

# The Future of the Irish Parish

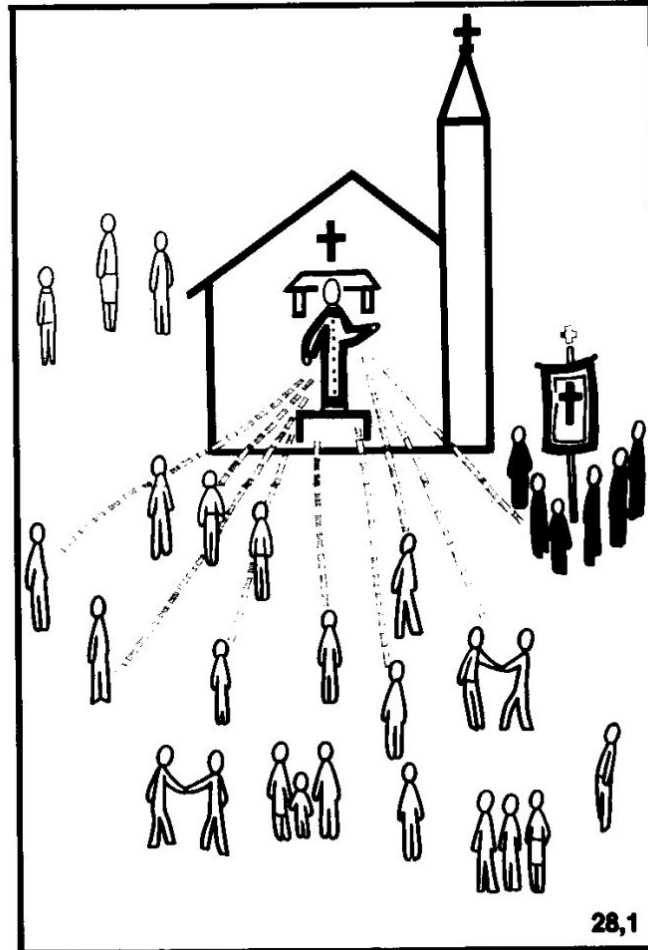
A contribution from South Africa

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# Issue: Passive Church

*„Provided for“ Church – service provider*










# Response: Pastoral Plan







# Strengths & Weaknesses: Participation through SCCs

				
<p>People experience sufferings, e.g. poverty, disease, frustrations.</p> <p>They experience aspirations, e.g. equality, human dignity, unity.</p>	<p>Small Christian Communities analyse the situation.</p> <p>They think about the causes.</p> <p>They consider their own involvement: they too cause sufferings and injustices.</p>	<p>They contrast the situation with God's plan.</p> <p>The bible does not give ready-made solutions to our problems, but reveals God as the God of history, who calls us to act with Him.</p>	<p>They look for solutions.</p> <p>They remain self-critical.</p> <p>They seek unity, and compare their findings with those of other communities.</p> <p>They decide on action and distribute tasks.</p>	<p>They act, both as individuals and as a community of believers.</p> <p>They act as the Church.</p> <p>They serve others in the way in which the Church has to serve society.</p>
<p>"Now I am making the whole of creation new." Rev 21:5</p>				