A Parish Cell Group Provides

The aim of a cell group is to foster within a parish a greater community spirit and an awareness of God in a more personal way.

A cell group provides a place where friendships are formed and faith deepened. It enables people to see the relevance of their faith in all that they do, so that they can make a difference in the varying circumstances of each day.

"The parishes of tomorrow will be communities of international disciples, the key to this will be the formation of cells, or small gatherings of committed people who meet and pray and develop together their understanding of faith and who find the courage to engage in mission and outreach"

(Archbishop Eamon Martin)

"The cell offers people the opportunity to know their own faith story and to learn a language to convey it in the marketplace." (Fr Michael Hurley).

"The cell leads me to feel more at home and at ease with my Catholic faith. I have a sense of hope and of mission. I see myself as part of a church that is going somewhere." (Noel Ryan, Dublin)

"The cell enables people to connect their deepest longings, hopes and fears with the gospel message"

(Fr Michael McGinnity, Belfast).

"The cell brings me into contact with people with whom I can share my faith."

(Michael Byrne, Callan).

Are you interested? Like to know more? Then contact us: St. Mary's Star of the Sea, Portstewart, Cell Group:

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Parish Cell System of Evangelisation

website::
http://portstewartparish.website/cells



PARISH CELL SYSTEM OF EVANGELISATION





PORTSTEWART PARISH

CELL GROUPS

Parish Priest: Very Rev Austin McGirr, PP, VF. phone: 028 7083 2534. E-mail: pp@portstewartparish.co.uk The Parish Cell System of Evangelisation was granted a Final Decree of Papal Approval on 12^{th} April 2015. It expresses the Church's desire to continue to use the parish cell prayer groups as a way of renewing a sense of mission in parish communities.



On the 5^{th} September 2015 Pope Francis spoke to 5,500 CELL participants about Parish evangalisation as the charism of Parish Cells:

"Meeting in homes to share the joys and expectations that are present in the heart of each person is a genuine experience of evangalisation which closely resembles what took place in the early times of the Church."



"In all its activities the parish encourages and trains its members to be evangelisers. It is a community of communities, a sanctuary where the thirsty come to drink in the midst of their journey and a center of constant missionary outreach."

> Pope Francis Evangelkii Gaudium 28



• What is a CELL?

It is a group of people who meet twice a month in a person's house.

• What happens at a CELL Meeting?

The group prays, shares Scripture, listens to a guide for reflection, learns how to share faith, prays for the intentions of others and socialises.

- Who guides the reflection? Talks are given on audio recordings by the priest or deacon.
- How long do meetings last? Normally one and a half hours.
- May I visit a CELL meeting to see for myself?

Certainly. Everyone is welcome to come and see.

• If I have been away from the Church for a long time, may I join a CELL? You would be most welcome.

The 7 Purposes of a CELL group:

- To grow in intimacy with the Lord;
- To grow in love of one another;
- To share Jesus with others;
- To serve within the community;
- To give and reeive support;
- To raise up new leaders;
- To deepen our Catholic identity.



The Advantage of a CELL group:

- It is personal;
- It doesn't need special skills or knowledge;
- It is for everyone;
- It is integrated into the parish;
- It fosters a better community spirit.