

# Maynooth Parish Youth Group

We are a group of young people of secondary school age who gather for meditation, prayer and personal exploration as well as friendship and fun. We partake in a variety of activities including meeting other young people both locally and from the Dublin Diocese. We also, as a Christian group, are concerned about our world and search to be of help to those who need it.

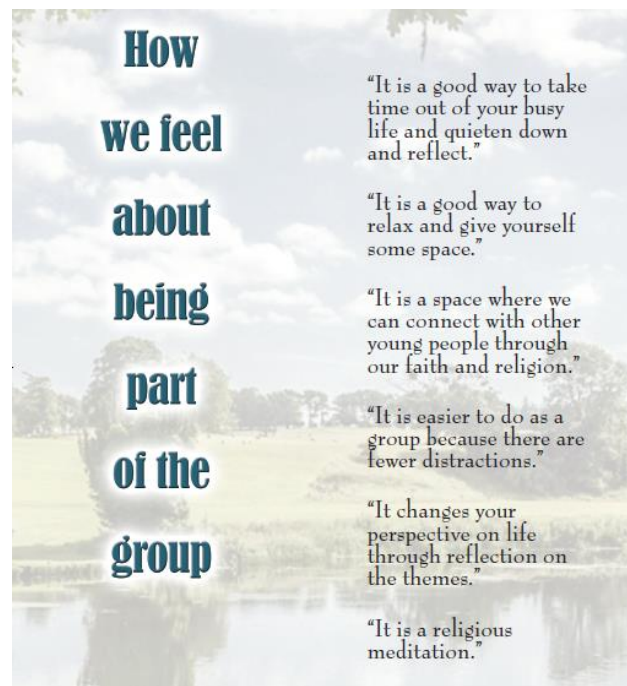


At the moment, because of the Covid19 restrictions, we are trying to find alternatives for keeping in touch and join in online activities, in accordance with strict Child Safeguarding policies.

Our group is open to all students in secondary school, and we hope to create soon a separate young adult group. For any further information, you can contact Laura Madrigal, @ 0860659197, or by email: [lmestebas@gmail.com](mailto:lmestebas@gmail.com). You're very welcome to join us or to make any enquiries!!!

## BACKGROUND AND HISTORY

During Lent and Easter 2015, a group of about 10 teenagers from secondary school and sixth class met for the first time some Friday evenings, for meditation and prayer. From the Academic year 2015/16, we started meeting on a monthly bases, for prayer, meditation and discussion on a particular topic, always finishing with soft drinks and snacks and a good chat and laughter. With the opening of the Parish Pastoral Centre in 2018, we moved our meetings there and started adding some more frequent and varied meetings.



## HOW WE WORK

# DISCOVERY GROUP

We call ourselves 'Discovery Group'. Before covid-19 struck, we met on Friday evenings from 8-9:30pm, about twice a month during the academic year.

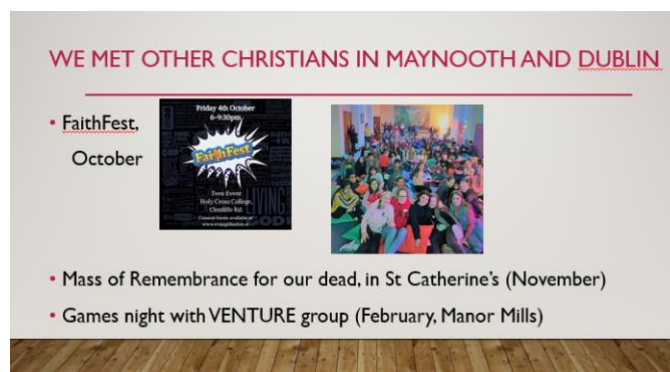
We aim to combine depth and fun, some meetings touching on issues that are of concern to us and bringing them to prayer, where we try to discover Jesus and His presence in our lives. We have other type of meetings, with organised games, where we concentrate on having fun. Soft drinks and snacks are always part of our meetings!

## 2019-2020

Last academic year, 2019/2020, we, among other things, met the youth group from Maynooth Community Church and we organised a Christmas crib display and coffee morning in the Parish centre.

