

“May we experience this Synod in the spirit of Jesus’ fervent prayer to the Father on behalf of His disciples: “that they may all be one” (Jn 17:21). This is what we are called to: unity, communion, the fraternity born of the realisation that all of us are embraced by the one love of God.. And so, brothers and sisters, let us experience this moment of encounter, listening and reflection as a season of grace that, in the joy of the Gospel, allows us to recognise at least three opportunities. First, that of moving not occasionally but structurally towards a synodal Church, an open square where all can feel at home and participate. The Synod then offers us the opportunity to become a listening Church, to break out of our routine and pause from our pastoral concerns in order to stop and listen. To listen to the Spirit in adoration and prayer. Today how much we miss the prayer of adoration; so many people have lost not only the habit but also the very notion of what it means to worship God!

Dear brothers and sisters, may this Synod be a true season of the Spirit!”

Pope Francis

*Address for the Opening of the Synod
October 2021*



“We now ask the Lord to bestow upon us the gifts of Holy Spirit so that we might discern from the Synthesis how best to continue the Lord’s Mission here in Motherwell Diocese in the challenging times ahead. May the Holy Spirit lead us in our search and may Mary’s example and intercession keep us in communion with the Lord and with one another in his Body, the Church.”

Bishop Joseph Toal

*Final Report of the Diocese of Motherwell
for the Diocesan Phase
May 2022*

DIOCESE OF MOTHERWELL
Diocesan Synod Team

“A Communion That Radiates”

FOR A SYNODAL CHURCH



“The People of God have been on the move since Pope Francis convened the whole Church in Synod in October 2021.”

Since then, our Diocese of Motherwell - along with parishes, dioceses, nations, and continents across the world - has worked hard to respond to this invitation for the whole Church.

The work continues - and YOU are invited to become part of that work.



Some of the faithful of the Diocese gathered together in prayer in the Cathedral of Our Lady of Good Aid.

'ADSUMUS'

the official prayer of the Synod

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.

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 of this we ask You, who are at work in every place and time, in the communion of the Father and the Son, forever and ever.

Amen.

AN INVITATION FROM THE DIOCESE

No matter who you are, where you live, the state of your life, whether you are at the heart of your parish or somewhere on the margins of the Church - all are needed at this important moment in the life of the Church.

We ask you to take one of the Prayer Booklets and Prayer Cards and use these to pray for the Synod and for its success, that the Holy Spirit might lead all of us.

FAMILIES AND INDIVIDUALS

The family home is the perfect place to pray daily on behalf of the Church and the work of the Synod. It is also an excellent way by which to pass on the importance of the faith we profess in community every week, when we join together at Mass. Let's make that faith a reality in our homes, too, whether living as part of a family or as individuals living alone.



THE SICK AND HOUSEBOUND

You are especially important to us. You are not forgotten by us. You, too, are a very important part of the Church and your prayers have a particular efficacy which can draw down the power of the Holy Spirit. We ask you to pray, and to pray hard and often, that the work of the Synod might be accomplished in the way the Lord is asking of us in these days, led by the Holy Spirit.



PARISHES AND GROUPS

The liturgical prayer of the Church - primarily the Mass but also the official prayer of the Church, the '*Liturgy of the Hours*' - are excellent ways in which individual parishes and groups can contribute to the building up of the Kingdom of God. We ask you to pray for the Synod and for all those taking part, to remember them daily at Mass in your local parishes.

