

OUR LADY STAR OF THE SEA PARISH, MUMBLES, SWANSEA

THE SYNOD

In October 2021, Pope Francis opened the XVI Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops. It will be a three-year 'synodal journey' (2021-2023) consisting in three phases of consultations and discernment at diocesan, continental and universal levels. Its theme is: ***For a Synodal Church: communion, participation, and mission.*** We are currently in the diocesan phase which begins with consultations at the parish level. The consultation questions below have been made available to parishes. In the new year, there will be an opportunity for parishioners to meet, in a facilitated meditation session, to consider these questions. In the meantime, we will welcome responses from parishioners. You do not need to respond to all questions. Responses will be collated by parish volunteers (facilitators) who will send them to the diocesan team. Thank you very much.

How to send responses

1. Email responses should be sent to: **mumbles@menevia.org**

2. Paper-based responses should be mailed to:

The Parish Priest
22 Devon Place, Mumbles,
SA3 4DR

QUESTION 1

What is my dream for the Church so that it can become more outward looking, more missionary, especially towards those on the margins?

QUESTION 2

How is God speaking to us through voices we sometimes ignore? What space is there for the voice of minorities, especially people who experience poverty, marginalization, or social exclusion?

QUESTION 3

What enables or hinders speaking up courageously, candidly, and responsibly in our local Church and in society?

QUESTION 4

How do prayer and liturgical celebrations actually inspire and guide our common life and mission in our community?

QUESTION 5

What hinders the baptised from being active in mission? How does the community support its members who serve society in various ways (social and political involvement, scientific research, education, promoting social justice, protecting human rights, caring for the environment, etc.)?

QUESTION 6

How are divergences of vision, or conflicts and difficulties addressed? What particular issues in the Church and society do we need to pay more attention to? How does the Church dialogue with and learn from other sectors of society: the spheres of politics, economics, culture, civil society, and people who live in poverty?

QUESTION 7

To what extent do we share our journey with members of other Christian traditions and denominations? What fruits have we drawn from walking together?

QUESTION 8

How is authority or governance exercised within our local Church? How are teamwork and co-responsibility put into practice? How are evaluations conducted and by whom? How are lay ministries and the responsibility of lay people promoted?

QUESTION 9

Is there freedom to exercise our particular ministry in the Church and participate in this common work of discernment and decision-making?

QUESTION 10

What additional formation do I need to be a missionary disciple? What tools are necessary for the Church to be truly synodal, listening and journeying together?