



Week 4. 5th to 11th November

31st Sunday in Ordinary Time

Matthew 23: 1-12

"Anyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and anyone who humbles himself will be exalted."

PATHWAYS TO THE FUTURE

We are all challenged by Pope Francis, clergy and lay alike, to set out as missionary disciples with 'Hearts on fire, feet on the move' (Lk 24:13-35). Bishop Donal McKeown, Apostolic Administrator, has chosen today to write to all the faithful of the Diocese with a further missionary challenge for each one of us to step up to – to actively participate in the renewal of the Church in Down and Connor. He calls on us to be "voices of hope" for the Church and for the generations of faithful to come.

On Friday we celebrated the Feast of St Malachy with a Day of Prayer for the Mission of the Church in Down and Connor, and began a time of prayer, sharing, listening, and discernment. We ask you to respond to Bishop McKeown's call and get involved in the conversations about the future of your parish that will take place in the weeks ahead. We want you to share your hopes, your aspirations, and your concerns. We want you to think about what the suggested Families of Parishes that have been shared with you today means for your parish and what it means for you personally. What role could and will you play as part of your Family of Parishes?

A meeting on *Pathways to the Future* will be held in [VENUE] on [DATE]. To register, please contact your parish office on [TELEPHONE & EMAIL]. This is your opportunity to join the conversation about the future of our Church in Down and Connor and to be a voice of hope for the future.

"... as soon as you heard the message that we brought you as God's message, you accepted it for what it really is, God's message and not some human thinking; and it is still a living power among you who believe it."

1 Thessalonians 2:13



To find out more go to www.pathwaystothefuture.org

Prayer of the Faithful

That we embrace God's challenge to renew His Church in Down and Connor "with hearts on fire and feet on the move".

As we commence the *Pathways to the Future* conversations in the weeks to come, that we may be voices of hope as we gather together to pray, to share and to listen to each other.

That the Holy Spirit will guide the Holy Father in the choice of a new Bishop of the Diocese to shepherd and pastor us in the pilgrimage of faith and hope.

<p>DOWN 1 Newcastle Lower Mourne Upper Mourne (Kilkeel)</p> <p>DOWN 2 Castlewellan Drumaroad & Clanvaraghan Dundrum & Tyrella Kilcoo Loughinisland</p> <p>DOWN 3 Downpatrick Dunsford & Ardglass Bright (Killough) Saul & Ballee Kilclief (Strangford)</p> <p>DOWN 4 Crossgar (Kilmore) Killyleagh Drumbo & Carryduff Saintfield & Carrickmannon</p> <p>DOWN 5 Newtownards & Comber Kircubbin (Ardkeen) Ballygalget Portaferry</p> <p>DOWN 6 Holywood Bangor</p>	<p>CONNOR 7 Lisburn Blaris Glenavy & Killead Aghagallen & Ballinderry</p> <p>CONNOR 8 Antrim Randalstown Duneane</p> <p>CONNOR 9 Larne Ballyclare Carnlough Glenarm</p> <p>CONNOR 10 Ballymena (Kirkinriola) Ahoghill Portglenone</p> <p>CONNOR 11 Cushendall Cushendun Glenravel & Braid Glenariff</p> <p>CONNOR 12 Armoy Ballycastle Ballintoy Culfeightrin</p> <p>CONNOR 13 Coleraine Portstewart Portrush</p>	<p>BELFAST 15 Holy Family St Gerard's Greencastle</p> <p>BELFAST 16 Carrickfergus St Mary's on the Hill St James Whitehouse</p> <p>BELFAST 17 Sacred Heart Holy Cross St Vincent de Paul</p> <p>BELFAST 18 St Patrick's St Peter's St Mary's St Malachy's</p> <p>BELFAST 19 St Paul's St John's Corpus Christi</p> <p>BELFAST 20 St Agnes St Michael the Archangel Hannahstown St Oliver Plunkett</p> <p>BELFAST 21 Derriaghy Christ the Redeemer</p>	<p>BELFAST 22 St Colmcille's St Matthew's St Anthony's</p> <p>BELFAST 23 Holy Rosary St Bernadette's</p> <p>BELFAST 24 St Brigid's St Anne's</p> <p>BELFAST 25 Holy Trinity St Teresa's</p>
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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.