

# St. Mary & Modwen's Parish and St. Christopher's Church

## "Walking Together" Questionnaire

Dear Parishioners, the following questionnaire is our response to the Archbishop's letter regarding the Pope's Synod 2021 – 2023. Synod means 'journeying together', or in Diocesan terms **"Walking Together"**, and it involves listening to the Holy Spirit and to each other in order to discern the way forward. Pope Francis wants to hear from the whole Church about what is happening in local parishes and what we think we should all be doing to help make our parishes better.

The "Walking Together" process and the consideration we give to this questionnaire should be a spiritual experience, as we ask the Holy Spirit, in prayer, to grant us his wisdom and grace, that we may be enabled to weigh up what is important for God.

The following questions reflect the three major areas of the Synodal (Walking Together) Journey: Communion, Participation, Mission, as well as our Diocesan priorities and themes: Evangelisation, Formation, Liturgy and Worship, Social Outreach, Families, Young People, Co-Responsibility. This is not designed to be an examination and you do not have to answer all the questions. We do not wish to be too prescriptive, but rather encourage you to address those questions which you feel speak best to your parish community, and the situation in which you find yourself.

### COMMUNION: THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH, FORMATION

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| 1. | In what ways does the Catholic Church enhance your life?   |  |
| 2. | Reflecting on 20 months of the pandemic, how has participation in your parish been affected? Were these issues and/or opportunities there before and how can participation be strengthened moving forward into the future? |  |
| 3. | What are the means by which different voices can be heard in your parish (particularly those on the periphery of parish life)?   |  |
| 4. | How is the Church perceived by members of your family, your friends and work colleagues?   |  |
| 5. | How might the Church improve its decision-making processes?  |  |
| 6. | Which of your concerns does the Church fail or struggle to respond to?   |  |

### PARTICIPATION: LITURGY AND WORSHIP, CO-RESPONSIBILITY

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| 7. | How do you believe your presence at Mass makes a difference? |  |
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| 8.  | Explain what difference does it make in your life to receive the sacraments?   |  |
| 9.  | What part does prayer play in your life and your relationship with God/the Church?   |  |
| 10. | How do you currently participate, personally, in the life of the Church?<br>How much responsibility do you have as an individual?  |  |
| 11. | How do families and young people effectively participate in the life of your parish? What do you do to support them?   |  |
| 12. | How does your parish effectively identify and use the gifts of its people?<br>How can we better enable full participation and co-responsibility in the life of the Church at the parish and diocesan levels? |  |

**MISSION: SOCIAL OUTREACH, EVANGELISATION, OUR DREAM**

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| 13. | If you could describe your local parish fulfilling your dreams and concerns for the whole world and the local community, what would it be like?  |  |
| 14. | How does your experience of parish life allow you to reflect, develop, act on and speak about your faith?  |  |
| 15. | In what ways is the call of Jesus to serve the poor a priority in the Church and especially in our parishes?   |  |
| 16. | What more can we do in our parishes to address the needs of the poor (homeless, lonely, the bereaved, prisoner, the sick, people with addictions, refugees, people with disabilities, those suffer in developing countries .....)? |  |

The space provide for your responses may not be sufficient, if you use additional sheets of paper please reference the question you are responding to and staple the sheets together. The questionnaires are anonymous. Please return your questionnaire by placing in the collection box at the back of Church, posting at the Presbytery or placing in the collection box following the Parish meeting on the 24.2.2022. Please remember this is not an examination, there are no right or wrong answers and you do not have to answer all of the questions.

A very sincere thank-you to all parishioners responding to this questionnaire.