

Good Shepherd Sunday: Facing the Changes & Challenges Together

“The parish is the presence of the Church in a given territory, an environment for hearing God’s word, for growth in the Christian life, for dialogue, proclamation, charitable outreach, worship and celebration”

Pope Francis, Evangelii Gaudium, 28

Priest-People Ratio in Kildare & Leighlin Diocese

1 priest to 1865 people in 2006

1 priest to 3462 people in 2016.

Priests Working in the Diocese

110 priests in active ministry in 2006

73 diocesan priests in active ministry in 2017. We also have 12 priests from religious orders and 5 priests from foreign dioceses working in the diocese.

Average Age of Diocesan Clergy

56 years of age in 2006

67 years of age in 2017

27 priests over 75 years of age work in parishes. 12 of these are over 80 years of age

Permanent Deacons

0 in 2006

8 in 2017

4 currently in formation

Lay People Volunteering in Parish and Diocesan Roles

Lay people:

Serve on 44 Parish Pastoral Councils

Minister on 33 Parish Baptism Teams

Work in 21 Parish Liturgy Groups

Participate with 11 Parish Funeral Ministry Teams (seven teams recently trained)

Serve on 56 Parish Finance Committees

1181 people voluntarily serve on Primary School Boards of Management

146 people are Parish Safeguarding Representatives

Parishes, Church Buildings & Population

There are 56 parishes with 117 churches

48 churches are in the Kildare and Leighlin South Deanery

31 churches are in the Kildare and Leighlin North Deanery

38 churches are in the Kildare and Leighlin West Deanery