



1

Welcome.
What is our purpose?

Walking Together is a special time of prayer,
of listening to others, having a dialogue around our ideas and
forming recommendations about the future of our Church.

This is your opportunity to respond to the request from
Pope Francis to dream about the Church we are called to be.



www.synod.va

2

Welcome.

What is our purpose?

By gathering as a people of faith we hope to
weave new and deeper relationships,
to learn from one another,
to build bridges, to enlighten minds, to warm hearts
and to restore strength for our common mission.

We look to discern what God wants of us in our parish.

We shall start with a prayer to the Holy Spirit.



www.synod.va

3

Spirit of God, Spirit of Truth,
The Father sent you to all the followers of Jesus
to guide his Church in every age.

You speak to every one of us,
if only we listen to you.

Without you, we are ignorant,
weak, selfish and sinful.

Help us to see the way forward
as we journey towards eternal life,
and we ask you to guide us,
so that we can Walk Together to share with others your
Mercy and Peace

Amen

Together,
listening
to the
Holy Spirit,
let us be led
by God



4

A reading from Sacred Scripture Luke 24. The Road to Emmaus

Two of the disciples were on their way to a village called Emmaus,
twelve kilometres from Jerusalem
and they were talking together about all that had happened.
And it happened that as they were talking together and discussing it,
Jesus himself came near and was walking with them;
but their eyes were prevented from recognising him.

...

Then they said to each other,
'Did not our hearts burn within us as he talked to us on the road
and explained the scriptures to us?'



www.synod.va 5

5

Rules of engagement

1. These conversations are a safe place to talk
— we treat each other and what anyone says with respect.
2. One person speaks at a time.
3. We listen with an open mind.
4. At intervals we may stop to reflect and pray.
5. Our purpose is dialogue:
To advance the conversation, please avoid arguing or
seeking to advance a personal agenda.



www.synod.va 6

6

Rules of engagement

6. We limit how long we speak so that everyone has time to share.
7. Initially, we each speak once until everyone has had an opportunity to share.
8. As participants, when we tell others of our experience of the consultation, we will not attribute anything we share to particular people or groups.
9. After the parish meetings, a summary of our discernments will be provided to our parishes.



www.synod.va

7

7

Before Easter 2023, Bishops, Priests and Laity met
in the Continental Phase of the
Walking Together Synod,
in preparation for the Synod on Synodality in Rome.

In Catholic Leamington we can move forward on some areas
identified after analysing our Walking Together Report:

- Building community spirit;
- Becoming more inclusive / welcoming;
- Deepening and sharing our faith;
- Prioritising young people;
- Improving parish infrastructure



www.synod.va

8

Our process today

Today we focus on some of the questions arising from our Walking Together report in Catholic Leamington.

- The table facilitator will introduce him/herself and a notetaker is invited to bullet point the topics mentioned, this will help the facilitator to reflect on the discussion later on.
- Participants take it in turn to introduce themselves.
- Each question is then addressed in turn.
- The participants listen to one another, without interruption, with their initial thoughts on a question – max. two min. each.
- Having reflected on what others have said, the whole table enters a dialogue, discussing or listening more deeply – max. two min. each.
- There is a pause to ask / discern what should the future look like? – max. two min each.

The questions are designed around five topics to ask:
Where are we now? What might / should it be like? What can we do as a practical move forward?



www.synod.va

9

9

Topic 1. Building community spirit by getting to know one another better and recognising our gifts

What parish activities are there? Where do we witness community?
How do we know about them? What is missing? Who is missing?
What actions / steps are needed to help develop our community?

Topic 2. Becoming more inclusive and welcoming

Who might feel excluded and why?
How can we extend our welcome to those who feel excluded?
How can we welcome newcomers?
What actions / steps are needed to better embrace other Christians in Leamington.



www.synod.va

10

10

Topic 3. Deepening and sharing our faith

How did we learn about our faith? Are we still learning?
 How might we continue to learn about our faith = Adult Ed / resources?
 How do we motivate and support our prayer and worship?
 How can we approach Mission – sharing our faith?

No 4. Prioritizing young people

How are young people served in our Parish?
 What would a vibrant parish for young people look like?
 How can we reach out to families with school-age children?
 How can we help young people continue their faith journey into adulthood?

Topic 5: Improving parish infrastructure

How is communication achieved in our parishes?
 What would good communication look like?
 How can we better use facilities / technology – churches, halls, rooms, gardens?
 How do we build relations between our three parishes, the deanery and the diocese.



www.synod.va 11

11

Thank you for coming

If you would like to say more about any of the questions, please write an e-mail to SynodLeamington@gmail.com and your comments will be included in the process.

Your enabler will provide a form to the steering group after discerning what you have prayed about and discussed today.

Concluding Prayer

*Heavenly Father as we come to the end of our time together
 we thank you for what has been accomplished here today.*

May the matters discussed serve as a catalyst to move us forward as a Church.

This we pray in the name of the Lord Jesus. Amen

St Joseph, Pray for us, St Peter, Pray for us, Our Lady, Pray for us.

Amen.



www.synod.va

12