

# **Partnerships in Parish Life**

## **Drumragh Parish Groups**

**September 2013.**

## **Foreword**

**I welcome this initiative by the Parish Pastoral Council. The material for this inventory of groups working in the Parish was compiled over the last few months. It may well not be complete as new groups continue to emerge and the details of all existing groups may still be unavailable to us. What this compilation shows clearly is the vast amount of voluntary work undertaken by a very large number of people for the good of the community. It is our hope that the spirit of voluntary endeavour will continue to thrive in our Parish.**

**Mgr Joseph Donnelly P.P., V.F.**

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Name of Parish Group: **Accord**

When was your group established? **1975**

What is the purpose of your activity in the Parish?

**To offer Counselling and Marriage Preparation to couples and individuals.**

When do you meet? **Counselling takes place up to two/three days/nights each week.**

Where do you meet? **In the Pastoral Centre, Brook Street.**

What exactly does your work involve?

**Our work has two main strands: Relationship counselling – facilitating couples and individuals to explore, reflect upon and resolve difficulties in their marriage and relationship; Marriage preparation – provide couples with time out to explore relationship issues in preparation for the life-long commitment of marriage.**

How many are involved in the work of your group? **We have nine people involved.**

Have you a committee? **Yes.**

How can new members join the group or become involved in its activities? **New members have to go through a selection and vetting process.**

Could you please provide the name of a contact person(s) for your group and their contact details.

**Mrs Brid McCann, (Chairperson), 02882 898624**

Name of Parish Group: **Altar Servers, Sacred Heart Church**

What is the purpose of your activity in the Parish?

**To assist the priest at Liturgical Services.**

When do you meet? **As required.**

Where do you meet? **Sacred Heart Church/St. Mary's Church.**

What exactly does your work involve?

**Serving at Mass and at other Liturgical Services.**

How many are involved in the work of your group? **The parish has thirty seven altar servers.**

Have you a committee? **No.**

How can new members join the group or become involved in its activities? **Children, both boys and girls, who wish to become altar servers can volunteer through their Primary School as soon as they reach Primary Five. They will then be asked to attend for training.**

Could you please provide the name of a contact person(s) for your group and their contact details.

**Curate / Parish Office 02882 242092**

## Parish Group: **Altar Servers, St. Mary's Church Drumragh**

What is the purpose of your activity in the Parish?

**To provide altar servers for church services.**

When do you meet? **When needed.**

Where do you meet? **St. Mary's Drumragh.**

What exactly does your work involve?

**Training the children. Getting them dressed and organized for the services.**

How many are involved in the work of your group? **We have twelve children in the group.**

How can new members join the group or become involved in its activities? **Through Sacred Heart P.S., All Saint's P.S., and other schools to contact Ann Doherty.**

Could you please provide the name of a contact person(s) for your group and their contact details.

**Ann Doherty 02882 244160**

Name of Parish Group: **Altar Society**

When was your group established? **About 1982**

What is the purpose of your activity in the Parish?

**To decorate the Sacred Heart Church with flowers on a weekly basis and also for special occasions.**

Where do you meet? **The Pastoral Centre.**

What exactly does your work involve?

**Obtaining and preparing the flowers, decorating the Church and maintaining the displays.**

How many are involved in the work of your group? **We have about eighteen members.**

Have you a committee? **Yes.**

How can new members join the group or become involved in its activities? **Volunteer to any member of the group. New members are very welcome!**

Could you please provide the name of a contact person(s) for your group and their contact details.

**Maura Sharpe/ Parish Office 02882 242092**

Name of Parish Group: **Baptismal Preparation Group**

When was your group established? **2013**

What is the purpose of your activity in the Parish?

**To prepare parents for the Sacrament of Baptism through preparation evenings.**

Where do you meet? **The Pastoral Centre.**

What exactly does your work involve?

**We invite parents to attend a Service of Blessing and a baptismal preparation before booking the baptism through the Parish Office.**

How many are involved in the work of your group? **We have about 20 members.**

Have you a committee? **Yes.**

How can new members join the group or become involved in its activities? **Volunteer to any member of the group.**

Could you please provide the name of a contact person(s) for your group and their contact details.

**For further details please contact 07895 557359**



## Parish Group: **Charismatic Prayer Group**

When was your group established? **1976**

What is the purpose of your activity in the Parish?

**To serve our local community through prayer.**

When do you meet? **Every Thursday night at 8.15 p.m.; Rosary at 7.50 p.m.**

Where do you meet? **Pastoral Centre, Brook St.**

What exactly does your work involve?

**The evening is led by a group member or visiting speaker and begins with hymns of praise and worship and prayers of thanksgiving. The Word of God in Scripture is read and shared under the guidance of the Holy Spirit. There is a time of intercession to pray for people and situations in need of prayer. Prayer ministry is offered.**

How many are involved in the work of your group? **There are fifty five members.**

Have you a committee? **Yes, a Core Team of ten people.**

How can new members join the group or become involved in its activities? **Come along any Thursday evening.**

Could you please provide the name of a contact person(s) for your group and their contact details.

