



Evenings of Conversation – Reflection – Prayer - for Lent
7.00 pm – 8.30 pm [UK Time]

This year we will be alternating sessions with our Companions with small group sessions, in which we offer the opportunity to participate and experience the Synodal method of Conversation in the Spirit, relating to themes from the synthesis report and responding to the insights of our Companions.

Thursday 15th February - Hopes for the Synodal Process in Scotland
Companion: Bishop Brian McGee

Thursday 22nd February - Small Groups Session– A Conversation in the Spirit, following the insights of Bishop McGee

Thursday 29th February - The Synod on Synodality: between post-Vatican II and the third millenium of the Church

Companion: Massimo Faggioli

Thursday 7th March - Small Groups Session– A Conversation in the Spirit, following the insights of Massimo Faggioli

Please click [here](#) to register for the sessions



Scottish Laity Network
Lenten Journey 2024

Our Journey of Hope - Engaging with the Synod?



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Thursday 15th February **Hopes for the Synodal Process in Scotland**

Companion ~ Bishop Brian McGee

Born in Greenock on 8th October 1965. Educated in St Joseph's and then Holy Cross Primary Schools in Greenock. High School education was in St Vincent's College, Langbank and St Mary's College, Blairs. Attended Senior Seminary at St Patrick's College, Thurles, Co Tipperary, Ireland from 1983-89. Awarded an MA (Dist) in Christian Spirituality from Sarum College, Salisbury in 2011.

Ordained to the priesthood by Bishop John Mone for the Diocese of Paisley on 29th June 1989 in St Mary's, Greenock. He served as Assistant Priest in St Charles, Paisley 1989-96 and Holy Family, Port Glasgow from 1996-97; Parish Priest St



Joseph's, Clarkston 1997-2007; Spiritual Director at the National Seminary Scotus, Glasgow 2007-2009 and as Parish Priest in Holy Family, Port Glasgow from 2009-2016. He was Vicar General of Paisley Diocese from 2014-2016. He was nominated Bishop of Argyll and the Isles on 28th December 2015 and ordained in St Columba's Cathedral, Oban on 18th February 2016.

Bishop Brian is the Episcopal Secretary to the Conference of Bishops and Bishop President of SCIAF, for Safeguarding, the Inter Faith Dialogue Committee and the BCOS Synodality Committee. He represented the Bishop's Conference during the First Session of the XVI Ordinary Synod of Bishops in October 2023 and will do so again during the Second Session in October 2024.

Bishop Brian initiated a diocesan discernment process in Advent 2022 entitled 'Led by the Spirit'.

Thursday 22nd February: **The Synod on Synodality: Between post-Vatican II and the Third Millennium of the Church**



Companion ~ Massimo Faggioli

Massimo is professor in the Department of Theology and Religious Studies at Villanova University (Philadelphia). His books and articles have been published in more than ten languages. He is columnist for the magazines *Commonweal* and *La Croix International*.

He was founding co-chair of the study group "Vatican II Studies" for the American Academy of Religion between 2012 and 2017. His most recent publications include the books: *The Liminal Papacy of Pope Francis. Moving Toward Global Catholicity* (Orbis, 2020). Together with Catherine Clifford he is the co-editor of *The Oxford Handbook of Vatican II* (Oxford UP, 2023), and is under contract with Oxford University Press for the book *God's Bureaucrats. A History of the Roman Curia*. He lives in the Philadelphia area with his wife and their two children.

We look forward to welcoming you all; and we hope that our SLN Lent Sessions will help to facilitate ongoing engagement with the Synod on Synodality. Feedback from the Small Group Sessions will be collated and offered to the Scottish Bishops