

# Synod 2020

## Summary of Proposals

### **Theme 3: How we pray together**

Due to Covid19 restrictions the Liverpool Diocesan Synod has been put back to June 2021 but the work goes on and over the next four weeks your help is needed to select the proposals that will be discussed at Synod. You will find below the first of the affirmations and proposals, put together by the Synod working Group from the 3,500 responses received from parishes across the Diocese, in response to the four themes we looked at for Synod earlier this year.

Please take some time to read, reflect and pray to the Holy Spirit for guidance. You may need to read the proposals several times: listen to your heart, listen to the community you are part of; in the light of listening ask yourself what are the affirmations and proposals I am most drawn to? You may select up to 4 affirmations and 10 proposals (you can select less). Please email the titles of your chosen affirmations (e.g. Buildings) and the numbers of your chosen proposals (e.g. 1.17) to [eileenjackson525@gmail.com](mailto:eileenjackson525@gmail.com) The Parish Synod representatives will select 2 affirmations and 5 proposals from each of the four themes, that best represent the views of the Parish, and submit these to the Synod. In March 2021 we will be given a final list of Synod proposals. The final date for submission of your selections on themes 1-4 is 25<sup>th</sup> November.

#### **Opportunities for Prayer**

The Synod affirms the variety of opportunities for prayer that exist and need to be developed.

3.1 The Synod proposes that each parish provides opportunities outside the celebration of Mass for people to gather in prayer.

3.2 The Synod proposes that we are proactive in using opportunities for ecumenical and interfaith prayer, action, and formation.

3.3 The Synod proposes that traditional devotions, which have nurtured people in ages past, be renewed for our age.

#### **Liturgy**

The Synod affirms the legitimate variety of liturgical styles in our Catholic tradition.

3.4 The Synod proposes that across the Archdiocese there is access to a variety of liturgical styles and celebrations.

3.5 The Synod proposes that the Extraordinary Form of the Roman Rite be more widely available.

3.6 The Synod proposes that we use the opportunities the liturgy provides for silence.

3.7 The Synod proposes that resources be found to promote good liturgical music.

3.8 The Synod proposes that more value be placed on the need for beauty in our liturgy, in the way it is celebrated and in the liturgical environment.

3.9 The Synod proposes that the Archbishop asks the Bishops' Conference to review the current translation of the Roman Missal.

#### **Liturgical Formation**

The Synod affirms the need for good liturgical formation for all.

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3.10 The Synod proposes that there be developed an Archdiocesan programme of liturgical formation for all the People of God.

3.11 The Synod proposes that we develop our appreciation of the importance of celebrating Mass well.

#### **Spiritual Formation**

The Synod affirms the importance of spiritual formation and accompaniment at each stage of the faith journey.

3.12 The Synod proposes the creation of a Spirituality Department in the Archdiocese which provides resources to serve the needs of parishes.

3.13 In the light of COVID-19, people have a renewed understanding that the Church is the people not the buildings. The Synod recognises that home is a holy place and proposes that resources are provided to support and develop the domestic Church.

3.14 The Synod proposes that an annual retreat is offered in each pastoral area.

3.15 The Synod proposes that in order to train and support spiritual directors we work in collaboration with the Anglican Diocese of Liverpool in their programme of spiritual direction and accompaniment.

#### **Lay Ministry**

The Synod affirms the variety of roles and ministries in the celebration of liturgy.

3.16 The Synod proposes that the gifts of lay people be used more fully in the celebration of the liturgy.

3.17 The Synod proposes that the use of Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion be restricted to cases of actual necessity.

3.18 The Synod proposes that Services of the Word and Communion be reserved for Sunday in the absence of a priest.

3.19 The Synod proposes that on weekdays, when Mass is not celebrated, a variety of services should be provided, e.g. Divine Office, Rosary and novenas.

#### **The Role of the Celebrant**

The Synod affirms that a well-prepared celebrant is crucial for good liturgical celebrations.

3.20 The Synod proposes that a systematic programme of liturgical formation be developed for all celebrants.

3.21 The Synod proposes that because of the importance of the homily in the liturgy a programme of on-going formation in preaching for priests and deacons be developed.

#### **Local Collaboration**

The Synod affirms that parishes collaborate with each other as no one parish can meet every need.

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3.22 The Synod proposes that in each area there should be a Shrine Church which will become a hub for the daily celebration of Mass and confession and will be open all day, every day.

3.23 The Synod proposes that, by collaborating in local clusters, parishes will work imaginatively in sharing resources and in providing a widespread of times for Mass and other services.

3.24 The Synod proposes that when a priest is on holiday Mass is not celebrated in the Church(es) where he normally celebrates Mass.

### **Reconciliation**

The Synod affirms the importance of the Sacrament of Reconciliation in the life of every baptised person and recognises that many Catholics rarely or never celebrate this sacrament.

3.25 The Synod proposes that we are creative in how we celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

3.26 The Synod proposes that the Archdiocese develops a programme of formation for adults and children for the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

### **The Sick and the Housebound**

The Synod affirms that the sick and the housebound can be a powerhouse of prayer within our parishes.

3.27 The Synod proposes that ways be found to support and value the sick and the housebound as praying members of our communities.

### **Schools and Young People**

The Synod affirms the place of schools in the prayer life of the parish community.

3.28 The Synod recognises that all schools are privileged places for the teaching of prayer and proposes that they be supported in this ministry.

3.29 The Synod proposes that parishes find ways to involve the gifts of young people in liturgical celebration.

### **Communications**

The Synod affirms that effective communication can be an opportunity to deepen the prayer life of people.

3.30 The Synod proposes that the opportunities afforded by social media are effectively utilised and all parishes are supported in producing and maintaining their digital profile.

3.31 The Synod proposes the development of an effective communications strategy at the service of prayer and mission.

3.32 The Synod proposes that the Archdiocese supports every parish in providing live streaming of liturgy.