**Evelyn Heaney 82243973, evelynheaney@hotmail.com  
Kathleen Winters 82246582; ktwinters12345@aol.com**

## Parish Group: **Children's Liturgy of the Word**

When was your group established? **2002**

What is the purpose of your activity in the Parish?

**To help children understand the Word of God in a language they can understand.**

When do you meet? **The children's Liturgy takes place during Lent and Advent**

Where do you meet? **St. Vincent's Hall.**

What exactly does your work involve?

**Preparing the Sunday Gospel to present it to children aged 7 – 10 years approximately.**

How many are involved in the work of your group? **Two and volunteers.**

Have you a committee? **No.**

How can new members join the group or become involved in its activities? **Volunteer.**

Could you please provide the name of a contact person(s) for your group and their contact details.

**Kathleen Winters 02882 246582 and Anne Kelly 02882 247899**

Name of Parish Group: **Sacred Heart Church Senior Choir**

When was your group established? **Probably soon after the opening of the present Church in 1899.**

What is the purpose of your activity in the Parish?

**To provide music for all the major liturgical services during the Church year.**

When do you meet? **On Tuesday evenings from September – June.**

Where do you meet? **St. Mary's Hall.**

How many are involved in the work of your group? **At present there are twenty members in the Senior Choir.**

Have you a committee? **Yes.**

How can new members join the group or become involved in its activities? **By coming along to one of our practices.**

Could you please provide the name of a contact person(s) for your group and their contact details.

**Paul Pritchard 02882 244504**

Name of Parish Group: **Sacred Heart Church Youth Choir**

When was your group established? **September 2011.**

What is the purpose of your activity in the Parish?

**To enhance the liturgy and encourage greater participation of young people in the life of the parish.**

When do you meet? **We have a practice on Saturdays at 3 p.m.**

Where do you meet? **Pastoral Centre.**

What exactly does your work involve?

**We generally sing at the 12.30 p.m. Sunday Mass.**

How many are involved in the work of your group? **At present we have ten members.**

Have you a committee? **No.**

How can new members join the group or become involved in its activities? **Contact a member of the Youth choir, speak to us after 12.30 Mass or leave your details with the Parish Secretary.**

Could you please provide the name of a contact person(s) for your group and their contact details.

**Conn Haughey 02882 244080**

Name of Parish Group: **Sacred Heart Church Junior Choir**

When was your group established? **Advent 2011.**

What is the purpose of your activity in the Parish?

**To enhance the liturgy and promote involvement of youth through bringing together members from different schools.**

When do you meet? **Every Wednesday from 4 – 5 p.m.**

Where do you meet? **St. Colmcille's Primary School, Brook Street.**

What exactly does your work involve?

**Rehearsals and singing at a weekend Mass.**

How many are involved in the work of your group? **Two adults and around sixteen children. New members are very welcome.**

Have you a committee? **No.**

How can new members join the group or become involved in its activities? **The choir is openly advertised in schools, parish bulletin and announced from the altar.**

Could you please provide the name of a contact person(s) for your group and their contact details.

**McSorley Sisters 07873 216778**

## Parish Group: **Sacred Heart, McSorley Sisters Choir**

When was your group established? **1985**

What is the purpose of your activity in the Parish?

**The purpose of this group is to provide sacred music to enrich the celebration of the various sacraments of the church.**

When do you meet? **Once a week.**

Where do you meet? **At the accompanist's home.**

What exactly does your work involve?

**Singing at Masses including alternate Saturday evenings, anniversaries and other celebrations including weddings and funerals.**

How many are involved in the work of your group? **This is a group of four sisters and their accompanist.**

Have you a committee? **No**

Could you please provide the name of a contact person(s) for your group and their contact details.

**Siobhan Mullin 07873216778**

## Parish Group: **Church Choir, St. Mary's Church Drumragh**

What is the purpose of your activity in the Parish?

**We sing every Sunday at the 10 a.m. Mass from September to June and at other important Parish occasions e.g. Cemetery Sunday, funerals etc.**

When do you meet? **We meet for a choir practice on Tuesday night and on Sunday morning.**

Where do you meet? **In St. Mary's Church Drumragh.**

What exactly does your work involve?

**Learning new hymns and responses for the Mass.**

How many are involved in the work of your group? **We have eighteen regular choir members though the number of singers changes from week to week as a few of our members are at university and some work in Belfast/Dublin during the week.**

How can new members join the group or become involved in its activities? **New members can contact the choir leader or any member of the choir – we would be delighted to have more members!**

Could you please provide the name of a contact person(s) for your group and their contact details.

**Marie Campbell 02882 243705**

## Parish Group: **Sacred Heart Church Cleaners**

When was your group established? **The new cleaning teams were established soon after the Church renovations were completed in 1998.**

What is the purpose of your activity in the Parish?

**To clean our beautiful Sacred Heart Church and ensure that it is always well maintained and welcoming for worshippers.**

When do you meet? **There are two groups of cleaners, a Monday group and a Tuesday group. Both begin their work after morning Mass at around 11 a.m.**

Where do you meet? **In the Sacred Heart Church.**

What exactly does your work involve?

