

Synod Recommendations: Leadership and Collaboration

Supporting Priests - 88 votes

The Diocese of Salford Synod 2025 recommends that, building on what is already in place, care and support for priests, whether active or retired, should continue to be a priority and should be further developed in both practical and personal ways

Promoting Collaboration - 73 votes

The Diocese of Salford Synod 2025 recommends that, at local level, parishes and deaneries develop greater collaboration and sharing of resources across a whole range of activities, whether liturgical, catechetical, administrative, social, or outreach

Harnessing Gifts and Talents - 71 votes

The Diocese of Salford Synod 2025 recommends that every parish regularly invites parishioners to review what they might contribute to parish roles and activities, so as to harness the gifts and talents of all individuals, utilizing all ministries and vocations

Understanding Parish Communities - 70 votes

The Diocese of Salford Synod 2025 recommends that each parish community be encouraged to deepen its understanding of the demographics of the population within the parish and their particular needs, enabling every member to have a voice so that they can be supported to take a full and active role in the life of the parish

Empowering Lay People - 51 votes

The Diocese of Salford Synod 2025 recommends that lay people (either as individuals or groups) should be entrusted with responsibility for aspects of pastoral work or ministry

Requiring Parish Leadership Teams - 50 votes

The Diocese of Salford Synod 2025 recommends that the request made by Bishop Arnold through Hope in the Future, that every parish should set up a parish leadership team (with a variety of models), should now become a requirement

Establishing Pastoral Councils - 41 votes

The Diocese of Salford Synod 2025 recommends that, for greater collaboration within and across communities, and to further the involvement of lay people in leadership, pastoral councils should be established at diocesan, deanery and parish levels

Promoting Permanent Diaconate - 36 votes

The Diocese of Salford Synod 2025 recommends that, following the relatively recent establishment of the permanent diaconate within the diocese, more should be done at parish level to demonstrate and explain the value of this ministry of service and so encourage those with this vocation to come forward

Enhancing the role of women - 30 votes

The Diocese of Salford Synod 2025 recommends that, whilst some expectations lie beyond its remit, the diocese should promote every opportunity for women to take on leadership roles at both diocesan and parochial levels

Continuing Synodal Listening - 30 votes

The Diocese of Salford Synod 2025 recommends that the diocese and parishes should, wherever possible and appropriate, retain the synodal listening process as the basis for ongoing decision making.

Synod Recommendations: Spirituality and Formation

Promoting Personal Formation - 90 votes

The Diocese of Salford Synod 2025 recommends that the diocese should produce or share resources (including online) that will facilitate personal spiritual growth, Bible study and better understanding of Church teaching

Commissioning Catechists - 69 votes

The Diocese of Salford Synod 2025 recommends that, following the establishment by Pope Francis of the lay ministry of catechist, the diocese should begin to train people for this role and formally commission them

Promoting Social Action - 69 votes

The Diocese of Salford Synod 2025 recommends that the diocese should provide ongoing formation and pastoral support to clergy and religious on the Church's social mission, teaching and action, through engagement with Caritas and other social action agencies of the Church, including through the induction of new clergy and ongoing training

Developing Adult Education - 68 votes

The Diocese of Salford Synod 2025 recommends that, in order to produce a trained and educated laity, the diocese should establish a specific adult education department which is appropriately staffed and resourced

Promoting Inclusion - 53 votes

The Diocese of Salford Synod 2025 recommends that the diocese encourages greater awareness of issues of inclusion in the church (especially LGBTQ+ issues) by offering opportunities for informed discussion, appropriately led by people able to present Catholic teaching

Sharing Good Practice - 52 votes

The Diocese of Salford Synod 2025 recommends that parishes within each deanery should organise joint liturgical and formation events and share expertise with regard to catechetical programmes and sacramental preparation

Learning from Cultural Diversity - 51 votes

The Diocese of Salford Synod 2025 recommends that each parish should recognise and learn from the diverse cultures present within it, finding ways to celebrate that diversity and using it to enhance the spiritual and liturgical life of the parish

Keeping Churches Open - 49 votes

The Diocese of Salford Synod 2025 recommends that the diocese develop a network of churches that are open to the local community at a particular time each week or month so that people know where they can go for a time of quiet prayer or to meet others for a particular function

Providing Retreats and Pilgrimages - 28 votes

The Diocese of Salford Synod 2025 recommends that the diocese provide and promote a range of retreats and pilgrimages, local and national, encouraging wide participation

