

PATHWAYS TO THE FUTURE:

More than 1,000 people have registered or have already attended one of the *Pathways to the Future* conversations that are being held across the Diocese during November. The conversations have been animated, rich, and fruitful, with those present sharing their hopes and dreams for their parishes and Families of parishes, their cares and concerns, as well as ideas and suggestions on how we build the Kingdom of God in Down and Connor. The Holy Spirit is moving through our parishes and our people, and there is a very real sense of excitement and optimism, and a willingness among our faithful to answer Christ's call to renew and rebuild His Church for now and for the future.

On this Feast of Christ the King, as this church year draws to a close and we move into a time of waiting, expectation and preparation for the birth of Christ, our Saviour and King, let us pray for the renewal of our Church in Down and Connor and the guidance of the Holy Spirit as we plan for our future. Let us pray to be guided by the Spirit in the discernment of our own personal gifts and the role that God wants us to play in sharing the Good News of the Gospel and the love of God with all we meet and journey within our lives.

BISHOP ANTHONY FARQUHAR:

It was with great regret that we learned of the passing of Bishop Farquhar on 17 November. Bishop Tony had a great love for our Parish, having begun his priestly ministry here in 1965. He was only here for 10 months but the friends he made were lifelong. It had been his wish that he would be buried here in Calvary Cemetery. He changed his mind just last year deciding instead to be buried in his home Parish of Holy Rosary in Belfast. On Thursday 23 November his Requiem Mass took place in Good Shepherd Church, Holy Rosary Parish, with a huge number of laity including many school children from the schools he attended and taught in, Clergy along and Bishops from all over Ireland. It was a fitting send-off to a well-loved Bishop and Priest. May God give him the reward of his labours and may his gentle soul rest in peace.

Down and Connor Diocesan Pilgrimage to Fatima 2024

Spiritual Directors Fr G McCloskey, Fr M Graham, Canon S Gilmore

20 Aug 2024. 7 Nights £799 per person sharing (£100 off per person if paid in full by 1st December 2023) direct return flights from Dublin to Lisbon afternoon flights.

20KG bags included. Return airport transfers in Fatima. 7 Nights Hotel Avenida. Full board: breakfast, lunch & dinner each day. Guided tour of the Sanctuary & Basilica of Our Lady of the Rosary. Optional: Travel Insurance & Single Supplement.

For further information please contact: Joe Catney 07776 425 631/02890714001