

# Synod 2020



As you may know Synod 2020 is the journey on which the Archdiocese of Liverpool has set out upon, to renew and refresh the Mission of the Church locally, in response to the particular challenges and opportunities of these times. The Synod itself has been called by Archbishop Malcolm McMahon to gain the views and opinions of the people of the Archdiocese of Liverpool and this gives the people an opportunity to affect change in the Catholic Church for future generations. It follows a pattern of prayer, listening (which is the period that we are in now) and discernment.

The year of listening involves all people of the Archdiocese having their say on the Catholic church (October 2018-2019) and the year up to October 2020 (the culmination of the Synod) will be used for discernment.

The word discernment basically means making sense of all the listening that has been collated so that it can be put into themes that will be voted on at Synod Day on 20th October 2020.

As Catholic Schools, and their families, are a huge part of the life and Mission of the Archdiocese it is important that we take full part in the Synod journey and that the voices of all of those in our school community are heard as the Archdiocese discerns the way forward.

During this time the children have taken part in a Collective Worship which focused on the meaning of Synod 2020. They then participated in their own activities so their views and opinions could also be considered.

You can find out more about Synod 2020 at [www.synod2020.co.uk](http://www.synod2020.co.uk).

**A Message form Malcolm McMahon OP, Archbishop of Liverpool**

## **A Synod for the Archdiocese of Liverpool**

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. This web site ([www.synod2020.co.uk](http://www.synod2020.co.uk)) will help you to become fully equipped to play your part.

Discussions will take place, which will begin 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.

**Malcolm McMahon OP, Archbishop of Liverpool**

(Source [www.synod2020.co.uk](http://www.synod2020.co.uk))