

Introduction to Encountering the Holy Spirit

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The third part of the diocesan Year of the Eucharist - 'Blessed are those called to the Supper of the Lamb'- is wrapped in the Synod theme: 'Listening and Belonging to the Spirit – Mission' and follows the path directed by Pope Francis.

At Pentecost we celebrate the birth of the Church and the unity Jesus brings to us within ourselves and our communities. The synod path enables the People of God to walk forward together, listening to the Holy Spirit and the Word of God, to participate in the mission of the Church in the communion that Jesus establishes between us. This path of walking together is the most effective way of showing and putting into practice the nature of the Church as the pilgrim and missionary People of God. (Synod Vademecum)

The Jesuit priest, Gerard Manley Hopkins, in a homily he preached in 1882, speaks of the Holy Spirit as the one who comforts, who cheers, who encourages, who persuades, who exhorts, who stirs up, who urges forward, who calls on. The Holy Paraclete is one who calls us on to good. The Holy Spirit calls to us: 'Come on! Come on!'

This third resource for the Year of the Eucharist is offered to encourage our faith in Jesus along the way ahead. The Holy Spirit is with us in all ways and in all places to renew our commitment to proclaim the truth of Jesus into the lives of those we meet. Come on!
Come on!