**The Monday group collect any litter, sweep the floors, Hoover the floors, dust the seats, polish the brass and clean the altar area. The Tuesday group mops and washes the floors and completes any additional cleaning required.**

How many are involved in the work of your group? **Each of the cleaning teams has 7 or 8 members.**

Have you a committee? **No. Membership is voluntary and completely ad-hoc.**

How can new members join the group or become involved in its activities? **Come along on a Monday or Tuesday morning. New cleaners are always welcome.**

Could you please provide the name of a contact person(s) for your group and their contact details.

**Contact Declan Norris / Sacristan - Sacred Heart Church.**



Name of Parish Group: **Collectors**

When was your group established? **Many years ago.**

What is the purpose of your activity in the Parish?

**To collect the weekly donations in Church.**

When do you meet? **On a few occasions.**

Where do you meet? **St. Vincent's Hall.**

What exactly does your work involve?

**Walking along the aisles to circulate the baskets in which parishioners place their donations.**

How many are involved in the work of your group? **We have about fifty collectors.**

Have you a committee? **No.**

How can new members join the group or become involved in its activities? **Anyone interested should contact one of the priests of the parish. New collectors are very welcome to join the group.**

Could you please provide the name of a contact person(s) for your group and their contact details.

**Paddy McGowan 02882 244450**

Name of Parish Group: **Committee for the Safeguarding of Children and Vulnerable Adults**

When was your group established? **2006/2007**

What is the purpose of your activity in the Parish?

**To promote and maintain a safe environment for children and vulnerable adults participating in Church liturgies and activities.**

When do you meet? **Monthly Committee meetings are held in the Parochial House. Other meetings 1 or 2 times per week as required are held in the Parish Office.**

What exactly does your work involve?

**Implementing the Diocesan Safeguarding Policy and procedures. Vetting all volunteers who are involved in Church regulated activities.**

How many are involved in the work of your group? **We have four members.**

Have you a committee? **Yes.**

How can new members join the group or become involved in its activities? **Contact any member of the Committee.**

Could you please provide the name of a contact person(s) for your group and their contact details.

**Peg O'Neill, Kevin Miley, Parish Office at 02882 242092**

Name of Parish Group: **Counters**

When was your group established? **Around 1970.**

What is the purpose of your activity in the Parish?

**Counting and recording the donations contributed weekly by parishioners via envelopes and the collection baskets.**

When do you meet? **Once per week.**

What exactly does your work involve?

**Opening the envelopes, counting the contents and noting the amount on the envelope for later recording for Parish Office records. Counting the loose plate. Counting other collections such as Trocaire.**

How many are involved in the work of your group? **There are between 20 and 25 people available to work as counters.**

Have you a committee? **No.**

How can new members join the group or become involved in its activities? **Contact one of the team mentioned below.**

Could you please provide the name of a contact person(s) for your group and their contact details.

**Patrick McLoone 02882 244080 or Sean Doyle 02882 247501**

## Parish Group: **Do This in Memory of Me**

When was your group established? **2005**

What is the purpose of your activity in the Parish?

**To help Parents/Guardians/Parish take a more active role in First Communion preparation of children in the schools of the Parish.**

When do you meet? **First meeting with Parents/Guardians in September. Afterwards we meet with our own group to prepare etc.**

Where do you meet? **St Joseph's Hall and Pastoral Centre.**

What exactly does your work involve?

**Organising volunteers (Parents of Year 4 pupils) to take part in the Liturgy of the Masses of the Programme. Visiting schools with information, ordering the books for the Programme etc.**

How many are involved in the work of your group? **Two people plus Volunteers.**

Have you a committee? **No.**

How can new members join the group or become involved in its activities? **Volunteer.**

Could you please provide the name of a contact person(s) for your group and their contact details.

**Anne Kelly 02882 247899, Kathleen Winters 02882 246582**

## Parish Group: **Drumragh Parish Pastoral Council**

When was your group established? **Seven Pastoral Council members were elected at a Parish Assembly held on Sat 15<sup>th</sup> October 2011. Along with our two priests and five co-opted members, they formed the first Parish Pastoral Council.**

What is the purpose of your activity in the Parish?

**The Parish Pastoral Council is a forum where the priests and representatives of the parishioners seek the guidance of the Holy Spirit in discerning the way forward for the parish. Their role concerns the pastoral and spiritual development of the parish. Working in partnership with the priests of the parish and using a collaborative approach, its major focus is to identify the potential of its people and to involve them in building up the parish as a faith community.**

When do you meet? **Once a month, in the Pastoral Centre.**

What exactly does your work involve?

