

Overview

Each Pastoral Area will select 8* members in addition to the parish and priest members already selected. The totality of the Pastoral Area Synod Membership should, as far as possible, reflect the diversity of the Church across the Pastoral Area.

Deans will facilitate the selection of Pastoral Area Members in consultation with the clergy and people of the Pastoral Area.

[*Widnes and Leigh will select 11 Pastoral Area Members to ensure proper representation of those areas at the Synod.]

Preparation

Pastoral Area Members are to be selected in the light of the selection of parish members. The Dean should ensure he has details of the local parish members who have been selected before the selection of Pastoral Area Members takes place.

Who might be a Synod Member?

A Synod member is a baptized Catholic who is...

- open to the presence and activity of the Spirit of God in our world, in our Church and in each person
- outstanding in firm faith, good morals, and prudence (cf. Canon 512)
- prepared to listen carefully to the needs of the Church in Liverpool Archdiocese
- trying to foster a personal prayer life
- committed to the Baptismal call to play a part in the Church's mission
- committed to the process of the Synod journey
- committed to attendance at meetings and participation in preparation and formation
- willing (with guidance and support) to facilitate group discussions
- willing to put aside personal agendas to listen with respect and without judgment to the ideas and opinions of others
- prepared to gather and record people's ideas and to feed them back faithfully to the diocese
- committed to the work of dialogue and consensus-building in developing proposals
- enthusiastic and hope-filled about the future

Selecting Pastoral Area Members

When taken as a whole [priest Members + parish Members + Pastoral Area Members] the total Synod Membership should include:

- 2 Young People (aged 15-25 on 14 December 2018)
- 2 from Catholic Education (Teachers, Teaching Assistants, etc)
- 1 Deacon (if the Pastoral Area has any)
- Someone involved in the caring services (Nurse, doctor, carer, etc)
- Someone with a social action background (Campaigner for justice and peace, volunteer with local charity or social action initiative, trade unionist, political activist etc)
- Others who represent that which is unique to the Pastoral Area

Care should also be taken to ensure that the ethnic and gender balance of the Pastoral Area membership reflects the population of the Pastoral Area.

**Details of Pastoral Area Members should be forwarded
to the Synod Office by Friday 14 December 2018**

