

# *Building Hope:* Speaker notes for Sunday Mass

**Hello everyone,**

I am here today to speak to you about the *Building Hope* Parish Process.

In his Easter Pastoral letter, Archbishop Dermot said it is time now for the whole diocesan family to address the specific challenges we face as a diocese. The *Building Hope* Task Force Report proposed a strategy for renewing our mission as God's people, keeping in mind that our primary purpose is to accompany people today towards an encounter with the Lord Jesus.

Each parish community has been invited to begin to reflect on how best to respond to the pastoral situation in which we find ourselves. It is very clear that the future will not look like the past. Our world has changed: we cannot return to the past. God is bringing forth something new. Our challenge is to shape the future in the light of the Gospel, rather than simply reacting to events.

The Archbishop is inviting all parish teams, parish pastoral councils and parish finance committees to lead their parish in a discussion of the gifts and talents available to them, the education and formation they need, and the parish partnerships that make most sense in their locality.

For this purpose you are being asked to take part in a *Building Hope* conversation in our parish.

There will be one meeting on *(mention the date and time of your meeting)* where we will look together at our current pastoral and financial situation, with the help of some statistics from our Parish Profile, then we will consider what is working well and what needs to be developed. Finally, we will begin to reflect on how we can share our gifts and talents, team ministries and pastoral provision in partnership with other parishes

You are invited to take part in this conversation along with other parishioners as together we build hope for a new future and a new way of being Church.

*Building Hope*