In this the establishment phase of the Council, our purposes are:

- **to promote a Sense of the Presence of Christ among the people of the parish.**
- **to acknowledge, celebrate and communicate the existing great work being done by many parish members through the wide variety of parish organizations**
- **to encourage a Sense of Personal Responsibility for the faith of our parish and facilitate further participation and partnership in sharing the talents of all members of our parish community in the years ahead**
- **to listen to the community and work to address the developing pastoral and spiritual needs of our parish in the C21<sup>st</sup> beginning with those identified in the Parish Survey (April 2011)**

How many are involved in the work of your group? **Initially, the Parish Council had 14 members, Mgr. Donnelly, Fr. McDevitt, six women and six men.**

Have you a committee? **Yes.**

How can new members join the group or become involved in its activities? **New members will be co-opted on to the Council.**

Could you please provide the name of a contact person(s) for your group and their contact details.

**Mgr. Joseph Donnelly, P.P.**

## Parish Group: **Edmund Rice Summer Camp (Omagh)**

When was your group established? **In Omagh since 2000** (Other camps in Waterford, Kilkenny and Dublin)

What is the purpose of your activity in the Parish?

**To provide a group of children with a week of fun activities when they can make new friends and grow in self esteem and confidence. Gives Leaders experiences of working as a team and opportunities to develop skills and self confidence while also exploring their spirituality and developing their awareness of issues surrounding social justice.**

When do you meet? **There are 4 Training Days for Leaders in the Spring. We also meet to prepare for the week of camp, for fundraising events and for a Christmas Party for the children**

Where do you meet? **Training is held in the Pastoral Centre with the summer camp centred in the CBS Sports Hall.**

What exactly does your work involve?

**Organising a week long summer camp, (non-residential) for children P4 – P7, involving a wide range of activities – sports, games, treasure hunts, day trips, arts and crafts and more. Activities are led by young adults, 17 -21 years under close supervision of an experienced adult team.**

How many are involved in the work of your group? **This year we have about 60 young leaders working with 35 children. Numbers are growing each year and the camp may be expanded to provide two separate weeks.**

Have you a committee? **A National Executive Committee in Dublin headed by Br. Chris Glavey, coordinates all camps. A local Committee is comprised of mentors and coordinators with extensive experience from previous summer camps.**

How can new members join the group or become involved in its activities? **Every year new leaders are selected from applications made through the CBS and Loreto Convent.**

Could you please provide the name of a contact person(s) for your group and their contact details.

**RE Department, Christian Brothers School, Omagh**

Name of Parish Group: **Eucharistic Ministers**

When was your group established? **1970s**

What is the purpose of your activity in the Parish?

**To distribute Holy Communion.**

When do you meet? **Once a year for a Day of Reflection.**

Where do you meet? **St. Joseph's Hall/Pastoral Centre.**

What exactly does your work involve?

**To assist the priest in distributing Holy Communion at weekday and weekend Masses; in Nursing Homes; to the sick and housebound every third Sunday and on request.**

How many are involved in the work of your group? **There are about one hundred Ministers.**

Have you a committee? **No.**

How can new members join the group or become involved in its activities? **New members are nominated by priests and given training.**

Could you please provide the name of a contact person(s) for your group and their contact details.

**Kathleen Winters/ Parish Office 028 82242092**

## Parish Group: **Faith and Light Group**

When was your group established? **1985**

What is the purpose of your activity in the Parish?

**To bond family members with a child/adult with disability with other families and to celebrate the gifts/special role of families.**

When do you meet? **Once a month – a Sunday afternoon from 2.30 – 5.30 p.m.**

Where do you meet? **Usually in the Pastoral Centre. Occasionally visiting other communities/ attending regional and national Pilgrimages.**

What exactly does your work involve?

**Fun! Music! Fiesta! Mass! Meal! Prayer! Pilgrimage! Friendship!**

How many are involved in the work of your group? **It isn't work – we are a community with up to sixty members.**

Have you a committee? **Yes, called a Core Group.**

How can new members join the group or become involved in its activities?  
**Invitation/word of mouth/referral.**

Could you please provide the name of a contact person(s) for your group and their contact details.

**Brenda Bannon c/o Loreto Grammar School 02882 243633**



Name of Parish Group: **Finance Committee**

When was your group established? **In 2005**

What is the purpose of your activity in the Parish?

**The committee is a consultative group set up to assist the Parish Priest in the administration of the funds and property of the parish.**

When do you meet? **At least four times a year.**

Where do you meet? **In the Parochial House.**

What exactly does your work involve?

**Providing assistance to the Parish Priest in the work of administration of the finances of the parish and the property of the parish.**

How many are involved in the work of your group? **Seven members.**

Have you a committee? **Yes.**

How can new members join the group or become involved in its activities? **By statute the Parish Priest appoints members to the Committee.**

Could you please provide the name of a contact person(s) for your group and their contact details.

**Mgr. J Donnelly, Parish Priest. 02882 243011**

Name of Parish Group: **I.H.C.P.T – The Irish Pilgrimage Trust  
Group 190.**

When was your group established? **The main umbrella of the Trust was founded 40 years ago. The Omagh group has been travelling to Lourdes for the past 22 years.**

What is the purpose of your activity in the Parish?

**To raise funds to help cover the expenses of bringing young handicapped people to Lourdes and also to raise awareness of the organization.**

When do you meet? **As a group we meet 4 – 6 times a year.**

Where do you meet? **At various locations. Our regional group meets at the Glenavon Hotel in Cookstown twice a year.**

What exactly does your work involve?

