

## **The Synodal Pathway 2021-23**

This weekend sees the start of the consultation process which Pope Francis has asked the whole Church to be involved in - from the oldest to the youngest.

Our bishops and their advisers have written 10 questions they would like us to use as starting points for gathering our thoughts together. These questions are given overleaf.

Responses to these questions can be made in different ways - either as individuals or as part of the parish response.

### **Our Parish Response**

There will be a number of ways you can be involved in our parish response, all starting in the New Year. Each week for five weeks we will look at two questions and ask for your thoughts and comments. There will be face to face meetings, zoom meetings and an opportunity to put your thoughts on paper too. Zoom meetings will be on a Wednesday evening starting on 12th January if you want to save the date.

We hope that you will join in the parish response because if you respond on the website the parish will not benefit from your answers.

All our responses will be co-ordinated and sent to Bishop Alan by 20th March.

Please take time to read and think about the questions. Talk to your family and friends about them and pray the Synod Prayer asking the Holy Spirit to guide us.

If you have any questions please contact one of the Parish Co-ordinators:

Deacon Clive  
Sister Carmel  
Christine Meadway

## **The Ten Questions and some extra thoughts**

### **1. How welcoming is our parish?**

- How do we view patterns of worship in our faith community; are we a close knit or a more open welcoming community?

### **2. How good are we at listening?**

- Do we listen to each other or close our ears to opinions that don't match what we think or believe?

### **3. How good are we at communicating?**

- Do we communicate with each other effectively within our parish community?

### **4. How well does the Church's liturgy inspire a deeper encounter with the Risen Lord?**

- Do we reflect Christ's teaching in what we do and say outside Sunday Mass?

### **5. How well do I understand and participate in the mission of the Church?**

- What do our neighbours think of us?

### **6. How well do we engage with the wider world?**

- Do we understand or get engaged with what goes on in the church outside our own Parish?

### **7. How good is our relationship with other Christian traditions?**

- What is my/our relationship with those of other Christian denominations?

### **8. How well do we work as a team in our parish?**

- How do I (or can I) contribute to the life of my local church community?

### **9. How open are we to the will of God and the Guidance of the Holy Spirit?**

- What are my views concerning decision making within my church and diocese?

### **10. How well do we hand on the faith?**

- What resources do I need to help me contribute to developing the faith as a missionary disciple?