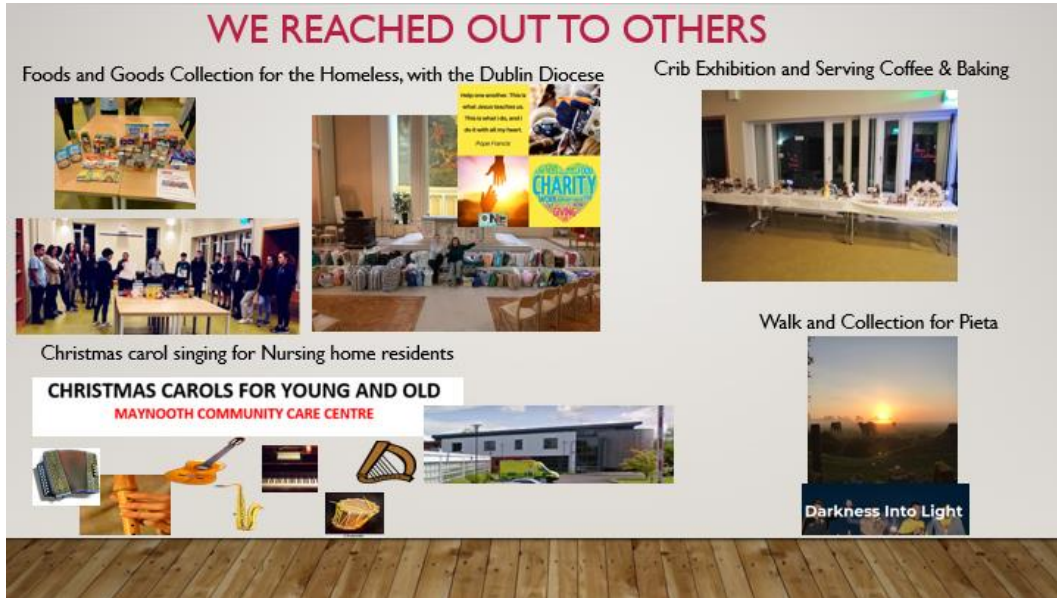


Over the years, we have taken part in a variety of activities including Dublin Diocese's FaithFest.

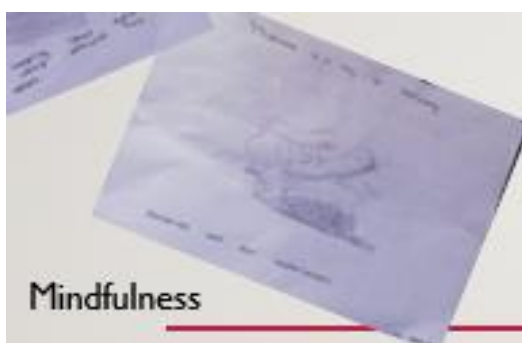
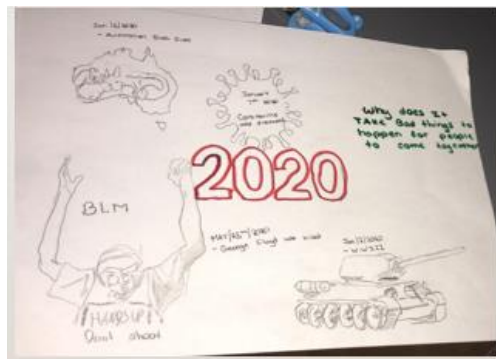
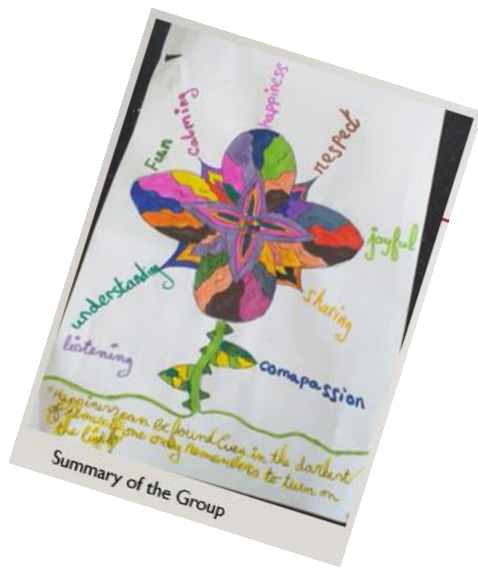


Also, we would like to help to make this world a bit better, so we are working on our social projection. We have established the tradition of going Carol Singing in one of the local nursing homes in the period coming up to Christmas, and we invite the parish Family Mass choir to join us.

We collected foods and other goods supporting a project from the Dublin Diocese (The Young Church Dublin) to help the homeless, and we've walked raising fund for Pieta House for the last couple of years (from the distance this year, because of Covid-19!)



For the members of the group this year, this is what we do, expressed in art:



## **Communication**

Our main means of communication takes place via Whatsapp groups. The main one includes all the teenagers, parents and leaders. There is also another Whatsapp group for the leaders and parents, where we communicate decisions, policies and organisational matters (and any other topics arising).

Dublin Diocesan Child Safeguarding and Protection Policies and Procedures are followed. For further information see [www.csps.dublindiocese.ie](http://www.csps.dublindiocese.ie).