

Contents of the Pack:

- Instructions for the process
- Prayer leaflet and instructions
- Synod Prayer leaflets
- Synod Poster (A4) – can be enlarged
- Copies of the Questions – can be enlarged
- Listening Record Sheet

Instructions for the process:

At the heart of the vision of Synod 2020 is listening. It is through listening to all the people of our Archdiocese that we will be able to discern where God is calling us and become the Church we are called to be.

Catholic Education is a vital part of the life of our Archdiocese, those working in our schools are often the only contact that many families have with Church. Therefore, the perspective and reflections of those working in Catholic Education will be a really important element of our Synod journey.

Please organise a gathering of all your staff members, who wish to be present, to have their views heard at a convenient time. Begin with the opening prayer to ask for inspiration from the Holy Spirit. (see enclosed prayer leaflet and instructions)

Organisation:

Split your staff member into groups of between 6 - 8 people. Each group is to have a scribe and a leader. The leader will introduce each of the questions and lead the discussion. The scribe will record the main points and ideas of the group on the sheets (see below). These can be enlarged to A3 if necessary. Please give people a few moments to consider each question on their own before opening up the discussion.

Please collate the information using the 'Listening Record Sheet' and send electronically to the Synod Office by June 30th 2019 : synod2020@rcaol.co.uk. Please be as succinct as possible.

Introduce the Synod to staff:

Archbishop Malcolm has called a Synod - a long established practice in the Church for decisive meetings at significant times where members of the Church come together to review one or more issues and make decisions. We are at a significant moment in the history of our Archdiocese. There is clear duty on us to discern carefully together what the Spirit is saying to the Church in the Archdiocese of Liverpool and agree on common goals and actions for the coming years.

Read a note from Archbishop Malcolm:

Our journey to Synod 2020 began with a year of prayer (as part of our preparations for the Eucharistic Congress and Pilgrimage). We are now beginning the next stage of our journey. Discussions are taking place, beginning from the fact that we are not only about managing decline, but we are trying to catch a vision that will move us forward towards missionary discipleship, so that we do not simply follow Jesus but we take the Gospel message to others.

Our Diocesan Advent Prayer which we used last year says, 'Help us to become the Church you are calling us to be'. This is the call of our Synod.

I invite 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!

In October 2020 our Archdiocese, priests and people together, will meet to reflect on what we have heard and vote on specific proposals that have arisen from the discussion and sharing in our parishes and pastoral areas. I have decided to work in this way because I believe that the Holy Spirit is at work in the bishops, priests and people of the Archdiocese. **So I need each one of you to play your part in our Synod process.** Without you we will not hear the call of God guiding us and walking with us on our journey.

Synod Question 1

Where in your everyday life do you experience love, truth, goodness, hope and joy?



Synod Question 2

When you reflect on your life now,
and as you look to the future, what
causes you concern or worry?



Synod Question 3

What is the purpose of the Catholic Church in the world today?



Synod Question 4

Having reflected on these things,
what are the topics would you like
to see on the agenda of Synod
2020?



Together on the road



Becoming

the

Church

we

are

called

to

be

SYNOD 2020

Archdiocese of Liverpool