

Pope Francis said, *“The mission of the church is to heal wounds and to warm the hearts of people”*



Our Lady Queen of Peace

Renewal of Faith Mission

Saturday 12th – Saturday 19th October 2019

MISSION? WHY?

The obvious question is: “What is a mission?” and “What will this mission involve?”

What is a Mission?

For those who can remember past missions perhaps the words “hellfire and damnation” may spring to mind (with some good old pulpit thumping thrown in for added effect!) Perhaps memories of packed congregations; a mission priest ‘putting the fear of God’ into you.

I am sure it won't come as too much of a surprise to you to hear that missions have changed a little.

Missions today are no longer a case of "missionary does it all"; the laity is an important part of the mission.

A mission can mean many things:

It is an opportunity for renewal in going the soul's way

A chance to learn more about Christ and the values of the Kingdom he spoke of

A call to commitment

A reminder of our need for continual conversion

A chance to build up the parish community

A celebration of faith

A mission offers opportunities to experience in a heightened and intense way services, sermons and sacraments focusing on the major themes of our faith.

A parish mission allows people to take time to look at their lives, values and direction. It encourages them to ask what is really important to them. What are they doing with their lives; what values do they have; and where does God fit in? It can challenge people to ask what their faith means, what their Church means to them.

Mission critique is essential because it moves everyone out of their comfort zone. It also helps to prevent people from reaching the flawed conclusion that the mission is over. The mission might not be all things for all people; but it will focus on key areas for attention and further development.

The people of God deserve the very best because we are the body of Christ in this place and at this time. A mission generates a deeper invitation to look beyond the immediate agenda and see the bigger picture unfolding. In this secular and competitive world, parishes need to experience challenge,

affirmation and evaluation lest they slide into survival mode where rite, ritual and routine become the norm.

Our Lady Queen of Peace Mission Group

In recent years more and more laity are taking active roles within the church. The Second Vatican Council defined the church as the **“pilgrim People of God”**, this reminds us that the church is not the bricks and mortar; we are the Church: people, priests and bishops, all of us **“journey through life together”**. To this end a group of parishioners from our Parish, along with Monsignor David and Des Kelly, have been meeting to help with the preparation of our Mission in October. All parishioners have been given the opportunity to suggest any topic they would like to see included in the Mission week.

What is all this leading up to?

The mission event itself will take place over an 8-day period.

The week will be made up of a Morning Mass and evening celebration, service, discussion or what has been decided by you.

Anyone and everyone are invited to come to the mission.

In the end the main aim of the mission is to:

**Build community- Strengthen faith- Give witness to that faith- Encourage
each believer to be a flicker of light in the world**

always remembering that “There is no community without commitment”

**A parish mission is a time of wonderful Grace and
renewal for all the people of a parish
whether young or old, strong in Faith or struggling.
God wants to show us, that not only is He with us in
our everyday lives, but his plan is amazing!**

The mission will be facilitated by Des Kelly M.A. Catholic Leadership, NPQH, and Cert. Ed. Des is a recipient from the Pope of the 'Pro ecclesia et pontifice' medal for distinguished work in Catholic education and evangelisation (for more information look at his website on deskelly.org)



Cardinal Vincent Nichols and Des Kelly

Holy Spirit give us faith,

Holy Spirit give us hope,

Holy Spirit give us love,

Revive your work in this land beginning with me.