

Parish of Saint Columbanus, Loughlinstown

Extracts from the Homily of Archbishop Dermot Farrell at Mass of Thanksgiving on the Occasion of his Installation as Archbishop of Dublin

Hearing what the Spirit is saying to the churches is no easy matter. There is no infallible way. But there is a clear way, a tried and trusted way. That way is a way *with each other – slí le chéile*. The Church of the future, the *living* Church of the future, will [have to] be a synodal church, or it will not be at all. We will have to be “a Church that listens to the faithful people of God, the priest, the bishop, the Holy Father; all listening to each other; all listening to the Holy Spirit. It is an illusion to envisage a plan of evangelisation which is carried out only by clergy while the rest of the faithful are merely onlookers. The mission of the Church, the work of God, is not just the responsibility of a group of professionals; it is the call and responsibility of every baptised person whose active participation in the mission of the Church is to be considered indispensable and necessary. In this light, the active participation of the laity becomes essential. In this light, leadership in the Church is not about telling people what to do; rather it is about promoting co-responsibility and overcoming the mindset which runs the risk of relegating the baptised to a subordinate role, effectively keeping them on the edges of Church life. That is what we mean by a synodal Church—a church on the way with each other. The very first place synodality is expressed is at parish level. If it doesn't happen in the parish, it will not happen at all!

In that light, the only viable pastoral plan for the future will be the plan which comes from a genuine dialogue and discernment between the people, clergy and religious. That will involve not only working together in new ways, but getting to know each other anew. If I may turn L.P. Hartley's famous phrase on its head: “the future is a different country, *we* must do things differently there!” This is not to forget the past, and especially not the painful past where so many were hurt because our Church lost its hunger for the Kingdom and its justice. We must never again put what we consider the needs of the Church before the needs of the little ones. Whenever that happens, “the Church is living for itself, instead of being a sign of salvation for all”.

The full Homily can be viewed on:

www.dublindiocese.ie/installation-of-dermot-farrell-as-archbishop-of-dublin

ACCORD

The **ANNUAL COLLECTION** of **ACCORD Dublin**, the Diocesan Agency for Marriage and the Family, will be made at all Masses on the weekend of **13 & 14 February 2021**.

The Collection for ACCORD will replace the usual Share Collection.

Parishioners can donate in the following ways:

Online at www.accorddublin.ie where you will find a DONATE button.

By post to Accord Dublin, Holy Cross Diocesan Centre, Clonliffe Road, Dublin 3.

By bank transfer to ACCORD Dublin Catholic Marriage Care Service CLG, Bank of Ireland, 88 Lower Camden Street, Dublin 2. IBAN: IE27 BOFI 9001 1357 0742 03; BIC:BOFIE2D.

There are some prepaid envelopes available at the back of the Church

Half Hour Quiet Prayer

On Wednesday evenings 7.30pm

JUST BEING PRESENT before Blessed Sacrament'

We will include a short reflection on a Gospel passage

Church Opening Hours For Private Prayer

Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays - 11am to 4pm

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