

Walking Together - the Synodal Pathway Journey

To avoid words and phrases that we have to define or explain – such as Synodality, or Synodal Pathway, we are going to use two words that explain simply, clearly and aptly what we mean by Synod: **Walking Together**. This is above all a spiritual journey. We are invited to journey together while always calling upon the Holy Spirit to lead and guide us by praying constant. Walking together calls for actions in the short term, but the purpose of the Synod is broader than this: it is an invitation to discern co-responsibly how we are the Church today. There are three key concepts that shape walking together:

Communion- These conversations lead to conversion to Christ and commitment to active participation in the life of the Church and the mission given by Christ.

Participation - people of God talk with one another and listen to one another about questions that matter.

Mission - the communion exists for a common purpose; mission flows naturally from the experience of walking together: 'listening, discerning, proclaiming'.

Try to make listening your special gift as we grow into the habits of 'listening, discerning and proclaiming'. There will be much to hear, and much to tell. However, the experience of walking together is just as significant as we seek to become, even more, a Synodal Church.

What happens to your responses? Each diocese has been asked to produce a 10-page document which will be submitted to the Bishops' Conference. Following a period of conversation, listening and discernment, the Archdiocese of Birmingham will submit its response to the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales, which will in turn shape the national response and discernment.

However, walking together is not about producing a document, but reflecting upon our experience of the journey. The documentation from the Synod Office in Rome speaks of the Church as being synodal in its very nature. Therefore, this is not a process, but experiencing walking together as an Archdiocese at first hand. Our listening and discernment will feed directly into our Diocesan vision and priorities. Your response will shape our understanding and the implementation of the next stages of our Diocesan vision. The results of this discernment will be available to all, as the responses and findings will be published, alongside the final 10-page document which is the result of the Diocesan discernment. These will be retained and used to implement our Diocesan vision. We hope you will see the fruits of this discernment in action before the Synod of Bishops begins in 2023.



Catholic Parishes of St Mary, Lady of Lourdes

St. Mary's Brierley Hill,
Our Lady of Lourdes, Kingswinford and
Our Lady of Lourdes, Cradley Heath.

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4TH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

30TH JANUARY 2022

PSALM RESPONSE

My lips will tell of your help.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the Way, the Truth and the Life, says the Lord;
no one can come to the Father except through me.

Alleluia!

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Let your face shine on your servant.

Save me in your merciful love.

O Lord, let me never be put to shame, for I call on you.

In today's reading 'Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you...' You matter! You are beloved of the Father. Some of us might have been a surprise to our parents, but you were part of God's plan before creation even came into being. The real reason why you exist is that the Father loves you. Everything has been made by God for a reason - his accomplishing his task is certain - so relax and trust. *Online - adapted*

Ordinary time (C2)	Psalter week 4	Intention/Info
Sunday 29th/30th 4th Sunday of the year	Sat 5pm Mass OH 9.45am Mass BH 11.15am Mass KF	Mari Hue Nung People of the Parish Mavis Geach
Monday 31st St John Bosco		
Tuesday 1st	10am Mass OH 10.30am-11am OH 7.30pm KF	Karen O'Leary Adoration and Confessions Novena
Wednesday 2nd Presentation of the Lord	10am Mass BH 10.30am-11am BH	David Horner Adoration and Confessions
Thursday 3rd	9am Mass	School
Friday 4th	6.30pm KF 7pm Mass KF	Adoration and Confessions John Berry
Saturday 5th St Agatha	5pm Vigil Mass OH	Leslie Hancox
Sunday 5th/6th 5th Sunday of the year	Sat 5pm Mass OH 9.45am Mass BH 11.15am Mass KF	People of the Parish Kevin Doherty Sadie Murphy and family

Please pray for all those whose have died recently especially Fr David Lloyd, Iris Lloyd, those on our January and February deceased lists and for all those whose anniversaries occur this month. May they all rest in peace.

Collections KF 16/1 GA £58.00, Loose £206.80, Pax Christi £81.65, 23/1 GA £83.00, Loose £165.92, Hall hire £510.00, Parking £50.00

BRIERLEY HILL: Craft Group Mon 31st January 2pm to 4pm in Parish Centre
OLD HILL FOODSHARE Tuesday mornings 11am -1pm
KINGSWINFORD: Friday 9.30 - 11.30am Foodbank .

Please pray for all those who are sick including Roger Ward, Fr George Grynowski, William Fawcett, Pauline Bant, Jeanette Amphlett, Dorothy West, Margaret Gilroy, Harold Shackley, Michael Rose, Jill Rowe, James Kearney, Barbara Masterman, Margaret Shipley, Tess Barnsley, Steve Dunn, Lynsey Cooper, Alec Huffer, Kath Emery, Patricia Smith, Roy Davies, Chris and Tony Rylands, Margaret List, Ken Lowe, Peggy Tromans, Rob and Ilona Bryan, Betty Storey, Connie Birch, Stella Jones, Margaret Marlowe, Don Neale, Anne Peters, Jackie Spittle, David Barnsley and Dawn Russon. May the Lord grant them hope and healing.

FOODBANKS - If you are able to donate to them they will be happy to accept your donations. The need is growing so donations are much needed and gratefully received.

SECOND COLLECTIONS - This week and next for Parish debt at BH and OH

Friday Mass times - from this week Mass will be at 7pm not 7.30pm with Adoration and confessions from 6.30pm. Father will also hear Confession after Mass on request.

Foodshare OH -thank you for all the donations of food and cash that have been received. £58.88 has been spent on supplies. This week alone 41 people were supported by your generosity.

Fr David Lloyd - long time Priest at Lower Gornal from 1977 to 2014, passed away on Saturday 22nd. He was well known to many for covering our Masses whenever Fr John Darley was away. Please pray for him and his family.

St Marys School - next Sunday at Brierley Hill some of the children from our school will be reading at Mass and singing with us. It will be lovely to see them so please join in and make them feel welcome. Father is actively encouraging the children and their families to attend Mass more often and to build Parish links with our school.

Online Rosary - Starting Wednesday 2nd there will be an online Rosary via zoom at 7pm. The link will be given on the Parish What's App group or alternatively let Father have your email address and he will send you the link. An opportunity to pray together safely.

Covid restrictions - new guidance has been received from the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales regarding the easing of Covid restrictions. It stresses that the main way to mitigate against infection is to be vaccinated and is strongly encouraged. From next Sunday the stoops will be filled with Holy water and changed weekly. Eucharistic Ministers may resume at Mass but Communion will continue to be under one kind for the time being.

Walking together - see over. Pope Francis wants to hear from the whole Church about what is happening in local parishes. He and Archbishop Bernard Longley would like to know what individuals think we should all be doing to help make our parishes better. We aim to capture your answers to the basic question: What is the Holy Spirit saying to our Church today. This will be done by way of a synodal process. **Next week we will publish the dates of three meetings to discuss the Synodal Pathway. There are three topics so it makes sense for each Church to host a meeting on each topic. Each meeting will be for all Parishioners across all three Churches .** There is more information available on the Diocesan website.

Pope's prayer intention for February: For religious Sisters and consecrated women *We pray for our religious sisters and consecrated women; thanking them for their mission and their courage; may they continue to find new responses to the challenges of our times*