

Sharing our Joys and Sorrows



1st LISTENING GATHERING SYNODAL PATHWAY

MOMENT OF WELCOME

- A warm welcome to everyone
- We are all in the same boat – learning this together
- Simple format for the evening
- Listening to understand
- Our role as Animators



MOMENT OF REFLECTION

Why are we here?

To plant dreams

To have a vision

To allow hope to flourish

To inspire trust

To bind wounds

To weave together relationships

To learn from one another

To create a bright resourcefulness that will

Enlighten our minds

Warm our hearts

And give strength to our hands



MOMENT OF INVITATION

You are warmly invited to:

- Speak from the heart
- To listen deeply to one another
- To share your experience
- To understand one another
- To listen to God's Spirit



MOMENT OF PRAYER



We begin our evening in prayer:

Using the ancient “Adsumus Sancte Spiritus” – “We stand before you, Holy Spirit - a prayer used for centuries at Church gatherings

A prayer that calls upon the Holy Spirit, inviting the Spirit into our conversations, opening us up to the way the Spirit works:

Let us stand to pray together slowly and deliberately:

Synod Prayer

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.

We are weak and sinful; do not let us promote disorder.

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 this we ask of You, who are at work in every place and time,

In the communion of the Father and the Son, forever and ever.

Amen

1st QUESTION FOR THIS EVENING

When you think about your experience of Church, what brings joy?

You are invited to reflect quietly about this before you respond

Music will play as we sit quietly



IN SMALL GROUPS

Your small group leader will invite you to share on the question for a total ofminutes altogether.



When you think about your experience of Church, what brings joy?

Allow each person time to share

Listen to understand each other

When everyone has shared take time to write down, on a Post-It note, what you shared

Groups are invited to display the Post-It notes around the walls of the meeting space

TEA BREAK



An invitation to get a cuppa before we move on to our second question



You can walk around and view what people have written in the POST-IT notes



Music will play to call us back to our groups and settle into the quiet once more

BACK TO SMALL GROUPS— A SCRIPTURE REFLECTION



From the Gospel of Luke:

Now that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem.

They were talking with each other about everything that had happened.

As they talked and discussed these things with each other, Jesus himself came up and walked along with them; but they were kept from recognizing him.

He asked them, “What are you discussing together as you walk along?”

They stood still, their faces downcast.

One of them, named Cleopas, asked him, “Are you the only one visiting Jerusalem who does not know the things that have happened there in these days?”

“What things?” he asked.

2nd QUESTION FOR THIS EVENING

**When you think about your experience of Church
what brings sadness or disappointment?**

You are invited to reflect quietly about this before you
respond

Music will play as we sit quietly



IN SMALL GROUPS

Your small group leader will invite you to share on the question for a total of minutes.

When you think about your experience of Church, what brings sadness or disappointment?

Allow each person time to share

Listen to understand each other

When everyone has shared take time to write down, on a Post-It note, what you shared

Groups are invited to display the Post-It notes around the walls of the meeting space



MOMENT OF THANKS



As we end this second listening experience I invite you to listen carefully to these words from Vatican II document:

“Gaudium et Spes – The Church in the Modern World”

“The joys and the hopes, the griefs and the anxieties of the people of our time,
especially those who are poor or in any way afflicted,
these are the joys and hopes,
the griefs and anxieties of the followers of Christ”.

Thank you

For taking part

For listening well

For sharing openly

For taking the risk of opening your heart

Let's pray the prayer that unites us..... OUR FATHER



Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name.

Thy Kingdom come,
thy will done on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread
and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those who trespass against us
and lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.

Finally, I invite you to share a sign or gesture of PEACE.....

Thank you!