

Synod Sunday Liturgy

Suggested introduction which could be read before Mass by your parish Synod Member

(This might be a good moment to light the Synod Candle and leave it lit during Mass.)

Dear friends, this weekend our Archdiocesan Synod was to have taken place but as with so many aspects of our lives we have had to change our plans.

Perhaps with the light of faith it is possible to see these difficult past few months as a time of learning and of a deeper listening to the Holy Spirit. We are still discovering new ways in which we are being shown the kind of Church God wants us to be.

This Synod Sunday we continue to pray for God's guidance and help. We have received a special message from Archbishop Malcolm.

You will receive today the new timetable for the time of discernment leading up to our Synod in June 2021 and from today you can download the summary of all the proposals received.

Please keep this important event in your prayers and look out for how you can continue to be a part of our Synod journey in the coming months.

Suggestions for the Penitential Act

(Based on Synod themes.)

Lord Jesus, you show us how to be your Church in the world today:

Lord, have mercy.

You reveal yourself to us in the lives of those around us:

Christ, have mercy.

You walk with us as we journey together to the Father:

Lord, have mercy.

(Based on the psalm and First Reading from the Liturgy of the Word.)

Lord Jesus, you are great and worthy of our praise.

Lord have mercy

You have called each one of us by name.

Christ, have mercy.

The earth is full of your wonders.

Lord have mercy.

(You might like to invite a member of the

parish to read the Synod prayer before the blessing and dismissal.)

Our Synod Prayer

Father, we thank you

for the love you have shown us in the gift of Jesus, your Son.

We thank you for the gift of the Church, through which you show us that you are always with us

and are always at work in our lives.

As we journey together to Synod 2020 help us to become the Church that you are calling us to be.

May your Holy Spirit be powerfully at work among us.

Strengthen each of us and guide

Francis, our Pope

and Malcolm, our Archbishop.

Help us to respond to the challenges of our times in new ways

to bring your love to all our sisters and brothers.

We make this prayer through Jesus Christ Our Lord. Amen.

St John Henry Newman. Pray for us.