



Synod Feedback Form

NAME OF PARISH	NAME OF PASTORAL GROUPING
St. Anthony's Parish, Clontarf, D03 TY23	Teenagers (16+-)
VENUE OF GATHERINGS	IN PERSON OR ZOOM
Local secondary school	In Person
NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS (1 st Gathering)	NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS (2 nd Gathering)
25	25

THE JOYS

WHAT EXPERIENCES ARE NAMED AND CONVERGE?	No.	WHAT EXPERIENCES ARE NAMED AND DIVERGE?	No.
Ritual (music, gatherings, sacraments, prayer, liturgies, ...)	20	Escape from problems	1
Sense of Community (belonging, participation, reaching out to those at home, ...)	9	Sharing and passing around the body of Christ	1
Relationship with God (allowing God to work through me, ...)	3	Sun shining through stained glass windows	1
Atmosphere of the church	3	You always feel welcome	1
Need moral guidance	2	Awareness of your behaviour	1

THE SORROWS

WHAT EXPERIENCES ARE NAMED AND CONVERGE?	No.	WHAT EXPERIENCES ARE NAMED AND DIVERGE?	No.
Remembrance Masses/funerals	17	Negative attitudes mean it's not cool to be religious	1
Tradition of religion being forced on you	4	Hypocrisy	1
Abuse Scandals, mother and baby homes (erosion of trust, sad history of the church, ...)	6	Inflexibility of the church to read the signs of the times	1
Lack of Inclusivity (not open) (LGBTQI+, minorities, ...)	5	Church not living the Gospel	1
Slow to change (narrow minded thinking, inflexible, ...)	4	Sad Bible stories	1
Using Bible to justify actions (in relation to LGBTQ+ and abortion, ...)	3	Connection with loss and grief	1
Role of women in the church (acolytes, deacons, priests, treated as subservient, ...)	2		

THE HOPES

WHAT EXPERIENCES ARE NAMED AND CONVERGE?	No.	WHAT EXPERIENCES ARE NAMED AND DIVERGE?	No.
Weddings (ceremonies)	6		
Prayer	5		
Charity (looking after the marginalised)	5		
Forgiveness of sins	4		
Heaven (hope that heaven exists)	4		
Lighting candles	2		
Commemoration of the dead (the belief no one will be forgotten, your memory will live on, ...)	2		

THE FEARS

WHAT EXPERIENCES ARE NAMED AND CONVERGE?	No.	WHAT EXPERIENCES ARE NAMED AND DIVERGE?	No.
Judgementalism	5	No proper punishment for crime of abuse	1
Funerals/death	4	Homophobia	1
Crime/abuse continues	4	Church will become irrelevant	1
Tradition continues to force children to be part of a religious group, brainwashing of young children	3	People will not have religion in their lives	1
		Men in charge and no women	1
		Use of religious belief /Bible for bigoted and hateful behaviour	1
Reduction in church services	2	Hell	1
		Fear of receiving bread in the wrong hand	1
Excommunication	2	Being preached at	1
		People being alone	1
		Fear of history repeating itself	1
		Discrimination	1
Fear of the control of the church and its influence	2	Focus teaching on the wrong things not focusing on love and right to make your own choices	1

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

WHAT THEMES ARE EMERGING FROM THE GATHERING?

Moral guidance teaches people how to live life – this is important in an age that is superficial and narcissistic.

Concern that child sexual abuse could happen again as there is no proper justice / punishment.

Reproductive rights are a fundamental issue that is challenging for young people. How to get our heads around the issue of abortion – where human life starts, etc.

Inclusion of minorities has to be managed but how can we do it?

The church seems to judge the behaviour of young people.

How do we change the perception that religion is being forced on young people? Can we consider the sacrament of Confirmation at an older age and by choice?

WHAT MIGHT THE HOLY SPIRIT BE INDICATING IN THIS?

A sign of the Holy Spirit working in the Youth Group was the desire to still engage with the church and there is hope that if this is the case the church can survive and hopefully thrive if the church listens and delivers on change.

SIGNED	DATE
Olga McCarrick	23 April 2022