**Fundraising and accompanying young handicapped people to Lourdes.**

How many are involved in the work of your group? **We have approximately thirteen helpers.**

Have you a committee? **We have a Regional Committee and a National Board of Trustees.**

How can new members join the group or become involved in its activities? **They can contact the group leader who then logs their details with the Head Office.**

Could you please provide the name of a contact person(s) for your group and their contact details.

**Louise O’Hagan 07730952191, Maureen Devine 07717732550**

Name of Parish Group: **Knights of Columbanus**

When was your group established? **In 1921.**

What is the purpose of your activity in the Parish?

**The Knights of Columbanus is an Order of laymen who support the Catholic faith and provide faith development to its members and to the wider Irish Catholic Church. All members locally support their clergy and carry out charitable work at local, national and international levels.**

When do you meet? **Once a month.**

Where do you meet? **In the Pastoral Centre.**

What exactly does your work involve?

**Each member is involved with his local Parish in supporting his clergy and in promoting the Catholic Faith. Members are involved in lobbying through friends and organizations, decision makers and Policy makers at all levels, local to international, to influence them in making decisions which are in line with Catholic teaching. They have been involved in a number of faith initiatives such as the John Paul II Awards and are currently promoting the Friends of Anna and Simeon.**

How many are involved in the work of your group? **We have 40 members.**

Have you a committee? **Yes.**

How can new members join the group or become involved in its activities? **By invitation.**

Could you please provide the name of a contact person(s) for your group and their contact details.

**E-mail, [koc@iol.ie](mailto:koc@iol.ie) Telephone: 07764928760**

Parish Group: **Legion of Mary, Our Lady of Mount Carmel  
Praesidium (Women)**

When was your group established? **1986**

What is the purpose of your activity in the Parish?

**The object of the Legion of Mary is the Glory of God through the holiness of its members developed by prayer and active cooperation in Mary and the Church's work of advancing the reign of Christ in the world.**

When do you meet? **Tuesday nights at 7 p.m.**

Where do you meet? **St. Vincent's Hall.**

What exactly does your work involve?

**Legionaries visit homes with the Rosary statue, praying the Rosary, distributing miraculous medals, brown scapulars and prayer leaflets to the family. The treasures of our Catholic faith – Holy Mass, Sacraments, prayer and Eucharistic adoration are promoted. Four Nursing Homes are visited weekly and the rosary Divine Mercy Chaplet is prayed with the residents. Time is spent chatting and listening to them which they appreciate.**

How many are involved in the work of your group? **Seven members.**

Have you a committee? **Yes.**

How can new members join the group or become involved in its activities? **By contacting a Legionary member or attending a meeting any Tuesday night.**

Could you please provide the name of a contact person(s) for your group and their contact details.

**Mary Rose Rice 02882 245631, Kathleen McGee 02882 259769**

Parish Group: **Legion of Mary, Mary, Mother of the Church  
Praesidium (Men)**

When was your group established? **1974**

What is the purpose of your activity in the Parish?

**To make Our Blessed Lady better known in the Parish. Presenting the true faith of the Roman Catholic Church.**

When do you meet? **Every Thursday at 8.10 p.m.**

Where do you meet? **St. Vincent's Hall beside the Sacred Heart Church.**

What exactly does your work involve?

**Rosary Crusade to homes, visitation of the sick in hospitals etc.**

How many are involved in the work of your group? **Six.**

Have you a committee? **Yes.**

How can new members join the group or become involved in its activities? **By attending a weekly meeting.**

Could you please provide the name of a contact person(s) for your group and their contact details.

**Sean Taggart 02882 241874**

Name of Parish Group: **Liturgy Committee**

What is the purpose of your activity in the Parish?

**To plan and co-ordinate for major liturgical ceremonies.**

When do you meet? **Once a month from September to May.**

Where do you meet? **Pastoral Centre.**

How many are involved in the work of your group? **Nine members.**

Have you a committee? **Yes, with nine members.**

How can new members join the group or become involved in its activities? **New members are invited to join by one of the priests.**

Could you please provide the name of a contact person(s) for your group and their contact details.

**Contact one of the priests through the Parish Office at 02882 242092.**

Name of Parish Group: **Marriage Tribunal Auditors**

When was your group established? **In the 1980s.**

What is the purpose of your activity in the Parish?

**On request from the Derry Office of the Armagh regional Marriage Tribunal, auditors take evidence from witnesses in cases of appeals for nullity of marriage.**

When do you meet? **As required.**

Where do you meet? **Usually in the Pastoral Centre.**

What exactly does your work involve?

**Following a questionnaire supplied by the Marriage Tribunal, the auditor records in writing the answers of the witness and returns the written evidence to the Tribunal.**

How many are involved in the work of your group? **Between the parishes of Drumragh and Cappagh, there are currently five auditors.**

Have you a committee? **No.**

How can new members join the group or become involved in its activities? **The Tribunal provides training for new auditors from time to time. The Parish puts forward names on request from the Tribunal.**

Could you please provide the name of a contact person(s) for your group and their contact details.

