

Responses to a questionnaire by those Diocesan Synod members who completed it  
at Oxford Diocesan Synod on 14 June 2025

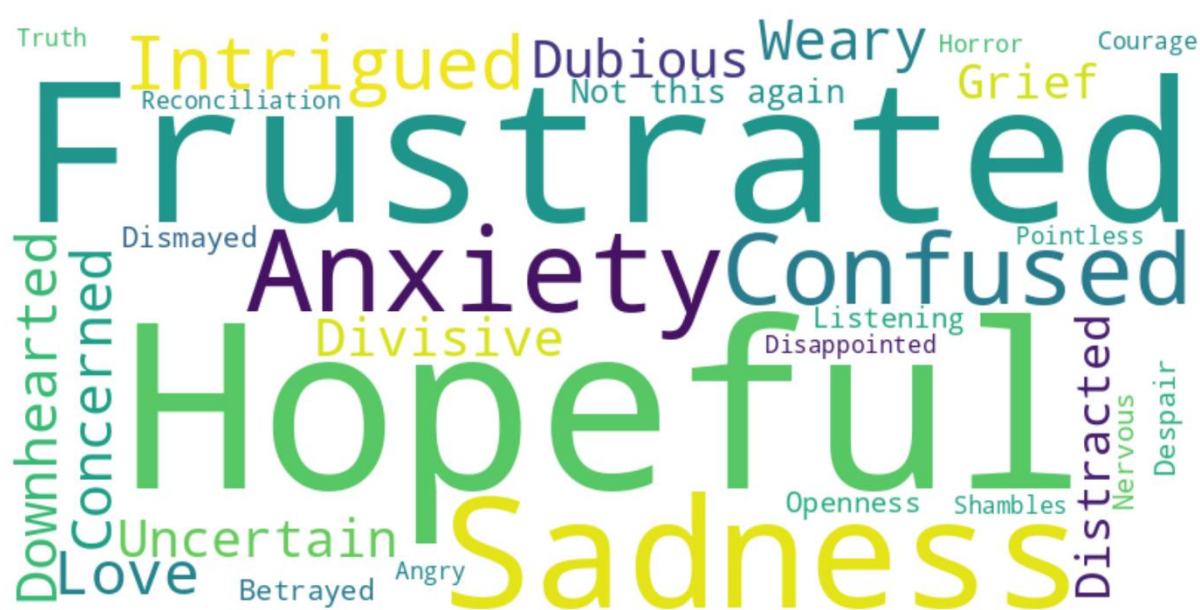
**1. How familiar are you with the LLF process to date?**

93 Diocesan Synod members responded.

Very familiar	55	59%
Familiar	34	36.5%
Not familiar	4	4%

**2. What three words describe your feelings about participating in this conversation today?**

238 words were listed, several multiple times.



**3. Have you had conversations about this topic in any of the following contexts?**

There were 254 responses as many signified they'd had conversations in more than one place.

Informal settings	61	24%
Other meetings	57	22%

PCC meetings	55	21%
LLF course	44	17%
Sermon series	23	9%
Not a feature of conversations	14	5.5%

#### 4. How well do you understand what is being proposed?

92 people responded to this question.

Understand it very well	24	26%
Understand it	26	31%
Difficult to describe	30	32%
Little understanding	6	6.5%
Very little understanding	8	8.6%

#### 5. What is your view of the use of Prayers of Love and Faith?

92 people responded to this question.

Firmly against	32	35%
Against	8	9%
No particular view	9	10%
In favour	20	21%
Strongly in favour	23	25%

#### 6. What is your view of the current pastoral reassurance provisions for those unable to accept PLF? For the purposes of this questionnaire, Pastoral Reassurance means:

- Bishops' Statement
- Independent Panel
- Local Schemes for provision of ministry
- Ongoing conversations nationally

79 people responded.

Firmly against	30	38%
Against	7	9%
No particular view	20	25%
In favour	18	23%
Strongly in favour	4	5%

## **7. What further guidance, if any, will be most useful?**

59 Diocesan Synod members provided their views. These fell into a series of themes:

- The need for more clarity, certainty, and a nationally coherent strategy including regular updates from the national church and the working groups on progress.
- Further clarity was also sought on the pastoral reassurance question (eleven separate responses listed this), and a form of guidance requested which could be used when talking to parishes.
- Many responses added that until General Synod had voted on canon law B2, progress would be limited.
- Vulnerability felt by those on both sides of the discussion (clergy and laity) regarding how this process might impact their roles, including legal reassurances for those electing not to use PLF, and acting in line with their consciences.
- The tension this may create between clergy/laity and their parish and PCCs was highlighted, with several calling for greater weight to the views of the worshipping community.
- The timing, perceived lack of progress and delays were given as sources of frustration.
- Delegated episcopal ministry was felt to be not robust (rather more dependent on postcode) but also necessary, with a request for more clarity on how it would work. Some felt it to be insufficient, incoherent and unworkable.