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Dear brother of the Catenian Association in Great Britain,

VOTE

I am writing to you as we embark on the process to ***read, discuss, discern then vote*** on the motion to change our membership criteria. While it is a motion that, under our Rules, has been sent out to all the members of the Association, its impact will be felt most here in Great Britain as the largest part of our Association, as well as the origin of the motion.

Today, I'd like to echo what I've said in the pages of Catena and encourage you to take time personally and collectively in your Circle to discuss and discern the issue before you. I expect the outcome of the vote will put the Association in Great Britain on a specific path for some years to come. Therefore, knowing that you will want the best for our Association's future, as much as for its present, I encourage you to ***engage fully in the process*** and vote.

Between articles and letters in Catena, the video clips from the conference, the "Answers to frequently asked questions", the original "For" and "Against" papers from conference and other sources, let alone the conversations you will have with fellow members and family, I hope you feel you have enough information to make an informed decision.

In preparing the FAQs, we've gone through our social channels, received some direct approaches and had questions reported up through your Director channels in the Provinces. I am indebted to Stuart McNeil, Director Province 17 for compiling the first drafts which have been shared with two Catenian, recently retired lawyers with relevant experience, one of my colleagues who was a partner in a City law firm and through a Catenian, we have had access to an employee of the Equality and Human Rights Commission. Given that combination of expertise, I trust we have provided the best answers for your consideration.

However, it's now down to you to decide where the Association in Great Britain goes next. Let me finish with the mantra with which I started this note; ***please read, discuss, discern (ask the Holy Spirit's help) and vote*** as you determine the path we will now take,

Gerry McCormack, GB National Council President 2025/26

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