

Dear Monsignor, Canon, Father,

Its great to see so many parishes embracing the synodal journey and so many parishes coming up with new and fresh ideas to implement the process. Could we ask that as soon as possible after Easter and before Pentecost that your parish initiatives would be gathered together: a synthesis of your findings and sent on to your Deanery. Other diocese are adding a deanery synthesis, in the hope that local initiatives will emerge and perhaps provide a local focus for positive action and initiatives.

This synthesis should be no more than 10 sides of A4, each section should be an appraisal of the ten themes proposed by the synodal office of the Holy See. ie one page per theme. The ten themes are :

- 1. Companions on the journey- what do we excel at and who do we leave behind?
- 2. Listening- do we exclude the voices we don't want to hear?
- 3. Speaking out- do we speak out courageously, who does the world consider speaks for Catholicism?
- 4. Celebrating our faith- are our celebrations engaging, nourishing, satisfying?
- 5. Responsibility for our common mission- what hinders the involvement of all the Baptised?
- 6. Dialogue- do we speak to other Christian communities, civil society, other faith communities?
- 7. Through our common baptism, other Christian communities have a special place in our lives- how does this manifest itself?
- 8. Authority and participation in our church- how do we open this to all church members?

- 9. Discerning and deciding- how do we ensure this is inspired by the Holy Spirt and takes into consideration the fruits of the discernment of all the Baptised?
- 10. How do we continue to walk together, listening and discerning the way forward?

Perhaps the Dean would associate with himself others, laity and clergy to compile the short synthesis. It may, then, be sent, by the end of June, to myself at Sacred Heart Presbytery 25c Kyle Road Kildrum, Cumbernauld Glasgow G67 2DY or indeed emailed to <u>Synod@rcag.org.uk</u>

With the good grace and cooperation of our Diocesan RE Department materials are being sent to both Primary and Secondary Schools to encourage engagement in this process.

I include a few articles from other sources that may be of use.

Dublin

https://youtu.be/IIH8SR7UP54

Galloway

https://gallowaydiocese.org.uk/synod-news

Wishing you all the best with synodality.

John.