

# Journeying Together Synod on Synodality



## **KEY DATES:**

- May 31, 2022, the Diocesan Synod
   Team submits 10-Page Synod report to
   Bishop Parkes.
- June 30, 2022, Bishop Parkes is scheduled to submit the Diocesan Report to the USCCB.
- October 2023 Bishops from around the world gather in Rome for prayer, dialogue and discernment related to the findings of the diocesan/continental phases of the Synod.



### **IMPORTANT INFORMATION:**

- Through listening and discernment rooted in the Holy Spirit, the entire people of God will be called to contribute to the Synod process by which the Church deepens in understanding of Her mission and looks toward the future.
- A Synod is not just a convening of Bishops reflecting on a particular topic, such as the Synod on the Family. A Synod is also a journey of discernment, in which the people of God are called to pray and reflect upon the Holy Spirit's will for the Church. Through our listening and our sharing, we will seek to understand what the Holy Spirit's will is for the Church.
- A Synod is not about changing Church teaching but about listening to what the Holy Spirit is speaking into the hearts of the faithful.

# How will the findings be communicated?

- The USCCB plans to publish the report it will send to the Continental meeting in early 2023.
- The Holy Father typically publishes an apostolic exhortation based on the Synod findings, which comes out within a year or two after the close of the Synod.
- The Diocese of St. Petersburg will share highlights of the Diocesan Synod Report with the community, but details are still to be determined.
- All parishes have their own Synod report that they can communicate about and take action on immediately.



# First Outcome: Parish Growth Summit

"We heard repeatedly during the Synod process people's deep desire for others to develop a close relationship with Christ and His Church. They expressed concern and disappointment that many are not practicing their faith and hoped that they would come back," said Dr. Lois Locey, Chancellor for Administration, Diocese of St. Petersburg. Bishop Gregory Parkes heard this and shares the same concerns.

"Instead of just lamenting, we, as a united diocese, are taking action...We are going to go and proclaim the Kingdom of God and invite others into a deeper relationship with God and others," added Dr. Locey, who is also an Adjunct Professor at the Center for Church Management at Villanova University.





We had over 150

Synod Sessions
with over 6,000
participants. We had
over 200 Faith Poll
responses.





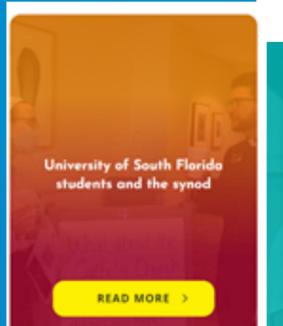
We listened to the

Holy Spirit and to

one another, individuals
from all walks of life...

Catholics and non-Catholics.

we journeyed together in prayer, dialogue, and hope.





## #ForASynodalChurch - Newsletter



22 April 2022

## University of South Florida Students at Synod

Format:

Type:

Organization:

An Article about the Synod Event at USF was shared on the Vatican's Website and E-Newsletter!

synodresources.org/resource\_post/246417/



## Journeying Together

The Diocese of St. Petersburg is taking part in a global consultation process led by Pope Francis known as the "Synod on Synodality." We start here at home and we journey together. Our prayers and reflections will contribute to a report to be presented to Pope Francis during the Synod of Bishops at the Vatican in October of 2023. The path below explains various ways that we can all participate in this journey that leads to communion and a greater sense of purpose and mission.

#### Deepening Communion December 2021

This is an opportunity for us to grow as Disciples of Christ through a process known as synodality and discernment. Nine Diocesan gatherings will be held. All are welcome!

#### Learning to Listen January - February 2022

This is an opportunity for us to grow in our prayer life so that we can perceive how the Holy Spirit is leading us as people of faith and as a Church. Nine Diocesan gatherings will be held. All are welcome!

# Learning to Journey Together Ongoing

Through listening, consultation and collaboration, we plan to strengthen our diocesan and parish councils and commissions. Let us journey together to carry out Christ's ministries and mission throughout our Diocese. All are welcome!





