

Pope Francis' Words on Faith Development

"The Lord calls us all to make His Gospel resound in the heart of every person."

"The heart is the starting and ending place of every relationship, with God and with sisters and brothers".

"I hope your relationship to God and church has been shaped and sweetened by wisdom, discernment, and invitation. I really do hope your life in the church hasn't been a long, abusive slog through commandments and pronouncements that seemed to gag you and take away your freedom. If you've suffered at the hands of your teachers and have not been aided in your quest for God and guidance, please let me apologize on behalf of the church. It's not supposed to be this way."

"Christ's love remains as the true and only commandment of the new life, which the Christian, with the help of the Holy Spirit, makes his or her own day by day in a journey that never stops... Never turn away from this source of love, for it is the condition for being happy and full of joy always and in spite of everything."

This is the new life that sprang up in us on the day of Baptism and that we have the responsibility to share with everyone so that it can grow in each person and bear fruit."

Whether you are deeply committed to faith or find yourself at the edges of the faith community, Pathways would welcome you to join us on this journey together.

For further details or to register:
Please contact Drumalis during office hours (Mon-Fri, 9 am - 5 pm) - 028 28272196/28276455
or email drumalis@btconnect.com
Website: <http://www.drumalis.co.uk>

Directions to Drumalis:

By Road:

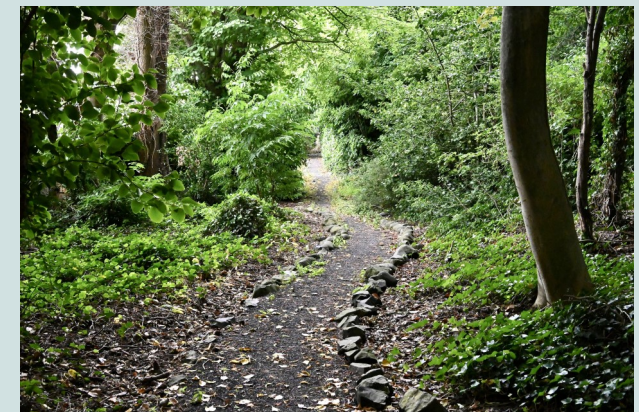
From Belfast take the M2 and leave it at the A8 exit. Just outside Larne leave the A8 by turning left onto Pound Street. Continue straight on, through three sets of traffic lights to the end of Victoria Road, Drumalis gates are directly across the Glenarm Road.

By Public Transport:

From Railway, Bus and Harbour follow the signs for the Coast Road. Drumalis is on the right before Bankheads Lane before you leave the town.



Pathways Adult Faith Development Course



**Part-time One-year Course
commencing October 2025
at Drumalis Retreat & Conference
Centre, Larne (in-house or by Zoom)**

Drumalis, 47 Glenarm Road, LARNE,
County Antrim, BT40 1DT

Tel 028 28272196/2827 6455 (from UK)
048 28272196/2827 6455 (from Republic of Ireland)

Email drumalis@btconnect.com

Website: <http://www.drumalis.co.uk>

- ❖ Are you curious about the meaning of faith in your life?
- ❖ Are you interested in getting a better understanding of what is happening in our Church today?
- ❖ Are you looking for some hope in the Church today?
- ❖ Maybe there are times you just want to get away from it all and spend time reflecting upon your own journey in life and in faith.

If so, the Pathways programme may be an opportunity to reflect upon these issues in the company of like-minded people.

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Pathways is a year-long programme based in Drumalis Retreat Centre. Our team welcomes people from all walks of life and diverse life experiences as we journey together in making the connections between our lives, our faith and our experience of Church.

No academic qualifications necessary.

No written work involved.

Pathways runs one Saturday per month (10 am—4 pm) from October to June.

Annual Course Fees:

£260 in-house or £200 via Zoom (*We are grateful to funders who generously support the Pathways programme.*)

Refreshments and lunch are included in the course fees for those attending in-house.

