

Sharing the Good News

Clonmacnoise,
Co Offaly

Work of Synthesis underway for Synodal Process

As local listening processes have been getting underway around the country, Dr Nicola Brady, chairperson of the Steering Committee of the Irish Synodal Pathway, spoke about questions that are frequently asked at parish level about the Synodal Process in an exclusive interview with *Intercom* magazine.

Dr Brady explained that the term synod comes from the Greek for 'together on the way'. Synodality is a way of being Church, it is a spiritual practice and not just a debate about how the Church is organised. It is intended to facilitate a wide-ranging process of reflection and discernment. Dr Brady emphasised that all of the faithful are invited to take part in the Synodal Pathway. She said, "We want to convey to people that the invitation is open to everyone to get involved."

Following completion of the listening for the Universal Synod involving discussions at local parish and diocesan level - and the subsequent synthesising of the findings at diocesan level a National Pre-Synodal Assembly will take place in Athlone on 18 June, with a closing liturgy in Clonmacnoise, before the final submission to the Vatican.



Dr Nicola Brady

Photo: Liam McArdle

"The level of engagement with the local listening to date has been encouraging, and it is hoped that this will provide a strong foundation for the planning work for Ireland's national synodal pathway," Dr Brady said.

You can read the full interview with Dr Nicola Brady in the June 2022 issue of *Intercom* magazine and on its website www.intercommagazine.ie.



*And they were filled
with the Holy Spirit.*

Acts 2:4

Pentecost Sunday designated as a Day of Prayer in Thanksgiving for the Diocesan Phase of the Universal Synod

Pentecost Sunday, which this year falls on Sunday 5 June, has been designated as a Day of Prayer in Thanksgiving for the diocesan phase of the Universal Synod. Pentecost Sunday offers us all an opportunity to give thanks for the prayerful engagement and listening that has taken place across the country as we journey together synodally.

The Synodal Pathway has prepared liturgical resources including Homily Notes and Prayers of the Faithful, which are now available on www.synod.ie and on www.catholicbishops.ie.

National Pre-Synodal Assembly to take place on 18 June

A National Pre-Synodal Assembly will take place in Athlone on Saturday 18 June. Commenting ahead of the gathering, Dr Nicola Brady said, "As diocesan delegates and representatives of the National Steering Committee and other participating groups gather in Athlone to prepare the national synthesis, we would appreciate your prayers for a day of courageous listening, meaningful sharing and a renewed commitment to being a missionary Church."

See www.synod.ie for more information.

