



Vision

The Scottish Laity Network (SLN) seeks to enable Scottish laity to come together as disciples of Jesus and through prayer, dialogue and discernment find ‘new ways’ of being Church in Scotland in the 21st Century.

We are rooted above all in a personal encounter with Jesus Christ and the teachings of the Gospel.

We are inspired by the principles of Vatican II seeking to make the gospel values a lived reality in our modern world, and by the encyclical letter *Laudato Si'*, the vision of Pope Francis to listen and respond to the cry of the poor and the cry of the earth.

We trust the Holy Spirit to guide us as we make this journey.

Mission

We aim to provide a forum of support and respect for lay people to:

- discern the 'signs of the times' in responding to, and engaging with, the challenges we all face in the world today to bring about the kingdom of God on earth
- give a voice to and dialogue with, in a spirit of love and respect, those who have been marginalised, whether in the Church or in civil society
- work to become, in the words of Pope Francis, 'a church that is poor and is for the poor'
- try to live simply and sustainably as envisioned in *Laudato Si'*
- share pastoral, theological and liturgical practice and resources
- encourage dialogue, transparency and accountability in all aspects of local Church governance and to raise issues, if necessary, with the relevant ecclesial bodies

Lay people are on the front line of the life of the Church and we affirm and respect our right to fulfil our specific mission that we received in Baptism.

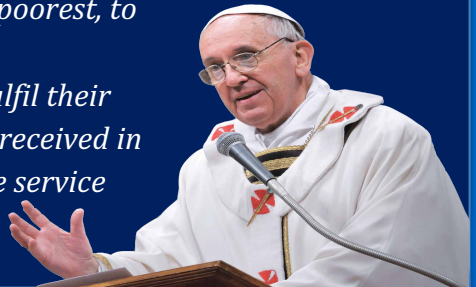
Lay people are on the front line of the life of the Church.

We need their testimony regarding the truth of the Gospel and their example of expressing their faith by practising solidarity.

Let us give thanks for the lay people who take risks, who are not afraid and who offer reasons for hope to the poorest, to the excluded, to the marginalized.

Let us pray that the lay faithful may fulfil their specific mission, the mission that they received in Baptism, putting their creativity at the service of the challenges of today's world.

The Mission of the Laity – May 2018



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