

Communication from the Synod Executive  
of the Diocese of Western Newfoundland  
April 14, 2026

To the Faithful of the Diocese of Western Newfoundland:

On April 13, 2026, a special meeting of the Synod Executive was called to discuss our upcoming Electoral Synod. After lengthy, prayerful, and diligent consideration, the Executive Committee recognized that hasty decisions have been made, particularly given the reality in which we have found ourselves this past year.

We have made the difficult decision to cancel the Electoral Synod scheduled for April 25, 2026.

We realize and admit that within this past year, there has been much hurt and pain, not just for the Cathedral parish who has felt the pain the strongest, but for the Diocese as a whole. We are in need of healing within a period of time that cannot be forced.

Healing and reconciliation must be a priority for the life of the Diocese. We need to address this in order to move forward with respect and dignity as we elect a new Bishop for our Diocese.

The Executive is actively pursuing avenues to provide pastoral care for all concerned, including asking the Metropolitan to appoint a retired bishop to assist in that task as we move forward.

We know that this will come as a shock and disappointment to some, while to others it will come as welcome news. At this time, we ask for your continued prayers for our Diocese and for all involved.



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The Rev. Cynthia Haines Turner,  
Co-chair, Synod of Western Newfoundland