

Prayer at the end of the Session

Let my eyes
be your eyes,
sharing compassion,
warmth and love.
Let my hands
be your hands,
bringing healing
with their touch.
Let my ears
be your ears,
listening where
there is need.
Let my words
be your words,
bringing comfort
joy and peace .



Use these hands to carry the burden.
Use this voice to carry your word.
Use these feet to walk in your footsteps.
Use this heart to transform the world.



In all our travelling
May your footsteps guide us

In our schools and colleges
May your footsteps guide us

Within our homes and parishes
May your footsteps guide us

In our listening and discerning
May your footsteps guide us

In difficult situations and conflict
May your footsteps guide us

As we journey to Synod 2020
May your footsteps guide us

In the travelling of our faith
May your footsteps guide us

As we place all our trust in you
May your footsteps guide us

In all our travelling. Lord, may it be your
footsteps in which we place our feet.

Archdiocese of Liverpool



SYNOD MEETING Staff Prayer



As we journey together on the road becoming
the Church we are called to be....

Opening ourselves to ideas, including those
with which we disagree, this is what the good
traveller should do. Happy are they who
understand the words 'If you disagree with
me, you have something to give me'.

If those who are with you always agree with
you before you open your mouth, they are
not companions but shadows

..... Good travellers take care of their weary
companions. They guess when they lose
heart. They take them as they find them,
listen to them. Intelligently, gently, above all
lovingly, they encourage them to go on and
recover their joy in the journey.

From the Desert is Fertile by Dom Helder Camara

Gathering in God's Presence

You have called us to be your people, to follow where you lead, to be obedient to your word and bring your Good News wherever we might go. Forgive the impatience and lack of faith which causes us to stumble along the way. When we prefer our way to yours, draw us back into your arms. Grant us patience and perseverance on our journey with you.

We listen to a reading from Luke's Gospel: On the Road to Emmaus

Now that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem. They were talking with each other about everything that had happened. As they talked and discussed these things with each other, Jesus himself came up and walked along with them; but they were kept from recognizing him.

He asked them, "What are you discussing together as you walk along?"

They stood still, their faces downcast. One of them, named Cleopas, asked him, "Are you the only one visiting Jerusalem who does not know the things that have happened there in these days?"

"What things?" he asked.

"About Jesus of Nazareth," they replied. "He was a prophet, powerful in word and deed before God and all the people. The chief priests and our rulers handed him over to be sentenced to death, and they crucified him; but we had hoped that he was the one who was going to redeem Israel. And what is more, it is the third day since all this took place. In addition, some of our women amazed us. They went to the tomb early this morning but didn't find his body. They came and told us that they had seen a vision of angels, who said he was alive. Then some of our companions went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but they did not see Jesus."

He said to them, "How foolish you are, and how slow to believe all that the prophets have spoken! Did not the Messiah have to suffer these things and then enter his glory?" And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself.

As they approached the village to which they were going, Jesus continued on as if he were going farther. But they urged him strongly, "Stay with us, for it is nearly evening; the day is almost over." So he went in to stay with them.

When he was at the table with them, he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and began to give it to them. Then their eyes were opened and they recognised him, and he disappeared from their sight. They asked each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us?"

They got up and returned at once to Jerusalem. There they found the Eleven and those with them, assembled together and saying, "It is true! The Lord has risen and has appeared to Simon." Then the two told what had happened on the way, and how Jesus was recognised by them when he broke the bread. (Luke 24:13-35)



We respond in prayer and reflection:

Can we open ourselves to others and listen attentively to what they have to say?

How can we care for our weary companions?

How can we encourage others to find joy in the journey?



Lord Jesus,

Open our eyes to recognise you as you walk beside us, accompanying us on our journey in life each day. Fill us with that love which enables us to welcome whatever you envision for us, enabling some new and unexpected life to come to birth. Amen