

What will the GROWTH STRATEGY involve?

In June there will be a series of Launch services across the Diocese led by the Bishop. Your Regional Representative has been working with others from the charges in your Region to plan these celebrations, and will be communicating the date and venue of these events in the next few weeks. We seek as many people as possible to share in our prayer and hope for the future of our Diocese.

Then the work begins! MAP Facilitators will begin working with charges in the autumn. Diocesan committees and Action Groups will begin aligning themselves to the six fruits. A Regional Growth Fund will support each part of the Diocese, as the ideas for growth shape the task ahead.

The Growth Strategy is not a programme, a fad or an optional exercise. It is 'who we will be' as the Diocese of Glasgow and Galloway grows with God's grace. A Eucharistic people engaged in a wonderful exchange. Growing. Grateful.

*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?



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.