle in the middle of the group

Leader: We begin our prayer *In the name of the Father,
and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit*

All: Amen

Leader: Each time we come together to pray or to meet as groups in our parish, we are conscious that all we do, is done through the grace and strength of God in our midst. *PAUSE*

Let us listen to the Word of God

Scripture Reading - Luke 19:1-9

Reader: Jesus entered Jericho and was passing through. A man was there by the name of Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and was wealthy. He wanted to see who Jesus was, but being a short man he could not, because of the crowd. So, he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore-fig tree to see him, since Jesus was coming that way. When Jesus reached the spot, he looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, come down immediately. I must stay at your house today." So he came down at once and welcomed him gladly. All the people saw this and began to mutter, "He has gone to be the guest of a 'sinner'." But Zacchaeus stood up and said to the Lord, "Look, Lord! Here and now I give half of my possessions to the poor, and if I have cheated anybody out of anything, I will pay back four times the amount." Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, because this man, too, is a son of Abraham. For the Son of Man came to seek and to save what was lost."

PAUSE

Reader: For a moment we ask ourselves, when have I been inspired and attracted by someone and what they stand for, like Zacchaeus is fascinated by Jesus? ...how did I respond? What was happened? *PAUSE*

As a pastoral council, how do we become aware of those who are at the margins in our parish...how do we include others? *PAUSE*

Leader: Confident that we are sisters and brothers of Jesus Christ, we now pray together, Our Father.....

Leader: We draw our prayer to a close as we ask God to bless us and the work we are about to undertake, *In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen*

Prayer Service 3: Shine your light on our lives

Leader: As we come together as the pastoral council of this parish/pastoral area, we place ourselves in the presence of our God.....as we light a candle [*candle is now lit by another member and placed in the centre of the group*], we are reminded of Jesus' promise to us, that he is the Light of the World.....for a moment now, we ask what this means for our parish today..... *PAUSE*

Leader: Lord, you are the light of the world

All: **Shine your light on our lives**

Leader: Lord, you are the light of the world

All: **Shine your light on our talking and planning**

Leader: Lord you are the light of the world

All: **Make us beacons of your light in the world** *PAUSE*

Leader: We open our hearts to hear the Word of God for us today

Scripture Reading - Romans 5:1-5

Reader: Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we boast in the hope of the glory of God. Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope. And hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.

PAUSE

Reader: We take a moment to reflect on where hope is in our lives today?....what are my hopes for my life? *PAUSE*

As a pastoral council, we take a moment to reflect on how can we offer hope to people in our parish community? *PAUSE*

Leader: Aware that we are called to be the sisters and brothers of Jesus Christ, we now present the prayers of our hearts on behalf of our community..... [*LET PEOPLE OFFER THEIR PETITIONS E.G. FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK, FOR YOUNG PEOPLE*].....We offer these prayers and all the need of our world, as we pray together to our Father in heaven, ***Our Father***.....

Leader: Loving God,
you are with us in our coming and goings,
you are with us in dark times and in the light-filled moments.
Shine your light of love and hope on our parish community,
and draw us ever closer to you.

We make this prayer through Christ our Lord.

All: **Amen**

Prayer Service 4: Giving glory to God

Leader: As we begin our prayer this evening, we take time to place ourselves in the presence of God....God who is Father,who is Son,who is Spirit....God who invites us to imitate their relationship of love and equality in our lives.

All: **Glory to God in the highest.**

Leader: We take a moment to give thanks to God who created each one of us..*PAUSE*

All: **Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace to people of good will.**

Leader: We take a moment to pray for the people of good will who make up our parish community *PAUSE*

All: **We praise you,
we bless you,
we adore you,
we glorify you,
we give you thanks for your great glory,
Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father.**

Leader: For what do we wish to give thanks to God this day?.....we will take a moment just to name aloud or in silence, the person or the gift for which you wish to give thanks..... *PAUSE*

All: **Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us;
you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us.**

Leader: As we pray this evening, we take a moment just to be aware that sometimes we fall short of who God calls us to be....we fail to be loving, or kind, or patient or gentle...in the depths of our hearts, we ask for the grace to having a more loving heart.... *PAUSE*

All: **For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

Prayer Service 5 – Do this in memory of me

Place a candle on a cloth....and place a chalice and ciborium, bread and grapes on the cloth.