**Mgr. J Donnelly, Parish Priest.**

Name of Parish Group: **Ministers of The Word, Sacred Heart Church**

When was your group established? **1970s.**

What is the purpose of your activity in the Parish?

**The Reading of Scripture at Mass and other Liturgies. God speaks to the people as the Reader proclaims God's Word in the church. The Reader becomes an instrument of Christ and of His Grace that is offered through the Reading.**

When do you meet? **Once a year for a Day of Reflection.**

Where do you meet? **Pastoral Centre or St. Joseph's Hall.**

What exactly does your work involve?

**Reading at week-end Masses, 10 a.m. Mass on weekdays and 8 a.m. Mass during Lent as well as at other special Liturgies e.g. Cemetery Sunday, Services at Easter, memorial Services for the Dead etc.**

How many are involved in the work of your group? **About eighty people.**

Have you a committee? **No.**

How can new members join the group or become involved in its activities? **New members are commissioned by a priest.**

Could you please provide the name of a contact person(s) for your group and their contact details.

**Evelyn Heaney 82243973, evelynheaney@hotmail.com**



Parish Group. **Ministers of The Word, St. Mary's Church  
Drumragh**

When was your group established? **About ten years ago.**

What is the purpose of your activity in the Parish?

**The Reading of Scripture at Mass and other Liturgies. God speaks to the people as the Reader proclaims God's Word in the church. The Reader becomes an instrument of Christ and of His Grace that is offered through the Reading.**

What exactly does your work involve?

**Reading at Sunday Morning Masses, 10 a.m. as well as at other special Liturgies. We organize for someone from a list of readers or someone who regularly attends St. Mary's to read at Masses for a month.**

How many are involved in the work of your group? **We have ten – twelve members.**

Have you a committee? **No.**

How can new members join the group or become involved in its activities? **Give your name to the Secretary in the Parish Office, 02882 242092.**

Could you please provide the name of a contact person(s) for your group and their contact details.

**Breda Campbell 02882 250790**

## Parish Group: **Omagh Churches Forum**

.When was your group established? **1996**

What is the purpose of your activity in the Parish?

**A small group of clergy had been meeting informally and with the support of Omagh District Council, the Churches Forum was developed with representatives from the main Christian Churches, (Catholic, Methodist, Church of Ireland, and Presbyterian). Following the Omagh bomb in August 1998, clergy were needed by all sections of the community and the role of the Forum in relation to community healing became a prominent one. Their main role is to encourage understanding of each others' traditions among the local congregations.**

When do you meet? **Every two months on a Monday afternoon at 2 p.m.**

Where do you meet? **On a rota basis in the halls of participating member's Churches.**

What exactly does your work involve?

**The Forum exists to provide opportunities for member Churches to meet and grow in their understanding and respect for each other. It also aims to provide inter-church leadership on issues such as sectarianism, trust building and toleration of cultures, community relations and reconciliation. Their main objectives include enabling people from all traditions to work together for the good of their communities on spiritual, moral and social welfare issues; increasing mutual understanding and developing cross-denominational friendships; building links with other agencies to improve the work of the Forum.**

How many are involved in the work of your group? **There are currently 18 members.**

Have you a committee? **Yes. There are two Co-Chairs, one Catholic, one Protestant, a Treasurer and a Secretary, (this role carried out by Focus, Community House).**

How can new members join the group or become involved in its activities? **By invitation.**

Could you please provide the name of a contact person(s) for your group and their contact details.

**Fr Joseph Gormley, CC Cappagh.**

Name of Parish Group: **Parish Draw Committee**

When was your group established? **1994**

What is the purpose of your activity in the Parish?

**To gather money for specific Church Projects – presently paying off debt on St. Mary's Church and the adjoining graveyard.**

When do you meet? **The first week of each month.**

Where do you meet? **St. Joseph's Hall.**

What exactly does your work involve? **Monitor and receipt all the contributions and bank the returns.**

How many are involved in the work of your group? **Ten people.**

Have you a committee? **Yes.**

How can new members join the group or become involved in its activities? **By volunteering their services.**

Could you please provide the name of a contact person(s) for your group and their contact details.

**Curate / The Parish Office - 02882 242092**

Name of Parish Group: **Pioneer Association**

When was your group established? **Over a hundred years ago.**

What is the purpose of your activity in the Parish?

**To promote the Pioneer Association and to raise awareness of the dangers arising from the abuse of alcohol and drugs.**

When do you meet? **Every month.**

Where do you meet? **In St. Joseph's Hall.**

What exactly does your work involve?

**Our work includes the enrollment of new members of the Pioneer Association, attending Regional meetings, Diocesan Masses and retreats. Socially, we also have an annual dance.**

How many are involved in the work of your group? **We have twelve members.**

Have you a committee? **Yes.**

How can new members join the group or become involved in its activities? **Contact any member, call the number available in the weekly Mass bulletin or see the details on the notice boards in the Church.**

Could you please provide the name of a contact person(s) for your group and their contact details.

