



# Church of the Assumption Howth Co. Dublin

Telephone : 01-839 7398

e-mail: [assumptionhowth@gmail.com](mailto:assumptionhowth@gmail.com)

website: [www.howthparish.ie](http://www.howthparish.ie)

---

## UPDATE ON PARISH BUILDINGS-AUGUST 2022

### Buildings Repair and Refurbishment

Substantial necessary works have been undertaken on our Church and presbyteries including:

- Renewal of the corroded bell support ironwork in the Church tower.
- Refurbishment of leaking Church gutters to prevent damp ingress affecting the Church's interior.
- Treatment of roof dry rot above the choir gallery and prevention of rainwater water leakage in this area.
- Re-leading and refurbishment of buckled stained-glass windows.
- Repair and refurbishment of the presbyteries.

Interior redecoration of the Church remains to be done when its walls have dried out sufficiently.

### Parish properties update

Many will know that the Parish Pastoral Council and the Parish Finance Committee wish to refine our Parish property requirements to better serve the pastoral and social needs of young and old in a changing Church.

### Existing buildings: Current situation

- Old Top School/Band Hall: Sale imminent.
- St Columbanus Hall: The Parish has agreed to sell the former school building to the Howth, Sutton and District Community Centre CLG, at a discounted price, for use as a community centre. The sale is subject to: (1) approval by the Archdiocese (application in process); (2) obtaining Planning Permission from Fingal County Council for a new Parish Pastoral Centre in the Church grounds and (3) that the Parish will have sufficient access to St. Columbanus Hall for parish activities until a new Parish Centre is available.
- The funds generated from the disposal of Parish properties, together with the proceeds from the earlier sale of the former presbytery 'St. Mary's' should provide the necessary resources for the construction of a new Parish Pastoral Centre co-located with the Church.

### Parish Pastoral Centre Planning: Update

The Church and Hall Development Group, working with the Parish Pastoral Council and the Parish Finance Committee, has been developing a plan to build such a Pastoral Centre on the Church grounds. A Parish Assembly in 2019 reviewed initial plans and modifications were made in response to Parishioners' helpful suggestions. A strong consideration expressed was to retain St. Columbanus Hall for community use for which a very satisfactory solution has been identified as above.

- The proposed design for the Parish Pastoral Centre will be displayed in the Church from 27/08/22 to 12/09/22. The plans can also be viewed on the Parish website ([www.howthparish.ie](http://www.howthparish.ie)).
- While providing the necessary facilities, the design discreetly preserves existing views of the Church from all sides, and the Centre's grass-covered roof provides a similar appearance to the existing grass bank.
- Comments on the plans are welcome and should be addressed to the Parish Pastoral Council. They can be handed into the Parish Office, or emailed to [howthparishcentre@gmail.com](mailto:howthparishcentre@gmail.com)
- When a Planning Application is submitted to Fingal County Council the public can access the documents on the Council's website or at its offices and make representations to the Council in regard thereto.

Parishioners will be kept informed on future developments regarding Parish building disposals, costings, funding and the outcome of the Planning Application to Fingal County Council for the proposed Parish Pastoral Centre.

**Church and Hall Development Group,**

**Parish Pastoral Council,**

**Parish Finance Committee.**

27<sup>th</sup> August 2022