



## DIOCESE OF SALFORD SYNOD 2023-2025



### 'THE BIG LISTEN' AT CHRISTMAS



Over the Christmas period we often have the opportunity to engage with members of our parish and school communities who may not attend our churches regularly. As we come together in our Diocesan Synod to ask what God is asking of His Church in our diocese, this is a group of people who we can listen to and who we should ask to join us our journey.

Please consider sharing the various ways individuals can respond to the Synod over the festive period.

Here are just some ways you can engage with 'The Big Listen' over the Christmas period. There will be several other ways, and if you have any other ideas, please let us know by emailing [synod@dioceseofsalford.org.uk](mailto:synod@dioceseofsalford.org.uk) so we can share them with others and celebrate them online. We thank you for your involvement with these and wish you a blessed Christmas and a happy new year when it comes.

- Signpost those attending Christmas Masses/carol services to the Online Form on the Synod webpage.
- Please display a poster at the back of church encouraging people to share their thoughts. You may wish to use the poster we have produced which can be download here (poster 2 on page 2), [www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/Synod-Big-Listen-Posters.pdf](http://www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/Synod-Big-Listen-Posters.pdf)
- Include the following in your newsletter, website and social media:



#### **'The Big Listen' - We want to hear from you!**

Do you want to help shape the future of our diocese? Would you like to help us better understand what God is asking of our Church? We want to hear from you as we begin The Big Listen for our diocesan Synod. You can share your thoughts with us online by via our Synod Portal. Scan the QR code or visit [www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk/faith/synod/](http://www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk/faith/synod/) to access the questions for The Big Listen and submit your response.



- Print copies of 'Synod Form for Individuals aged 18 and over' and leave these at the back of church. Completed forms can either be handed to the Parish Synod Members (to either forward to the Synod Office or type the responses into the Portal) or emailed or posted direct to the Synod Office. The form is available at [www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/Diocese-of-Salford-Synod-Individual-18-and-over.docx](http://www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/Diocese-of-Salford-Synod-Individual-18-and-over.docx)
- Have conversations with family and friends who may no longer practice their Faith or attend Mass. If the opportunity arises, you may wish to ask them informally about their hopes and concerns and about what they sense the role of the Catholic Church is in this time and place. Synod Members may then wish to submit a summary of the conversation onto the Synod Portal.

- Arranging a display at the back of church about the Synod and/or a Listening Wall as suggested on page 7 of the Synod resource for Members, [www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/%E2%80%98THE-BIG-LISTEN-Additional-Resources-for-Synod-Members-October-2023-1.pdf](http://www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/%E2%80%98THE-BIG-LISTEN-Additional-Resources-for-Synod-Members-October-2023-1.pdf)

If you have any questions about the Synod please email [synod@dioceseofsalford.org.uk](mailto:synod@dioceseofsalford.org.uk) or telephone 0161 817 2222