**Mary Prunty 02882 245710, Mary Tierney 02882 242921 or any Committee members.**

## Name of Parish Group: **Pope John Paul II Awards**

When was your group established? **The scheme, aimed at students in Post-Primary schools, was launched in the Derry Diocese in 2006.**

What is the purpose of your activity in the Parish?

**To commemorate the late Pope John Paul II who was so committed to young people and who showed such a belief and confidence in them. The scheme encourages young people to take an active part in the life of their local Church community and society. Its aim is to make participants more aware of the teaching and role of the Catholic Church in the world around them.**

What exactly does your work involve?

**The work of the leaders involves guiding the young people in Year 13 to become more involved in their parishes and to consequently increase their social skills and their social awareness. Students make a commitment to give up a certain amount of their time each week to working in various parish and local community activities. Students who successfully complete the scheme can gain awards at Bronze, Silver and Gold Levels.**

How many are involved in the work of your group? **The numbers of students involved varies from year to year according to the schools taking part and the number of students who live in local parishes within the Derry Diocese.**

Have you a committee? **No.**

How can new members join the group or become involved in its activities? **Contact the R.E. department in the local participating Post Primary schools, Christian Brothers Grammar School, Loreto Grammar School, Sacred Heart College.**

## Parish Group: **Prayer Guides**

When was your group established? **1996**

What is the purpose of your activity in the Parish?

**To promote Scripture-based retreats. To provide annually (i) a week of Guided Prayer, (ii) Lead reflections on Scripture during Lent and Advent (iii) Lead a Confirmation retreat.**

When do you meet? **Bi-monthly in Omagh/Thorn Hill in Derry.**

Where do you meet? **Pastoral Centre in Omagh.**

What exactly does your work involve?

**Confirmation Retreat – provide a story of child’s place in God’s salvation plan; dramas, hymns, quizzes and a time for led meditation. During the week of guided prayer we help retreatants to develop a personal prayer life.**

How many are involved in the work of your group? **Eighteen.**

Have you a committee? **Yes.**

How can new members join the group or become involved in its activities? **Existing Prayer Guides discern who may be suitable for this Ministry.**

Could you please provide the name of a contact person(s) for your group and their contact details.

**Marie Conway 02882 242176**

## Parish Group: **RCIA – Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults**

When was your group established? **In 2011 this parish joined with Cappagh Parish to establish the RCIA programme.**

What is the purpose of your activity in the Parish?

**Preparing adults to join and become full members of the Catholic Church.**

When do you meet? **On the last Monday of every month.**

Where do you meet? **In the Pastoral Centre, Brook Street, Omagh.**

What exactly does your work involve?

**The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is the process for initiation into the Catholic Church for those people (adults and children) who have not been baptised, have been baptized in a different Christian tradition, or who have been baptised Catholic and have not received the sacraments of First Eucharist and Confirmation. We are trained to prepare people for the Sacraments so that they can be initiated as full members of the Catholic Church.**

How many are involved in the work of your group? **Six people, three from each of the two parishes, Drumragh and Cappagh.**

Have you a committee? **Yes and the group is linked with and answerable to the Derry Diocese.**

How can new members join the group or become involved in its activities? **By contacting the Chairperson.**

Could you please provide the name of a contact person(s) for your group and their contact details.

**Anne Kelly, (Chairperson) 02882 247899**

Name of Parish Group: **Senior Citizens Club**

When was your group established? **Re-formed Feb/Mar 2000**

What is the purpose of your activity in the Parish?

**To bring senior citizens together in a safe and friendly environment.**

When do you meet? **Tuesday afternoons.**

Where do you meet? **St. Joseph's Hall.**

What exactly does your work involve?

**Each week we have a cup of tea, chat, bingo and a variety of other business. Every year we organize an outing, a cross-community Hallowe'en party and a Christmas party.**

How many are involved in the work of your group? **We have fourteen volunteer memebers at present.**

Have you a committee? **Yes.**

How can new members join the group or become involved in its activities? **Come along on a Tuesday afternoon.**

Could you please provide the name of a contact person(s) for your group and their contact details.

**Kathleen McGarrity (Chairperson) 02882 241991, Ann Stevenson (Secretary) 02882 243094**



**Parish Group: SPRED**  
**(Special Programme of R.E. for those with Disabilities)**

When was your group established? **1985**

What is the purpose of your activity in the Parish?

**To provide one-to-one catechesis and to call those with disabilities to claim their place in parish life.**

When do you meet? **Wednesdays 7 – 8.30 p.m. during term time.**

Where do you meet? **Upstairs in St. Joseph's Hall with an attached Prayer Room given to us by Mgr. Rooney when the Hall opened.**

What exactly does your work involve?

**Time of silent art/craft; a time of symbolic catechesis; time to socialize.**

How many are involved in the work of your group? **At present, six Catechists and four people with disabilities.**

Have you a committee? **We have roles: Leader catechists; Activity catechists; Helper catechists.**

How can new members join the group or become involved in its activities? **Word of mouth/ Parish newsletter/invitation.**

Could you please provide the name of a contact person(s) for your group and their contact details.

