

Press Release for Diocesan Appointments 2018

Please find attached the diocesan appointments for Killaloe diocese for 2018. It is part of the process of re-structuring and planning for the future need of the diocese taking many factors into account.

It is a follow on from the work that begun a number of years ago with the pastoral plan - Builders of Hope and is an effort to be pro-active and prepare to maximise the use of diocesan resources to ensure the proclamation of the Kingdom of God for years to come in the diocese of Killaloe.

The appointments come about as the result of much consultation, discussion, dialogue, debate and planning between the clergy and laity of the diocese.

Two Main Features

The two main features of the appointments are the introduction of team ministry in each pastoral area and the increase in the number of pastoral areas to ensure that each area would be more manageable and viable in the utilization of resources and personnel.

Team Ministry

There will be new system of being Co-PP within a pastoral area rather than each parish having one PP with responsibility for just that one parish. This will ensure the introduction of team ministry where clergy will be able to work together with relative ease sharing responsibility and providing a service across multiple parishes.

Moving from 12 clusters to 15 pastoral areas.

The leaders in the old model of the cluster system that had been in operation for many years were moderators. The leaders in the new pastoral areas are vicars forane.

Retired Priests Policy – Care of Priests

As part of the care of priests strategy or plan it was decided to reintroduce the retirement policy at the age of 75 so that no priest should feel under pressure to continue in active ministry beyond

that age, but at the same time not excluding him from pastoral ministry if he felt well enough to do so.

Thanks - Appreciation

Thanks to the many priests and laity in the parishes who have contributed to this important process of change. Thanks to the many priests who have so generously responded to the call to change location and minister in different areas.