What happens next?

17 charges across the Diocese are now engaged with their MAP Facilitator in discerning their missional thrust for the coming year, and planning the steps that will achieve the goals discerned. If your charge is not one of these, then we encourage your Vestry to set aside time to discuss when it will embark on Mission Action Planning. Then simply apply in writing to the Dean at the Diocesan Office and the process for being assigned a Facilitator will begin.

As well as this work with congregations, Development Teams are currently being aligned to the six strands of the Strategy. Regional Growth Funds will soon be operational, intended to help water the new seedlings that are beginning to be sown across the Diocese; disbursement of these monies will be discussed at Regional Council meetings. Materials about growth are available for downloading from http://md.glasgow.anglican. org/diocesan-growth-strategy/

Please continue to hold the Growth Strategy in your prayers. As the Diocese of Glasgow and Galloway, let us grow together with God's grace. Spirit of our Loving God, in your mercy and compassion inspire, encourage and empower us to live and work together as a Diocese, to allow your mission for us to take flesh through Jesus Christ our Living and Eternal Lord.

Amen

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I planted the seed, Apollos watered it, but God has been making it grow. So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God, who makes things grow. We are co-workers in God's service. 1 Cor 3, 6-9

Why are we going for GROWTH?

After consulting with every charge and Region, we have discovered that ours is an organic faith. We who know ourselves to be loved and accepted by God are caught up in a cycle of grace. We desire to share the fullness of life with others who as yet do not know that love.

Our congregations are already trying to do this, but often they struggle, because they go it alone, or lack the resources, or don't know where to turn for help. Or try to do too much.

This Growth Strategy describes the 6 ways in which the Diocese will direct its energies to support congregations in their desire to reach out to others. It is a framework, a coherent set of pathways, guiding our corporate life over the next five years. With God's grace, growth will develop in the Diocese of Glasgow and Galloway.

Where will GROWTH be found?

worship, prayer and spirituality learning and discipleship missional leadership •numerical growth, welcome and integration children and young people imaginative outreach into local communities

How will we encourage further GROWTH?

Congregations will not be expected to address these themes alone. They will be supported by specially trained Facilitators who will accompany them as they seek to discern which of the six fruits they are being called to develop in the year ahead.

Together with this support, congregations will work through a process called Mission Action Planning. They will work out what new ideas need to be planted, what existing practices should be watered and what old ones can be pruned.

The stories of these developments in mission will be harvested annually at a meeting attended by the Bishop or the Dean; shared by means of an interactive Growth web site; celebrated at synods and Regional gatherings; given thanks for in prayer and at every Eucharist.

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