



Week 1. 13<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> May

6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter

*“He will give you another advocate to be with you for ever” (John 14:16)*

### Bulletin Notice

#### PATHWAYS TO THE FUTURE

As a Church we are called to proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ and share his love in the world. But we realise that our current way of doing things is getting more difficult to sustain. With smaller congregations and fewer priests we have to find new ways to ensure that the mission of the Church can be carried out in the future.

For this reason our Diocese of Down and Connor is undertaking a major programme of change called Pathways to the Future. It will look at the priorities and structures of the Church to see how we can best serve our 86 parishes and other ministries over the next twenty years.

A steering team of lay people and clergy has been preparing for this work in recent months and representatives of every parish have taken part in initial conversations. In the coming months we all have a chance to find out more and play our part. One important task is to collect accurate information and for that reason a census of Mass attendance across the diocese will be taken up next week.

This is a time of rebuilding and renewal for our diocese and we set off on the pathway confident that the Holy Spirit, sent to us by the Father, will guide us on our journey together. Please keep this project in your prayers!

### Prayer of the Faithful

For our diocese, may we be a sign and instrument in the world of the presence of Christ. May we be guided by the Holy Spirit as we make plans for the future.

### Pathways to the Future Prayer

God of Love,

You are with us in every transition and change.

As we enter into this new era with excitement and even some anxiety,  
we recall your deep compassion, presence, and abounding love.

We thank you for the gifts, talents and skills with which you have blessed us.

We thank you for the work of others that gives breadth and depth to our own work.

Be with us as we move forward, rejoicing with you and supporting one another.

We ask this in your Holy Name.



AMEN

### Sample of Social Media Images




"He will give you another advocate to be with you for ever"  
(John 14:16)

PATHWAYS TO THE FUTURE  
DIOCESE OF DOWN AND CONNOR

Our deepest joy comes from Christ: remaining with him, walking with him, being his disciples.  
Pope Francis

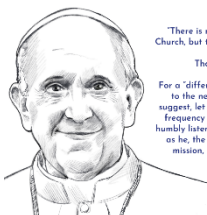
PATHWAYS TO THE FUTURE  
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Next weekend all the Churches in our Diocese will be looking at attendance and participation at our weekend Masses. Knowing who comes along to our Churches will help us to plan for the future.



PATHWAYS TO THE FUTURE  
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'There is no need to create another Church, but to create a different Church'  
That is the challenge.  
For a 'different Church', a Church open to the newness that God wants to suggest, let us with greater fervour and frequency invoke the Holy Spirit and humbly listen to him, journeying together as he, the source of communion and mission, desires: with docility and courage.

Pope Francis  
Opening of the General Synod

PATHWAYS TO THE FUTURE  
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