



## A Facilitator Refresher Event took place on 18 March 2025

### Claire van Geete writes:

I participated in the Facilitator Refresher Event at SS Peter and Paul's led by Maureen Ruddy, which was attended by representatives from a number of parishes across the Diocese. The evening was underpinned by the Lectio Divina from Acts 2:1-4 led by Monsignor Aldo which we dwelt on as we considered the question posed for our conversation in the Holy Spirit. Maureen began the evening by reminding us that despite the fact some may think the journey of Synodality is over because of the short silence, it is not.

The Final Document of the Second Session of the XV1 Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops is entitled "For a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation, Mission".

Maureen and Monsignor Aldo were particularly encouraging us all to hold fast to these three elements of the synodal process. Part 1, "The heart of Synodality" starts from the mutual interdependence and reciprocity of the People of God. We are reminded that "Synodality involves gathering at all levels of the Church for mutual listening, dialogue and community discernment". Simply put "synodality is a path of spiritual renewal and structural reform that enables the Church to be more participatory and missionary, so that it can walk with every man and woman, radiating the light of Christ" (28). It is "primarily a spiritual disposition" requiring humility, patience, a willingness to forgive and be forgiven, and needs formation and accompaniment (43)

Part 2 "On the Boat Together" calls in paragraph 50 for "a Church with greater capacity to nurture relationships", that does not exclude people because of their "marital situation, identity or sexuality". Jesus 'practices' in the Gospel – stopping to listen, listening to the needs and faith of those He meets, revealing to them the face of the Father – He is the model for the Church: "when we listen to our brothers and sisters, we are participants in the way that God in Jesus Christ comes to meet each of us." (51)

I share this with you because in our small groups, and through dwelling on the Question for Reflection, which utterly rooted this entire process in complete acceptance of the presence and power of the Holy Spirit, we shared

our experiences so far. One person, for example, shared that their parish has been able to have regular meetings and Conversations in the Spirit so far and were sometimes using this time to reflect on questions directly relevant to their parish locally. Others shared examples of frustration that things like the change to the Lectionary could have been a Question for Discussion at earlier stages to the change. One member of the clergy shared that he simply hadn't know where to begin, but by the end of our listening conversation in the Holy Spirit, he said, but I think now we just have to begin somewhere. I agree. I have spoken with Canon Kevin about this and he has also agreed we must step out in faith and trust our Great and Faithful God to guide us in the Way. I am proposing that after the liberation of the Easter celebration we begin our journey as a parish cluster in this part of the Synodal process. I would like to invite you all to an inaugural Conversation in the Holy Spirit to discern what the Spirit is saying to us specifically in our parish, as part of His Holy Church. Time and date to be announced.

I invite you to pray the Synodal Prayer as we discern our Journeying Together, for His Glory. Please join us if you can.

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### **Job Vacancy: Office Administrator – Diocesan Curial Office, Dundee**

The Diocese of Dunkeld is seeking to appoint an Office Administrator to assist in the day to day running of the Diocesan Curial Offices. Part of this role will be PA to the Bishop.

Salary: £28-£30k (dependent on experience) Hours: 37.5 hours per week (five days).

The post requires someone who is competent and skilled in administrative duties, confident in using IT systems, well organised, flexible and self-motivated with excellent interpersonal and communication skills whilst understanding the need for confidentiality.

For further information, please contact the Diocese at: [chancellor@dunkelldiocese.org.uk](mailto:chancellor@dunkelldiocese.org.uk)

**Applications for this post will close on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> April 2025.**

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**Thank you** for your generosity last Sunday 30 March: £752 in the Cathedral, £728 in Broughty Ferry, and £667 in St Mary's, Forebank.

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**Thank you also for your generosity in last Sunday's Special Collection for the Papal and Episcopal Charities, including SCIAF:**  
£761 in the Cathedral, £391 in St Mary's, Forebank and £685 in Our Lady of Good Counsel.

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