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## **England and Wales: Catholic and Anglican bishops meeting in Norwich. Welby (Primate) to SIR, “spirituality and coexistence to grow in unity”**

“These meetings between Catholic and Anglican bishops, that we are holding every two years, are very important. During my eleven years as Archbishop of Canterbury, I have been able to experience first-hand how these are opportunities for spirituality and coexistence that bring the two Churches closer together and make them grow in unity”. With these words, Archbishop Justin Welby, theological leader of the Church of England and the Anglican Communion, told SIR news agency about the beginning of the two-day ecumenical meeting that brings together some fifty Catholic and Anglican bishops in Norwich, the capital city of Norfolk, north east of England. “This is a fundamental opportunity because it gives us the chance to listen, together, to the Spirit of God, to pray, study and think together, and also to acknowledge the work we still have to do to achieve unity. As pastors of the Catholic and Anglican Churches, we share the same country, the United Kingdom, and, in our two Churches, we face the same challenges”. “I think that Pope Francis’ pontificate and the synodal path that the Catholic Church has embarked on have facilitated ecumenical dialogue. And it seems very significant to me that we are meeting right here, in Norwich, where Catholics and Protestants fought one another during the Reformation, to testify to the great progress made by the two Churches in dialogue over the last thirty to forty years”, the Anglican Primate concluded.

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