

Synod 2023 — A worldwide listening process

Glossop Catholic Parishes

Third parish questionnaire

On 10th October Pope Francis launched the first stages of the 2023 Synod: *For a Synodal Church i Communion i Participation i Mission*. A Synod is a worldwide gathering of Bishops (with other delegates and experts) to discuss and discern how the Church responds to a certain issue. The meaning of Synod of journeying together and those Bishops representing their country are called to bring the thoughts and hopes of the people they represent. The 2023 will not be responding to a particular issue, rather it will be reflecting how the nature or culture of the Church can be more synodal – a wider listening to the Holy Spirit speaking through all peoples.

This process though starting in Rome thoroughly begins in your local parish, school or chaplaincy. Every Catholic community is invited to meet together and listen to one another and the Holy Spirit reflecting on how we can be more focused on being a missionary Church. One that makes Christ present to all peoples in all places. As a diocese we are inviting each Catholic community to reflect on their dream for the Church and how to make that a reality. To not only listen to the leaders in parishes/chaplaincies/schools but to all especially those at the margin of our community.

This third questionnaire invites you to prayerfully think about the fifth and sixth of six questions. You can come along to an open meeting in **St Mary's Hall from 10am to 11.30am on Saturday 4th December**; or you can fill in the centre pages and return it to Glossop Catholic Parishes, Royle House, Church Street, GLOSSOP SK13 7RJ; or you can answer the questions online at www.glossopcatholics.org.uk/Synod23

If you would like help completing the questionnaire, Jenny and Christine are happy to help, and their contact information is on every parish newsletter.

Please pass on this questionnaire and invitation to others, especially people who are Catholic but who don't attend church.

Q5. How do I hear and respond to the voice of God's Holy Spirit, in my life; what signs of the Spirit at work do I see in the life of my parish/chaplaincy?

Q6. What steps may the Holy Spirit be calling us to take, as a parish/chaplaincy, on our journey together into God's future?



We stand before You, Holy Spirit,
as we gather together in Your name.
With You alone to guide us,
make Yourself at home in our hearts;
Teach us the way we must go
and how we are to pursue it.
We are weak and sinful;
do not let us promote disorder.
Do not let ignorance lead us down the wrong path
nor partiality influence our actions.
Let us find in You our unity
so that we may journey together to eternal life
and not stray from the way of truth
and what is right.
All this we ask of You,
who are at work in every place and time,
in the communion of the Father and the Son,
forever and ever.
Amen.