Co-ordinating Mass Times - 21 votes

The Diocese of Salford Synod 2025 recommends that parishes in each area co-ordinate the timing of their Sunday and weekday Masses in order to provide more opportunity for people to be able to attend

Synod Recommendations: Young People and Schools

Having a Family Focus - 105 votes

The Diocese of Salford Synod 2025 recommends that, in building a sense of community, as well as in our catechesis and liturgical events, there should be a focus on families and not just on children or young people in isolation

Creating Community for Young People - 91 votes

The Diocese of Salford Synod 2025 recommends that there should be gatherings of young people that provide them with a sense of community among their peers regarding their faith and beliefs, allowing them to practise and develop their faith without judgement

Strengthening School Links - 86 votes

The Diocese of Salford Synod 2025 recommends that parishes build on the links between church and school(s) to strengthen youth involvement and to listen to and understand their views on modern life and how it fits with faith

Evangelising through Social Media - 53 votes

The Diocese of Salford Synod 2025 recommends that young people be encouraged to be social media missionaries to 'hard to reach groups'

Hearing the Voice of Young People - 51 votes

The Diocese of Salford Synod 2025 recommends that we continue to hear the voice of young people through an ongoing listening exercise and the establishment of youth councils in each parish or at deanery or diocesan level

Promoting Vocations - 50 votes

The Diocese of Salford Synod 2025 recommends that the diocese develop ways of supporting the exploration of vocations amongst young people

Trusting Young Leaders - 42 votes

The Diocese of Salford Synod 2025 recommends that young people should be trusted to take on leadership roles within the Church where they would also be accompanied by adults

Caring for Our Common Home - 26 votes

The Diocese of Salford Synod 2025 recommends that young people, whilst often leading the way in environmental action, be assisted to understand why care of the environment is important from a faith perspective

Delivering Social Justice - 23 votes

The Diocese of Salford Synod 2025 recommends that young people be encouraged and assisted to be voices of change especially around social justice and delivering action

Networking Youth Work - 19 votes

The Diocese of Salford Synod 2025 recommends that every parish should have a formal link with the Diocesan Youth Service

Synod Recommendations: Community and Outreach

Developing Outward Looking Parishes - 89 votes

The Diocese of Salford Synod 2025 recommends that, to foster Christ-like care, parishes should be outward looking, going beyond their church buildings and their congregations to engage with the wider community and serve the needs of others (e.g. supporting a neighbour or local charity)

Encouraging Participation - 71 votes

The Diocese of Salford Synod 2025 recommends that parishes and organisations produce a guide covering a menu of activities and events they offer and invite individuals to select from it as they wish, encouraging and enabling everyone (especially new parishioners) to participate in all aspects of life at parish, deanery or diocesan level

Developing Welcome Teams - 69 votes

The Diocese of Salford Synod 2025 recommends that, building on the good practice established by necessity during the Covid pandemic, all parishes should retain and develop the welcome team as a feature of parish life

Combatting Poverty and Disadvantage - 66 votes

The Diocese of Salford Synod 2025 recommends that the diocese and parishes ensure the voices of those experiencing poverty, homelessness and disadvantage are heard and acted upon, putting the necessary resources and support in place

Drawing Others In - 54 votes

The Diocese of Salford Synod 2025 recommends that parishes within a deanery work more closely with each other both to create stronger relationships and to more effectively reach those who are isolated or find themselves cut off from the Church

Promoting the Common Good - 52 votes

The Diocese of Salford Synod 2025 recommends that the diocese and parishes play a confident, proactive and prophetic role in civic society to address issues of injustice in local areas by promoting the common good through direct engagement

Working with Other People of Faith - 48 votes

The Diocese of Salford Synod 2025 recommends that ecumenical and inter-faith relationships should be nurtured and developed at local and diocesan levels

Communicating Effectively - 48 votes

The Diocese of Salford Synod 2025 recommends that the diocese should continue to develop policy and the provision of training for effective communication at diocesan and parish levels

Providing Community Space - 25 votes

The Diocese of Salford Synod 2025 recommends that parishes should open churches up for greater community use (community hubs)

Working in Partnership - 16 votes

The Diocese of Salford Synod 2025 recommends that parishes be encouraged to lead on and engage with open community forums with wider participation than just the Catholic community