Leader: Gathered in the presence of one another and of God, we bring ourselves into the quiet of this space.....*PAUSE*.....and together we listen to the Word of God
PAUSE

Scripture Reading – John 13:12-15

Reader 1: When he had finished washing their feet, he put on his clothes and returned to his place. “Do you understand what I have done for you?” he asked them. “You call me ‘Teacher’ and ‘Lord,’ and rightly so, for that is what I am. Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another’s feet. I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you.
PAUSE

Reflection:

Reader 1: He was old, tired and sweaty, pushing his home made cart down the alley, stopping now and then to poke around in someone’s garbage. I wanted to tell him about Eucharist, but the look in his eyes, the despair in his face, the hopelessness of somebody else’s life in his cart told me to forget it. So, I smiled, and said “Hi.”.....
PAUSE

Reader 2: She lived alone. Her husband dead, her family gone. And she talked at you, not to you; words, endless words. So, I listened and listened.
PAUSE

Reader 3: Teach me to sense your presence in another’s eyes.
To give your support in a hand held tight.
To pause and entrust to you
the challenges and the joys in the middle of a busy day.
To live mindful of your command,
when there is so much to be done but someone needs to talk.
PAUSE

Reader 4: Jesus, I can hear you saying:
When I gave you my supper,
When I give you my sustenance,
When I gave you me,
I gave you Eucharist.
Go and do likewise
PAUSE

Leader: Lord, may we go and do in memory of you:
in our relationships with others, in our care of the earth
in our commitment to justice and peace, in our sharing of the Good News.
May you be our inspiration and our guide.
We make this prayer through Christ our Lord.

All: **Amen**

Prayer Service 6 – Giving thanks for the year that has been

Create a focal space with a brightly coloured cloth, a candle in the centre and place the agendae and minutes of the past year around the candle.....a small bundle of pieces of paper and pens

Leader: As we come together this evening, we take a moment to give thanks for the year that has been....for all our conversations....our planning....our deliberations...our decision-making.....we place all of this and ourselves before the Lord. *PAUSE*

Scripture Reading: Psalm 136

	All
Reader 1: Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good. Give thanks to the God of gods. Give thanks to the Lord of lords:	His love endures forever. His love endures forever. His love endures forever.
Reader 2: to him who alone does great wonders, who by his understanding made the heavens, who spread out the earth upon the waters, who made the great lights— the sun to govern the day, the moon and stars to govern the night;	His love endures forever. His love endures forever. His love endures forever. His love endures forever. His love endures forever.
Reader 3: He remembered us in our lowliness and freed us from our enemies. He gives food to every creature. Give thanks to the God of heaven.	His love endures forever. His love endures forever. His love endures forever. His love endures forever.

Leader: I invite you now to take a pen and paper and to name for yourself what you wish to give thanks for, in the year that has been.....*PAUSE*.....we place these around the candle.... *PAUSE*

Leader: We draw our prayer to a close, as we say together,
***Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen***

Dates to Remember

2011

September

Monday 12 th ff.	Preparation meetings in each pastoral area for the Introduction of the new translation of the Roman Missal
Thursday 15th	<i>Do This in Memory</i> workshop for facilitators
Sunday 25th – Oct 4th	Diocese of Kerry Earth Week
Tuesday 27th	Pre Sacramental Preparation workshop for new facilitators
Thursday 29th	Music Workshop for Choirs and Leaders – Ian Callanan St. Brendan's Pastoral Centre, Tralee

October

Sunday 2nd	Day for Life
Tuesday 4th	Diocesan Pastoral Council Meeting
Friday 7th – 9th	Religious Education Congress - Brandon Hotel, Tralee
Wednesday 12th	Preparation for Confirmation workshop for facilitators
Sunday 23rd	Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time – Mission Sunday

November

Tuesday 8th	Diocesan Pastoral Council Meeting
Wednesday 9th	Gathering for Network of Diocesan Pastoral Groups
Monday 14th - 21st	Restorative Justice Week
Wed 16th – 30th	Eucharistic Congress Bell on pilgrimage through the diocese
Friday 18th	Closing Date for Applications for Youth Ministry Training Course
Saturday 19th	Healing Day for the Bereaved – Ardfert Retreat Centre
Sunday 27th	First Sunday of Advent – Introduction of the new translation of the Roman Missal

December

Tuesday 13th Dec	Diocesan Pastoral Council Meeting
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2012

January

Sunday 1st	Mary, Mother of God -World Day of Peace
Sunday 15th	World Day of Migrants and Refugees
Wednesday 18th – 25th	Week of Prayer for Christian Unity
Sunday 29th - Feb 5th	Catholic Schools' Week

February

	Praying and Reading Mark's Gospel – Fr. Séamus O'Connell
	Training for Parish Pastoral Councils in Pastoral Areas
Thursday 2nd	World Day for Consecrated Life
	Pre Sacramental and liturgical training for facilitators
Saturday 11th	World Day for the Sick
Saturday 11th -12th	Youth Ministry Training Course
	Celebration of Married Love – Ardfert Retreat Centre
Sunday 19th	Day of Prayer for Temperance
Wednesday 22nd	Ash Wednesday

