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November 2020

Dear Bishop Paul

My greetings in the name of Our Lord Jesus Christ as you celebrate the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the consecration of the Cathedral Church of St Fin Barre on the Feast of St Andrew. As the Cathedral community celebrates, in these challenging pandemic times, may everyone know that Jesus Christ is the resurrection and the life as St Fin Barre called your worshipping home 'his place of resurrection.'

My predecessor as Archbishop of York, William Connor Magee, who was a former Dean of Cork and Bishop of Peterborough, preached at Evensong on the day of consecration. It is, therefore, an honour to follow in his footsteps by offering you my prayers. I pray that as you look to the past, rest today in the loving presence of God, the light of Christ may shine upon the Cathedral and its people. The update to the Diocesan vision is called Moving on with Confidence. May you move on with confidence as followers of Christ in worship and growth, forming disciples, who in turn, make disciples.

It is fitting that you should celebrate the consecration on St Andrew's Day. Andrew provides us with a great pattern of being a witnessing disciple. Andrew brought his brother, Simon Peter, to meet Jesus, saying, 'We have found the Messiah' (John 1.41). Andrew had met Jesus, had become convinced he was the one in whom there was life in all its fullness, and now naturally and encouragingly said to his brother 'Come and meet him.' What better way for us to live, inviting others to come and meet Jesus.

As you celebrate the Holy Eucharist together may God bless you, keep you and the riches of his grace be with you.

Yours sincerely,

The Right Reverend Dr Paul Colton  
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