

Bishop Larry Duffy's Letter dated 28th January 2020.

Bishop Larry Duffy: I got a letter from Bishop Duffy dated 28/1/2020. Here is his letter: Dear Father,

After almost a year as bishop, I am more conscious than ever of the increasing need for laity to engage more in parish life and planning. I write to invite you and your parish Communities to take part in a dialogue process—“**Clogher Diocese in Dialogue**”.

This process will begin this coming Lent when you and most especially lay parishioners of all ages and backgrounds will be asked to engage in a dialogue about the future of parishes and diocese. A Team of facilitators—lay and clerical- have agreed to help us in this regard. Meetings will be held at venues across the seven Pastoral Areas during the first and third weeks of Lent, and from this a sense of the faithful will be gathered. Each Parish is asked to have ten representatives at these gatherings- town parishes might have 15.

I ask you to be courageous in inviting people to attend. It would be useful if one or more of the people asked to attend would be people who could give an account of the process at Masses on the following Sundays, or at some meeting of parishioners. A News Letter Note will be sent out to all parishes next week to offer an opportunity to the wider parish community to be part of this process too.

The Purpose of this journey ahead is this:

To consider how we as a church continue to sustain living parishes now and going into the future in Clogher Diocese.

To achieve this objective, we seek understanding more than agreement; agreement will take time to achieve, but that will happen to in the Lord's way, and in the Lord's time. Be assured, however, this is the

beginning of a conversation which will be listened to, and which will inform future planning.

I sincerely ask you to embrace this process. It is devoted to renewal, a renewal that will, please God, give us all the energy we need to face the future with courage. Praying our way through this is most important and I encourage you to keep that in your prayers both personally and with your community.

Yours in Christ

+ Larry Duffy

Bishop of Clogher

Note: Our parish of Pobal is in the Enniskillen/ West Fermanagh Pastoral Area

This includes Parishes of Enniskillen, Pobal, Derrygonnelly, Cleenish/Arney.

Date of Meeting: 10th March 2020.

Venue: St Michaels College, Enniskillen.

Facilitators: Fr Jim Moore, Gary Carville, and Patricia McGonnell.

All meetings begin at 7.30pm and end at 9-30pm