It is possible to attend individual days, but pre-booking is essential.

Fees for individual days: **£45 in house or £30 via Zoom**

Course Programme 2025-2026

Date	Theme
4 Oct 25	Orientation Day Called and Chosen – Being Church in a Time of Change Baptism affirms our genuine equality of dignity and action as we take up the call to ministry in the Church today. Ministry though is more than getting permission to carry out specific roles in the Church but about being full and active participants in the building of the Kingdom of God. How can we respond more effectively to this Call and to challenges we may face along the road? Brian McKee is Director of Drumalis Retreat Centre. He has worked in retreats, youth ministry, peace and reconciliation and teaching for over 40 years.
8 Nov 25	An Introduction to the Bible An opportunity to have a fresh perspective on how we can approach the Sacred Scriptures as a fountain of wisdom, prayer and direction. What does it mean when we say that the Bible is the Word of God? Sean Goan is a scripture scholar who has the ability to break open God's Word in a way that has depth and freshness. Presenter of our popular retreat on the music of Leonard Cohen.
13 Dec 25	Pope Francis – A Man of his Word The world and our church lost a man of great wisdom and courage when we heard the news of the passing of the beloved Pope Francis. This day is an opportunity to look at the core teachings of Pope Francis and to reflect upon the gift that he was to both the church and to the world. Brian McKee
10 Jan 26	The Call to be Builders of Peace and Justice This beautiful world is scarred by the obscenity of war and the sin of injustice. As followers of the Prince of Peace we cannot stay silent or choose to ignore, but what can we do to make a difference in the midst of such pain and suffering? Dr Gráinne Doherty is a retreat presenter and an adult faith educator. She was a member of the theology department in All Hallows College, Dublin, as well as holding a variety of roles in pastoral leadership roles at parish and diocesan levels.
14 Feb 26	Prayer – The Language of Love Life is experienced as difficult for many of us. Tough choices to be made, demands on our time, difficult relationships.

Date	Theme
14 Feb 26	Prayer – The Language of Love (<i>continued</i>) Taking time aside to pray can seem like a luxury that we cannot afford, and yet listening to the message of love to which we open ourselves in prayer is the source to which we cannot afford to be disconnected Maria Garvey is an experienced leader in education, health & social care, social enterprise and the faith community. Maria has brought her experience and knowledge to a wide range of individuals and organizations both nationally and internationally.
7 Mar 26	What does it mean to be a Synodal Church? Whatever your opinion about the church, few people would disagree that it is in a state of change. We hear new words and language that can be baffling, disappointing or exciting depending upon your viewpoint. Together we search for a new understanding of what the Spirit is asking of our Church today. Fr Gerry Clarke SJ is Director of the Belfast Jesuit Centre and chaplain to Ulster University. Fr Gerry formerly worked in the Jesuit Centre of Spirituality in Galway and spent some time working in Jesuit Refugee Ministries in Lebanon and Chad. Native of Dublin he joined the Jesuits in 1986.
18 Apr 26	Rediscovering Jesus. Who is your God? Our understanding and experience of God develops during our life experience. How can we open ourselves to a constant rediscovery of the person of Jesus along the journey of life? Fr John Friel CP is a Chartered Psychologist and member of the Daneo Services team based in Belfast.
16 May 26	Care for Our Common Home Laudato Sí is a call to follow a God-centred approach to environmental challenges that brings glory to the Creator, transformation of people and the land that sustains them. It focuses on care for the natural environment and all people, as well as broader questions of the relationship between God, humans, and the Earth. The encyclical's subtitle, "Care for Our Common Home," reinforces these key themes. Juanita Majury and Team. Juanita is a member of the Focolare Movement in Ireland and an active participant in the Joining the Dots Together project that brings together faith based groups to foster dialogue, promote ecological awareness and support practical steps towards sustainability. Her work is aimed at helping to build a more connected and compassionate response to the environmental challenges we face.
13 June 26	Day of Reflection (<i>full details to be confirmed</i>)