



An Invitation



You are warmly invited to two Synodal gatherings in March, in the parish of **St Brigid's, Blanchardstown**. The word "synodal" means journeying together and these gatherings will be an opportunity to share and listen to each other's experience of Church, in an organised, gentle and prayerful environment.

Why are you being invited?

Pope Francis has asked all of us to take part in sharing and listening to each other and to the Holy Spirit. In this way we are beginning to lay foundations for our future together.

The invitation is to all the baptised.

Eventually, all the responses will be collected in time for the Oct 2023 Synod in Rome.

What will happen at the gatherings?

Parish Animators have been trained to lead the gatherings in a reflective, prayerful atmosphere.

Questions will be presented each evening and people will gather in small groups to share on each question and listen to each other.

Each small group will have a leader who will help everyone to have the opportunity to share and who will collect the feedback from the group.

What are the questions?

First gathering:

When you think of your experience of Church, what brings joy?

When you think of your experience of Church, what brings sorrow?

Second gathering:

When you think of your experience of Church, what brings hope?

When you think of your experience of Church, what brings fear or anxiety?

Please remember we are being asked to listen with understanding, to respect each other's experiences, and to try to walk in the other person's shoes.

What will happen to the feedback?

The Animators, will sort the feedback into similar themes. This will form the basis for a Report to the Diocese. The feedback will be used by the Parish Team and Parish Pastoral Council to help in pastoral planning.

When and where will these gatherings happen?

Date: **Tues 01 March 2022** Time: **7:30 pm**
At: **St Brigid's GAA Hall, Russell Park, D15 EY20**

Date: **Tues 15 March 2022** Time: **7:30 pm**
At: **St Brigid's GAA Hall, Russell Park, D15 EY20**

Please note – Ample Parking available at Russell Park

How can you prepare for this?

Please visit the Parish Website to view the SIMPLY SYNOD booklet. Safeguarding and confidentiality guidelines will be in place. Gatherings will be Covid compliant.

Contact Us Please

Everyone is welcome. There are no tickets or pre-booking. But, in Covid times, it would be really helpful to have an idea of numbers likely to attend. Please email your expression of interest to - stbrigidsppc@gmail.com or add your name to the sheets available at Sunday masses.

For anyone who wants it we will arrange transport from the Church to Russell Park. Please call 01 – 811 5412 / 811 5414 to reserve a seat asap.