



# Understanding the "Why" behind "What" we do

## Workshop



In 1961, President John F. Kennedy visited

NASA for the first time. While touring the facility, he introduced himself to a janitor who was mopping the floor and asked him what he did at NASA. "I'm helping put a man on the moon!" he replied.

In this workshop, we will explore together how what we do, from sweeping the floor to celebrating mass, serves the mission of the Church.

### Presenters: **Natasha Geoghegan & Conor McCann**

Natasha and Conor are Parish Pastoral Workers appointed to the Athy Grouping of Parishes. Natasha has been involved in her local parishes throughout her life. Natasha holds a B.A (Honours) in Arts and Humanities, Masters Degree in Theology and a Post Grad Diploma in Religion and Education. She is married and lives in Co. Carlow.

Conor has lived in both lay and religious community and has been active in Pastoral Ministry for over 30 years. He holds a BA in Theology and Ministry, Post Grad Diploma in Religion & Education and a Diploma in Pastoral Ministry. He is married and living in South Kildare.

**BOOKING IS ESSENTIAL**  
Please contact Mary Dent  
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# "Nourishing Faith Communities"

All are Welcome

**Timetable**  
Registration:  
9.15am

**Prayer and Reflection**  
9.45am

**Coffee / Tea / Displays:**  
11.30am-  
12.05pm

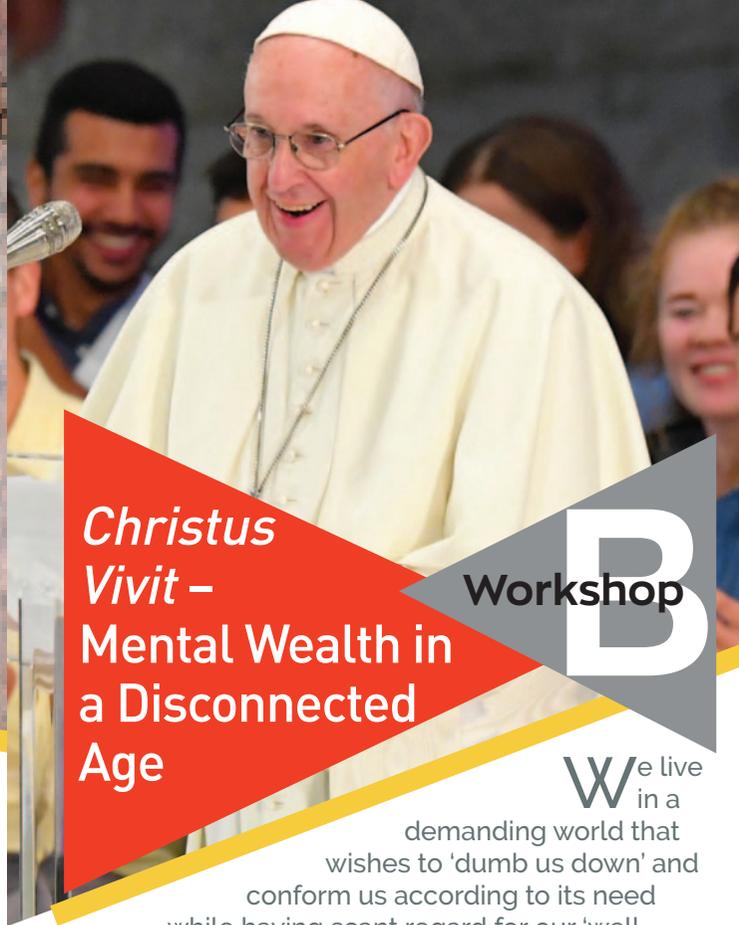
**1st Session of Workshops:**  
10.15am-  
11.30am

**2nd Session of Workshops:**  
12.05pm-  
1.15pm

## Annual Autumn Gathering of parishioners from Tallaght, South Dublin & Blessington Deaneries

Maldron Hotel, Tallaght  
Saturday 23rd November 2019

9.15am to 1.15pm



**Meeting Jesus in the Gospel of Matthew**

**Workshop A**

In the year ahead we will be hearing readings from Matthew's Gospel on Sundays. This workshop will explore St Matthew's distinctive portrait of Jesus as teacher and as the new Moses and suggest ways of listening to the text that help us to encounter Jesus.

**Presenter: Dr. Jessie Rogers**  
 Jessie teaches Sacred Scripture at St. Patrick's College Maynooth, co-ordinates the Biblical Apostolate in the archdiocese of Cashel and Emly, offers spiritual direction in the Ignatian tradition and is a Godly Play trainer. She is passionate about helping individuals and groups discover in the Bible a life-giving word for everyday life.

**Christus Vivit – Mental Wealth in a Disconnected Age**

**Workshop B**

We live in a demanding world that wishes to 'dumb us down' and conform us according to its need while having scant regard for our 'well-being'. In the process we are often left broken and dis-connected. This workshop will focus on Pope Francis' document *Christus Vivit* allowing us to contemplate the insights of many of our young people which can lead us into a deeper understanding of Christ's presence while respecting our need for authenticity and happiness. This dynamism challenges us to discern our own unique Christian vocation thus enabling us to work for a better world for all.

**Presenters: Fr. Alan Hilliard**  
 Alan is a Catholic priest of Dublin Diocese. He taught for seven years in Ringsend VEC and spent time in parishes in Templeogue and Lucan South. Alan has a long and varied association with migration. He is a board member of the Irish Catholic Bishops Council for Emigrants and provides facilitation to groups dealing with diversity. He is currently in the role of Co-ordinator of DIT's Chaplaincy Services. (Renamed as T.U. Dublin).

**Supporting the 'First and Best' Teachers**

**Workshop C**

The Rite of Baptism confers on parents the responsibility to be their children's 'first and best' teachers in the ways of faith. For some parents, this is a daunting and difficult task. How can parishes support families to pass on faith in their own homes? What faith practices can we realistically encourage families to engage in together? This workshop will offer suggestions and provide a space to share example of good practice in answer to these questions.

**Presenter: Ms. Elaine Mahon**  
 Elaine Mahon is a primary school teacher and mother of two young children. She holds a Doctorate in Religious Education. Elaine has worked in various roles in the area of primary catechesis for fifteen years, including as a third-level lecturer and as a Diocesan Adviser. She also co-authored six programmes in the Grow in Love series, as well as several other books published by Veritas.