

A FUTURE FULL OF HOPE and the Synod

Synod on Youth, Faith & Vocational Discernment

Mock Synod for parishes and Schools

This resource is for confirmation groups, youth groups and Secondary schools to use in preparation for, and during the Synod on Youth, Faith & Vocational discernment, which takes place during October 2018.

You will need....

- A safe and comfortable place to meet
- Refreshments and snacks
- A copy of the Final document of the Pre-Synodal meeting for the Synod to expand on the quotes
- Laptop & projector with sound
- A copy of the 'Synod Youth delegate' video
- Copies of Pope Francis' letter to young people, with the video of young people reading it.
- Quote cards to begin discussion
- Pens, paper, flip chart
- Synod scripture (Road to Emmaus. Luke 24:13-35) and Synod prayer
- Volunteers to help you (Be aware of Diocesan Safeguarding ratio's)

All documents and videos can be found on the Synod pages of cliftondiocese.com



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How to run your Mock Synod:

- Begin by welcoming everyone and saying the Synod prayer together
- If required, begin with a simple icebreaker or name game
- Give a brief introduction to the Synod using the Powerpoint presentation provided
- Divide your group into pairs or small groups who can explore each of the Synod quotes and feedback to the main group
- Explanation of the session:

'We are all going to take part in a *Mock Synod* that will mirror what is taking place in Rome during October. We will be exploring some of the topics and quotes from the working document and giving some feedback to the main group about what we think.

A few things to remember;

⇒ listen carefully to each other

⇒ respect people's opinion's

⇒ Pope Francis has called this Synod because He believes in you and wants you to feel part of our Church and loved by God.

We'll spend some time looking at our quotes and you'll have time to prepare your feedback on this topic. Your presentation can be in any format you wish and should be no longer than 3 minutes long (That's how long the Bishop's have!).

Then as a group we will think about what we have discovered, if we have changed our opinion's on anything and how do we as young people can go forward from the Synod and be young disciples of Jesus.

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How to run your Mock Synod Cont'

- Give out the topic cards and ask the group to read them carefully, making a few notes and discussing what it means to them. 7-8 mins

They can use the whole quote or just a few words depending on their age (e.g. Young people aged between 12-14 might be asked to just pick out a few words and increase it if they are older)

- Clarify any meanings using the document to give the context
- Ask the groups to begin making their presentation (15-20 mins)
- Each group to present their thoughts on their quote (3 mins max)
- After each group has presented spend a few minutes debriefing the activity exploring these questions:
 - ⇒ What have you heard?
 - ⇒ What topics are most relevant to your life now? (e.g. Social media, Social Justice, discovering what you want to be when you're older etc)
 - ⇒ Has anything changed your view of the Catholic Church or of religion?
 - ⇒ What would you like to see in your Parish/School that would help you to feel that you belong to your community and would help you develop/grow in Faith?
- Conclude by encouraging the young people to interact with the Synod on social media by following @cliftonyouth on Instagram & Twitter, and linking up directly with the Coordinator of Youth Ministry when he is in Rome for the Synod 15th—19th October.
- Thank everyone for taking part and affirm their contribution.
- Finish by saying the Synod prayer.

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Interact with the Synod

During the week of 15th—19th October 2018, Dave Wheat, Diocesan Coordinator of Youth Ministry and Abigail Mounter, Lay Chaplain of St Bede's Catholic College, Bristol, are attending the CYMFed (Catholic Youth Ministry Federation) conference in Rome.

There are different ways that Parishes and Schools can interact with them during their time at the Synod:

Social media

Follow @cliftonyouth on either Instagram or Twitter

@cymfed on Twitter

@synod2018 on Instagram & Twitter

@catholicchurch on Instagram & Twitter

Live link-up

Schedule a live link-up with Dave & Abbey to discover what they are doing each day (technology & Wifi access permitting) We will use Skype or Facebook live for this.

Email in a few questions for Dave & Abbey to answer and find the response video's on cliftondiocese.com or on social media

Selfie Challenge: Send us suggestions of people to get a selfie with (Pope Francis will not be available!!)

Send us prayer requests. We will use our time of prayer to pray these and for all our parishes and schools.

Diocesan website

Each day there will be an update on the Synod and CYMFed Conference.

Visit cliftondiocese.com