

SYNOD

Pope Francis has asked the whole Catholic Church worldwide to engage in a process of discernment under the guidance of the Holy Spirit. This process is called a synod.

What does this mean for us?

In our Archdiocese, Archbishop John is inviting everyone to respond to the invitation of Pope Francis and take part in the initial listening phase of the Synod. To do this, at St Cecilia's **we will be holding two meetings:**

- in person at the church on Saturday 13 November from 15.00 to 17.00

OR

- online on Monday 15 November from 19.30 to 21.00

We will be exploring the question set by Pope Francis:

How does 'journeying together' take place today on different levels (from the local level to the universal one), allowing the Church to proclaim the Gospel? And, what steps is the Spirit inviting us to take in order to grow as a synodal Church?

What can I do?

1. PRAY for the synod. There are prayer cards in the church: please take one and pray that the Holy Spirit will guide the process and inspire all participants with wisdom.
2. ATTEND: We would love to see as many people as possible at one of these meetings.

At the meeting, you will not be made to pray aloud, or speak unless you want to do so. It will be a facilitated session so that everyone who wants to will have a chance to contribute. We will take a summary back to a gathering of the Archdiocese and it will form part of the Archdiocese's contribution.

This is your chance to contribute to how the Church should grow and develop. Please contact mdrthomas@gmail.com for more information, to let us know if you are able to make the in-person meeting, and to get the login details for the online meeting. We look forward to hearing from you. For more information visit <https://rcaos.org.uk/synod>.

Michael and Nicola Thomas