



Come To The Table...

Last week, we celebrated Pentecost, when the love of God has been poured into our hearts through by the Holy Spirit. Today we celebrate the Feast of the Holy Trinity.



Rublev's famous icon of the Trinity shows God in the form of Three, eating and drinking, in infinite hospitality and utter enjoyment between themselves. The gaze between the Three shows the deep respect between them as they all share from a common bowl. Notice the Spirit's hand points toward the open and fourth place at the table. Is the Holy Spirit inviting, offering, and clearing space? I think so!

And if so, for what, and for whom?

You! Yes, you—and all of creation—are invited to sit at the divine table.

You are called to consciously participate in the divine dance of loving and being loved.

The Building Hope initiative is inviting us to come to the table and actively engage with God's work through his Church.

Our step now is to accept and act on the invitation from Archbishop Dermot Farrell as presented in his Living the Hope of Easter: Pastoral Letter.

The Archbishop is inviting each parish community to begin to reflect on how best to respond to the situation in which we find ourselves.

The future will not look like the past.

Our challenge – and it is yours and mine – rather than simply reacting to events, is to shape the future in the light of the gospel.

Living the Hope of Easter: Archbishop Dermot Farrell, Pastoral Letter, Easter 2022

The Building Hope Initiative is a process for renewal. It provides us with a framework for a conversation together next week and to take action together.

As a Pastoral Area, that is two parishes working together, some renewal work has already begun, for example, there are sacramental coordinators which organise and coordinate sacramental preparation for First Eucharist and Confirmation, which are then celebrated as one faith community; we have one website and newsletter for the Pastoral Area and we have Welcoming groups at most churches.

Church and community overlap in other faith-based initiatives for example the Ukrainian and Syrian Outreach projects.

All these activities are a living expression of an active Church, marked by participation within a community of believers. To be the active, welcoming, engaging faith-based church community we all desire, requires us all participating on this journey of change and discovery.

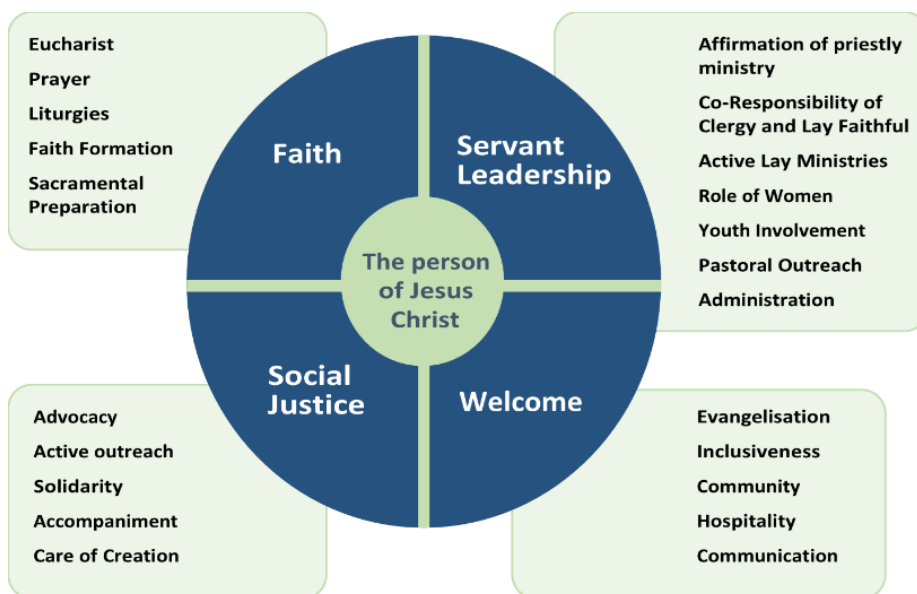
An Invitation to the Conversation:

The Building Hope Task Force of the Archdiocese identified 4 dimensions valued by faith communities.

These are:

- Faith
- Servant Leadership
- Social Justice
- Welcome

These 4 dimensions provide the framework for dialogue and discussion at our meetings next week.



In preparation for this, we are asked to reflect on our strengths and our needs in the Pastoral Area in each of these 4 areas. Specifically,

- To discern/think and pray about what is working well
- To identify what needs to be developed and how to do this and who will do it

Each meeting will follow the same format, an opening prayer, small group discussions about the 4 dimensions: Faith, Servant Leadership, Social Justice and Welcome; recording comments, closing prayer.

The meetings will be at 8pm on:

- Tuesday 14th June in Kilian House Family Centre, Greystones
- Wednesday 15th June in Kilcoole Community Centre and
- Thursday 16th June in Newtown Community Centre

This is the continuation of what we have already begun. “Come to the Table” next week. We look forward to a large turnout. Thank you.

Further information: <https://dublindiocese.ie/category/building-hope/>