

# ARCHDIOCESE OF CASHEL & EMLY

www.cashel-emly.ie



Cashel & Emly Diocesan Office,  
Archbishop's House, Thurles,  
Co. Tipperary E41 NY92  
Tel.: + 353 (0) 504 21512  
E-mail: office@cashel-emly.ie

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Dear Friends,

Greetings from Thurles,

I am writing to bring you up to date following the letter that I addressed to the people of the Archdiocese on July 20<sup>th</sup> 2022.

*In that letter I wrote the following, "that change is coming soon in how we organise parish life in the Archdiocese. These changes will concern all parishes and the way in which pastoral ministry is undertaken in the future. Future organisation will call for the formation of different pastoral units – encompassing several parishes functioning together to serve the pastoral needs of their communities. The organisation of these units will involve priests and lay people working together in a spirit of co-responsibility. The formation of Parish Pastoral Teams in parishes, now underway, is central to the implementation of our plans for the future."*

After consultation it has been agreed that beginning on Sunday, 27<sup>th</sup> November 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent – the opening of the New liturgical Year in the Church, the new Parish Pastoral Combinations will be formally set up. The particular parish combination that your parish will be a part of will be outlined by the priests at all masses. Further information may be found on the diocesan website, [www.cashel-emly.ie](http://www.cashel-emly.ie).

The aim of this reorganisation is to ensure the good pastoral functioning of our parishes. The fuller organisation of the Parish Pastoral Combinations – as, for example, the arrangement of mass times etc., will take place over the coming weeks with each combination working on this. It is planned that all such arrangements would be fully in place by the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent - Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> February 2023.

I thank you for your goodwill and support as we journey together to ensure that we are ready to live and witness to the Gospel in our time.

Sincerely,

Yours in Jesus Christ,

Most Rev. Kieran O'Reilly, DD,  
Archbishop of Cashel & Emly.