

## DISCERN AND PLAN TOGETHER

Spend  
some  
time  
in  
silence.



Then share on the following:

- In light of all we have considered, what do we need to plan for and make a priority in the year ahead? Consider the **SUGGESTED ACTIONS** on pages 13, 16, 19, 22 of the [Building Hope Pastoral Strategic Planning Resource 2025–2027](#). Pay particular attention at this time to Focus 4 **SUGGESTED ACTIONS** on page 22.
- Draw up simple plans outlining how you will action these priorities with dates and timing, using the **PLANNING FORM TEMPLATES** on pages 31-34 of the [Building Hope Pastoral Strategic Planning Resource 2025–2027](#).

## CLOSING PRAYER:

### A blessing for *Building Hope*

May the Holy Spirit working in and through us  
do much more than we can dare to imagine  
as we live out our baptismal calling in humble and loving service.  
We make this our prayer through Christ Our Lord. Amen.

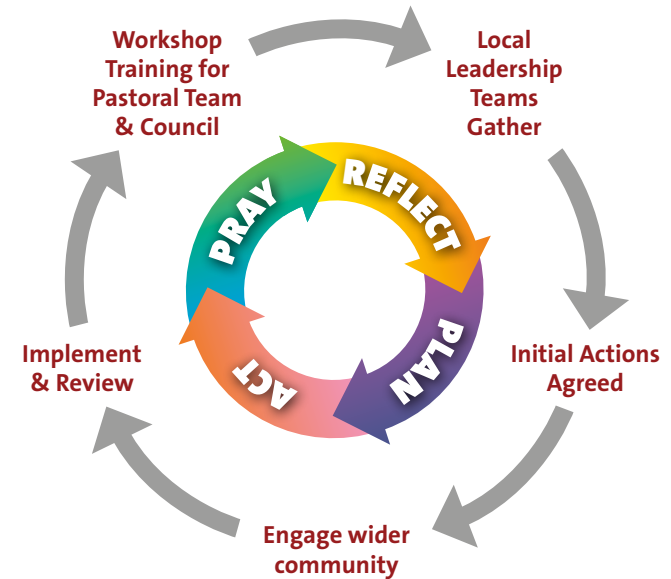
Mary, Mother of the Church, pray for us.

St Laurence O'Toole, pray for us.

St Kevin, pray for us.

St Brigid, pray for us.

# Building Hope



## Novena to the Holy Spirit prayer ~ reflection ~ planning

17th – 25th May 2026

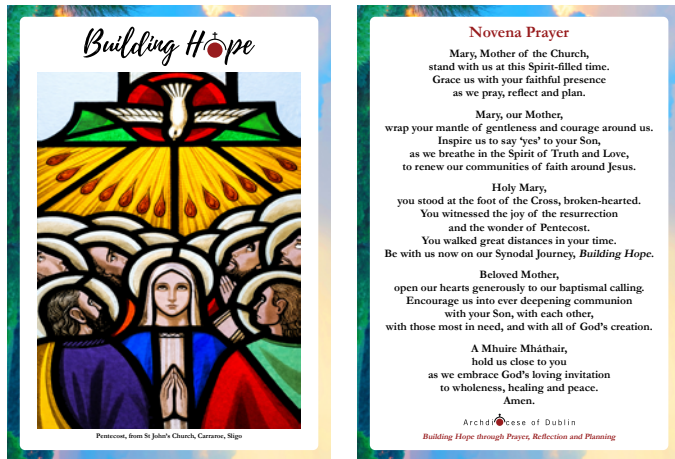
Pastoral Aid

Archdiocese of Dublin

Suggested format for leadership gatherings during the Novena period to reflect again on the [Building Hope Pastoral Strategic Planning Resource 2025-2027](#) and plan towards action in the pastoral year ahead.

### BEGIN IN PRAYER:

We light our prayer candle and call upon the Holy Spirit, as we pray slowly together our Novena Prayer using our prayer card.



### PERSONAL REFLECTION ON OUR OBJECTIVES

Begin by revisiting in silence the OBJECTIVES set out in the [Building Hope Pastoral Strategic Planning Resource 2025–2027](#) on pages 12, 15, 18, 21.

**Then Listen to the Scripture Reading** Jeremiah 29:11

For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

### SHARE TOGETHER IN A SYNODAL MANNER

Review and acknowledge plans made and actions taken to date and consider...

**What are your hopes for the new pastoral year beginning in September?**

As each person speaks, simply listen.

### REFLECT ON THE SCOPE OF THE PASTORAL YEAR

At this time we are focusing together across the Archdiocese on the actions we can take together to help build up **Communities which are Faith-filled, centred of the person of Jesus Christ.**

As you think about the pastoral year ahead, what plans do you think will help your parish / partnership build hope together in this particular Focus area?

Consider the following:

**Building Communities that are Faith-Filled ([Planning Resource, page 22](#))**

- Is our parish / partnership developing as a faith-filled community?
- Are we assessing and responding to adult faith formation needs?
- Are we promoting and helping parishioners to discern participation in diocesan education and training programmes?
- Are we helping our community grow in understanding of their faith and practice?
- Is our community becoming more confident in sharing their faith with others?
- Have we an active liturgy team ensuring our celebrations are vibrant with active participation of a variety of parishioners/ ministry groups?

