

Week 3. 29th October – 4th November

30th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Matthew 22: 34-40 - The Great Commandment

"You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind ... You must love your neighbour as yourself."

PATHWAYS TO THE FUTURE

In today's Gospel, Christ gives us the simple yet challenging instruction on how to live as Christians – with complete, all-consuming love for God, loving others as we love ourselves.

The need to follow and to loudly proclaim this great commandment is needed now more than ever. We are living in turbulent times, where the love of God can seem absent and disregard for others can sadly be manifest in the threat or reality of war in many parts of the world, including the Holy Land. God's Spirit is calling us, each one of us, to be that voice proclaiming His commandment to love. He is calling us to be the light of hope and the message of love in the world, to renew and to grow His Church, creating new disciples for Christ. New disciples who will live their lives loving and serving God and others in His parishes and in our communities.

Through *Pathways to the Future*, as we work to renew and grow God's Church in love in Down and Connor, we ask for your prayers that God may send His Spirit to guide us, and that we may discern His wishes as we make plans for our future.

It was with the joy of the Holy Spirit that you took to the Gospel, in spite of the great opposition all round you ...it was from you that the Word of the Lord started to spread"

1 Thessalonians 1:6, 8



To find out more go to www.pathwaystothefuture.org

Prayer of the Faithful

That we may live our lives in imitation of God's love for us, and that we may offer all that we do in love and service of God and others.

For our parishes and the Diocese, that the Holy Spirit may guide us as we plan for the future and for the renewal of God's Church and her people.

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.

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.