



# The Diocese of Sodor and Man

*Together making Christ visible*

## THE DIOCESE OF SODOR AND MAN

## STRATEGIC PRIORITIES AND PRINCIPLES

Our three top priorities for 2019-2021

**Partnership in Mission**

**Learning and inhabiting the Faith**

**Sustaining Ourselves**

# Partnership in Mission

The Diocese of Sodor and Man will:

- ❖ Operate in collaborative partnerships to deliver the mission of the Church.
- ❖ Share resources and expertise within, across and between:
  - parishes;
  - mission partnerships;
  - other denominations and religious traditions;
  - public, private, voluntary and community sectors.
- ❖ Look outward beyond the Church's internal affairs to the wider community and engage in and promote the island's life in its diverse forms and activities, challenges and opportunities.
- ❖ Be a 'Servant Church' addressing the concerns and serving the needs of the community – social, cultural, economic, environmental, educational, as well as spiritual.
- ❖ Deliver 'Social Liturgy' from a Christian scriptural base to progress social justice through social action.
- ❖ Help those who are suffering due to e.g. poverty, ill health, disability, addiction, marginalisation from mainstream society, deprivation of access to facilities, environmental degradation and climate change.
- ❖ Encourage people to volunteer in God's service.

# Learning and inhabiting the Faith

The Diocese of Sodor and Man will:

- ❖ Support, guide and challenge people on their faith journey
  - help them in the renewal and deepening of their faith
  - encourage them to grow in their discipleship.
- ❖ Facilitate 'Setting God's People Free' to enable lay Christians to share their faith with others in aspects of life beyond churches in their places of work, study, recreation, and community.
- ❖ Provide opportunity for people to study scripture together, to stretch their and each other's minds and to broaden and deepen their Christian understanding.
- ❖ Enable children and young adults to:
  - discover, explore and engage with their spiritual side;
  - recognise faith as relevant to their lives and life choices and to broader ethical, social and environmental concerns;
  - help them to develop, inhabit and live their faith.
- ❖ Contribute to education, training and learning within and beyond the Diocese.

# Sustaining Ourselves

The Diocese of Sodor and Man will:

- ❖ Enable our mission and ministry to grow and be sustainable and resilient.
- ❖ Develop organisational structures and ways of working which enable us effectively to:
  - engage the talents, time and energy of our people and partners;
  - tackle problems;
  - identify new opportunities;
  - drive change.
- ❖ Make best use of and grow our resources of people, buildings and finance.
- ❖ Take compassionate care of people and help them to grow and flourish in mind, body and soul.
- ❖ Ensure the use of churches and church halls for and by the local and island wide community and visitors, especially as shared resources for active engagement and 'social liturgy'.
- ❖ Build the material resilience and effectiveness of our finances by:
  - increasing efficiency;
  - investing in targeted initiatives most likely to deliver results;
  - making best use of assets and limiting liabilities;
  - encouraging generous giving;
  - working in partnership;
  - drawing in external funding.