

Together on the road



Becoming the Church we are called to be

SYNOD 2020
Archdiocese of Liverpool

HOLY HOUR

led by Archbishop Malcolm McMahon

OPENING HYMN

INTRODUCTION

“Focusing our gaze firmly on Christ is an excellent place to begin our own journey towards Synod 2020.”

OPENING PRAYER

We thank you Father
for the love you have shown us
in the gift of Jesus, your Son.
Keep us grateful each day
for the blessings that surround us.
As we are fed by you,
help us to share what we receive
with our hungry brothers and sisters.
We humbly ask your help to become the Church
that you are calling us to be:
a community that listens, that trusts,
that lives with courage
and that puts out its nets into new waters.
May the gentle presence of Christ in our hearts
be a source of healing, of new life
and of a deeper trust in you.
We ask this in faith through Jesus Christ, Our Lord.
Amen.

REFLECTION ONE

Scripture: Romans 6:3-8, 11

When we were baptised in Christ Jesus we were baptised in his death; in other words, when we were baptised we went into the tomb with him and joined him in death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead by the Father’s glory, we too might live a new life.

If in union with Christ we have imitated his death, we shall also imitate him in his resurrection. We must realise that our former selves have been crucified with him to destroy this sinful body and to free us from the slavery of sin. You too must consider yourselves to be dead to sin but alive for God in Christ Jesus.

Archbishop: We need to regain our missionary spirit so that the call to holiness we heard in our baptism is expressed by a change of direction. Baptism has changed us so that as Christians we live no longer for ourselves but for others.

Time of silent reflection and prayer.

PRAYER

Prayer of St Teresa of Ávila (adapted)

Christ has no body now on earth but ours,
no hands but ours,
no feet but ours,
ours are the eyes through which Christ's compassion
is to look out to the earth,
ours are the feet by which He is to go about doing good
and ours are the hands by which He is to bless us now.

HYMN

REFLECTION TWO

Scripture: Matthew 28:18-20

Jesus came up and spoke to the disciples. He said, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, make disciples of all nations; baptise them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teach them to observe all the commands I gave you. And look, I am with you always; yes, to the end of time.'

Archbishop: In his letter, 'The Joy of the Gospel', Pope Francis wrote: I dream of a "missionary option", that is a missionary impulse capable of transforming everything, so that the Church's customs, ways of doing things, times and schedules, language and structures can be suitably channelled for the evangelisation of today's world rather than for her self-preservation.

Time of silent reflection and prayer.

PRAYER

Loving Father,

You so loved the world that you sent us your only Son,
that we might believe in him and have eternal life.

May we encounter Jesus Christ anew this day
and live the Good News with joy.

Through the power of your Holy Spirit, help us to
"go out to the whole world and proclaim"
our faith with confidence.

Give us the courage to witness to the Joy of the Gospel
by our words and actions.

Help our Archdiocese to become more welcoming and missionary,
so that you may be known and loved by all people.

We make this prayer through Our Lord Jesus Christ Your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God for ever and ever.

Amen.

HYMN

REFLECTION THREE

Scripture: Matthew 11:25-30

Jesus exclaimed, 'I bless you, Father, Lord of heaven and of earth, for hiding these things from the learned and the clever and revealing them to little children.

Yes, Father, for that is what it pleased you to do.

Everything has been entrusted to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, just as no one knows the Father except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

Come to me, all you who labour and are overburdened, and I will give you rest. Shoulder my yoke and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. Yes, my yoke is easy and my burden light.'

Archbishop: Pope Francis invites everyone to be part of this adventure: To those who feel far from God and the Church, to all those who are fearful or indifferent, I would like to say this: the Lord, with great respect and love, is also calling you to be a part of his people! The Church must be a place of mercy freely given, where everyone can feel welcomed, loved, forgiven and encouraged to live the good life of the Gospel.

Time of silent reflection and prayer.

PRAYER

Magnificat

My soul glorifies the Lord

My spirit rejoices in God my saviour

For he has blessed me lavishly

And makes me ready to respond

He shatters my little world

And lets me be poor before him.

He takes from me my plans

And gives me more than I can hope for or ask.

He gives me opportunities
and the ability to become free
And to burst through my boundaries.
He gives me the strength to be daring,
To build on him alone,
For he shows himself as the greater one in my life.
He has made known to me this:
It is in my being servant that it becomes possible
For God's reign to break through here and now.
Amen.

INTERCESSIONS

For the Church across the world.

Lord, hear us.

For our parish, our pastoral area and our Archdiocese of Liverpool.

Lord, hear us.

For Pope Francis, Archbishop Malcolm and all who shepherd the Church.

Lord, hear us.

For the journey we are taking towards Synod 2020.

Lord, hear us.

For world leaders and those who serve in national and local government.

Lord, hear us.

For peace in the world, in our communities and in our hearts.

Lord, hear us.

For all those we know who are sick.

Lord, hear us.

For the faithful departed of our families and our parish.

Lord, hear us.

As we come to the end of our time before our Lord let us sing and pray:

Tantum ergo Sacramentum
veneremur cernui:
et antiquum documentum
novo cedat ritui:
praestet fides supplementum
sensuum defectui.

Come, adore this wondrous presence,
bow to Christ, the source of grace.
Here is kept the ancient promise
of God's earthly dwelling-place.
Sight is blind before God's glory,
faith alone may see his face.

Genitori, genitoque
laus et jubilatio,
salus, honor, virtus quoque
sit et benedictio;
procedenti ab utroque
compar sit laudatio.

Glory be to God the Father,
praise to his co-equal Son,
Adoration to the Spirit, bond of love,
in Godhead one.
Blest be God by all creation
joyously while ages run.

Amen.

Amen.

Ÿ. You have given them bread from heaven.

Ŕ. *Having within it all sweetness.*

Let us pray.

Lord Jesus Christ, you gave us the Eucharist
as the memorial of your suffering and death.

May our worship of this sacrament of your body and blood
help us to experience the salvation you won for us,
and the peace of the kingdom where you live
with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

Amen.

BENEDICTION

O Sacrament most holy,
O Sacrament divine,
all praise and all thanksgiving
be every moment thine. (x3)

THE DIVINE PRAISES

Blessed be God.

Blessed be His Holy Name.

Blessed be Jesus Christ, true God and true man.

Blessed be the name of Jesus.

Blessed be His Most Sacred Heart.

Blessed be His Most Precious Blood.

Blessed be Jesus in the Most Holy Sacrament of the Altar.

Blessed be the Holy Spirit, the Paraclete.

Blessed be the great Mother of God, Mary most holy.

Blessed be her holy and Immaculate Conception.

Blessed be her glorious Assumption.

Blessed be the name of Mary, Virgin and Mother.

Blessed be Saint Joseph, her spouse most chaste.

Blessed be God in His angels and in His Saints.

FINAL HYMN TO OUR LADY