March

	Ceiliuradh na nOg
Saturday 17th	St Patrick – Day of Prayer for Emigrants

April

Sunday 1st	Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion
Sunday 8th	Easter Sunday
Sunday 29th	Fourth Sunday of Easter – Day of Prayer for Vocations

May

Sunday 20th	Ascension of the Lord -	World Communications Day
Sunday 27th	Pentecost Sunday	

June

Sunday 10 – 17 th	International Eucharistic Congress, Dublin
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Diocesan Pastoral Ministry Groups

Group	Service	Contact Details
Cura	A voluntary non-directive counselling, information and referral service, offering support and practical assistance to any vulnerable woman who feels under threat because of a pregnancy.	<i>Tralee Centre:</i> St. John's, Castle St. Tralee, Co. Kerry Tel: 066 7127355
Accord	A voluntary Catholic organisation that aims to promote a deeper understanding of Christian marriage and to offer people the means to safeguard and nourish their marriage and family relationships.	<i>Killarney Centre</i> John Paul II Pastoral Centre, Killarney Tel: 064 6632644 accordkillarney@eircom.net <i>Tralee Centre</i> St. John's Parish Centre, Castle St., Tralee Tel: 066 7122280 accordtralee@eircom.net
St Vincent de Paul	A Christian, voluntary organisation, who seek to respond to the call every Christian receives to bring the love of Christ to those they serve in the spirit of the Gospel message.	St. Vincent de Paul, Regional Office, Greenlawn, Killarney, Co. Kerry. Tel: 064 6622668 svdpkillarney@eircom.net
Diocesan Bible Ministry	The committee offers people opportunities to develop a familiarity with and love for the Scriptures	John Paul II Pastoral Centre, Rock Road, Killarney, Co Kerry. Tel: 064 6632644 www.dioceseofkerry.ie
Diocesan Liturgy Committee	Provides guidelines, workshops and resources for diocesan and parish liturgy as vibrant celebrations of our faith in God, reflecting life experience and calling us to live our faith.	John Paul II Pastoral Centre, Rock Road, Killarney, Co Kerry. Tel: 064 6632644 www.dioceseofkerry.ie
Ardfert Retreat	Is a Retreat Centre which welcomes	The Secretary

<p>Centre</p>	<p>people who wish to take time out to find meaning in their lives through the adventure of the spiritual search. This is facilitated through various forms of dialogue, experiential workshops, conferences and retreats. Some of these are hosted by members of the resident team. Others are facilitated by national and international presenters.</p>	<p>Ardfert Retreat Centre Ardfert Co. Kerry Tel: 066 7134276 ardfertretreat@eircom.net</p>
<p>Justice, Peace and the Integrity of Creation</p>	<p>Inspired by gospel values, the committee aims to be a voice for justice, peace & the integrity of creation within the Diocese on issues arising locally, nationally and internationally, bearing in mind that “peace is the fruit of anxious daily care to see that each person lives in justice as God intends”. Pope Paul</p>	<p>Justice Peace and the Integrity of Creation St. John’s Pastoral Centre, Castle St., Tralee. Tel: 066 7122522 www.dioceseofkerry.ie</p>
<p>Kerry Diocesan Youth Service (KDYS)</p>	<p>KDYS responds to the social, educational and spiritual needs of young people through a variety of programmes and services such as Youth Information, community Youth Work, Youthreach, family Support, community Drugs Initiative, Mentor Programmes and Youth Club Work.</p>	<p>Mr Tim O'Donoghue KDYS, The Friary Killarney, Co. Kerry. Tel: 064 6631748 kdys@eircom.net</p>



International Eucharistic Congress Prayer

Lord Jesus,
You were sent by the Father
to gather together those who are scattered.
You came among us, doing good and bringing healing,
announcing the Word of salvation
and giving the Bread which lasts forever.
Be our companion on life's pilgrim way.

May your Holy Spirit inflame our hearts,
enliven our hope and open our minds,
so that together with our sisters and brothers in faith
we may recognise you in the Scriptures
and in the breaking of bread.

May your Holy Spirit transform us into one body
and lead us to walk humbly on the earth,
in justice and love,
as witnesses of your resurrection.

In communion with Mary,
whom you gave to us as our Mother
at the foot of the cross, through you
may all praise, honour and blessing be to the Father
in the Holy Spirit and in the Church,
Now and forever.

Amen



‘HORIZONS’

Your local Religious and Social Affairs programme

on

Radio Kerry

Every Sunday Morning 9.00 to 10.00am

listen back @ www.dioceseofkerry.ie



Checkout ...

www.dioceseofkerry.ie

for latest news on:

Upcoming Events, Mass Times, Parish Index, News,

Photos, Readings of the Day, Saint of the Day,

‘HORIZONS’, Just a Thought

It's your diocese and it's nice to know what's going on.