What happens next?

In the late summer, the clergy will be meeting to discuss the implications of the Growth Strategy. From September onwards, Vestries are encouraged to set aside time to discuss when they 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.

From October onwards, the real work begins! Not only will the Facilitators be starting to work alongside congregations, but Diocesan committees and Action Groups will begin aligning themselves to the six strands of the Strategy. And shortly after that, the Regional Growth Fund will be operational, set up to help water and nourish the new seedlings that will be beginning to be sown across the Diocese. Various reading materials about growth are

now available for downloading from http:// md.glasgow.anglican.org/diocesan-growthstrategy/

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?



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.