**Brenda Bannon c/o Loreto Grammar School 02882 243633**

Name of Parish Group: **St. Joseph's Ladies Club**

When was your group established? **1994**

What is the purpose of your activity in the Parish?

**Social, educational and cultural interests of the ladies in the Parish. We also organize informal get-togethers with guest speakers.**

When do you meet? **On Wednesday evenings.**

Where do you meet? **St. Joseph's Hall.**

What exactly does your work involve?

**Our activities include fund-raising, crafts, keep fit, coffee mornings, assisting in the kitchen at Confirmations etc.**

How many are involved in the work of your group? **We have twenty two members.**

Have you a committee? **Yes.**

How can new members join the group or become involved in its activities? **By attending our weekly meetings on a Wednesday or by contacting one of the members listed below.**

Could you please provide the name of a contact person(s) for your group and their contact details.

**Anna Taggart 02882 240444, Margaret Haigney 02882 244056**

## Parish Group: **St. Joseph's Prayer Group**

When was your group established? **2008**

What is the purpose of your activity in the Parish?

**To provide people with an opportunity for a time of structured prayer and reflection before the Blessed Sacrament.**

When do you meet? **Wednesdays at 8.15 p.m.**

Where do you meet? **The Christian Brother's Oratory.**

What exactly does your work involve?

**The group does not carry out any Pastoral work as such. The group's purpose revolves around prayer.**

How many are involved in the work of your group? **About eight people.**

Have you a committee? **No.**

How can new members join the group or become involved in its activities? **The group is open to anyone who wishes to come along to the weekly meeting.**

Could you please provide the name of a contact person(s) for your group and their contact details.

**Siobhan Sweeney 02882 248479, John Mc Sorley 07751874422**

Name of Parish Group: **St. Vincent de Paul**

When was your group established? **St. Columba's Conference, Omagh was founded in 1853.**

What is the purpose of your activity in the Parish? **We strive to seek and find those in our community who are: in NEED, FORGOTTEN, VICTIMS of EXCLUSION or ADVERSITY.**

When do you meet? **Every Monday at 8 p.m.**

Where do you meet? **In our conference room "Vincent's" 10 Castle St., Omagh.**

What exactly does your work involve?

**Home visitation is the cornerstone of our work. We discuss in confidence the immediate needs of the family; prioritise problems, talk through all possible solutions and agree a practical way forward. We may provide short term financial assistance, food vouchers or fuel. As we work closely with various local agencies it may be necessary to seek their professional help. We encourage families to use our budget cards and oil saving scheme. Our members also visit the elderly, lonely, bereaved, hospitals, nursing homes and schools.**

How many are involved in the work of your group? **We have about twenty active members, both male and female.**

Have you a committee? **Yes. The committee is headed by a President who holds office for three years with an optional two years.**

How can new members join the group or become involved in its activities? **By contacting an SVP member or by leaving name and contact details in Vincent's Shop, 10 Castle St., Omagh. Training is provided prior to becoming a member.**

Could you please provide the name of a contact person(s) for your group and their contact details.

**The President, SVP, 10 Castle St., Omagh 02882 244488.**

Name of Parish Group: **St. Vincent de Paul English Classes**

When was your group established? **In 2007.**

What is the purpose of your activity in the Parish?

**The St. Vincent de Paul English classes for immigrants were established for three purposes: (i) to teach English, especially spoken (ii) to befriend and assist new arrivals in their search for employment, housing, friendship and their welfare rights generally (iii) to provide a welcoming space and an opportunity for social interaction.**

When do you meet? **We meet every Wednesday morning from 9 a.m. until 11.30 a.m. during school term times.**

Where do you meet? **In the Pastoral Centre, Brook Street, Omagh.**

What exactly does your work involve? **The tutors teach small groups of varying ability levels. There are opportunities for one-to-one tuition also.**

How many are involved in the work of your group? **We have a pool of six regular tutors.**

Have you a committee? **No.**

How can new members join the group or become involved in its activities? **New tutors can join us at the class or leave their details at Vincent's Shop in Castle Street.**

Could you please provide the name of a contact person(s) for your group and their contact details.

**Tony Brogan 02882 249839**

Name of Parish Group: **Ulster Project**

When was your group established? **Thirty years ago.**

What is the purpose of your activity in the Parish?

**The Project has two aims; Reconciliation and Personal Development. It introduces groups of 15 year olds from our church to those of the same age in other Christian Churches both here and in the U.S.A.**

When do you meet? **Every week from February to June.**

Where do you meet? **In various local Church Halls.**

What exactly does your work involve?

**Discussions, fun activities, fundraising for the trip to the United States and organizing a talent show.**

How many are involved in the work of your group? **24 teenagers and 4 adults.**

Have you a committee? **Yes, with three members.**

How can new members join the group or become involved in its activities? **Apply to join. There is a selection process.**

Could you please provide the name of a contact person(s) for your group and their contact details.

**Fr. Kevin Mullan, 257 Dooish Road, Drumquin. 02882 831225  
Ann Fleming, 27 Brook Valley, Omagh**