

Journeying Together

Synod on Synodality



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COURAGEOUSLY
Living the Gospel

Journeying Together

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156 Synod Sessions

6,500 participants

207 responses to online survey

19 individual letters to the Bishop

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Diocesan Phase Participation:
November 4, 2021 – April 11, 2022

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Special Discernment Sessions for:

Deacons
Religious
Youth & Young Adults
University Students
Migrant Workers
Prisoners
Homeless
Sick & Homebound



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Diocesan Phase Participation:
November 4, 2021 – April 11, 2022

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Special Discernment Sessions for:

Catholics who experience same-sex attraction

Family members of the former Non-Catholic Christians (including a schismatic community)

Those who claim no religious affiliation



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Diocesan Phase Participation:
November 4, 2021 – April 11, 2022



Consensus from the Synod Sessions
centered on Two
Questions developed from the
“**FUNDAMENTAL QUESTION**”:

What are we (the Church) doing well?

What is the Holy Spirit leading the Church
to do better?

Criteria for inclusion into Results – ideas
and feedback mentioned as consensus in
2 or more Deanery Synod Sessions or 3 or
more Parish Synod Sessions

What are we (the Church)
doing well? *How is this
“journeying together” happening
today in your local Church?*

- Abundance of opportunities to the faithful for prayer and for service
- Clergy who listen to their flocks and their concerns with attention and care
- Generosity of the Church’s charitable works and ability to participate in them.



What are we (the Church) doing well?

How is this “journeying together” happening today in your local Church?

- Beautiful liturgy and music
- Good homilies
- Excellent Catholic schools,
- Wide array of opportunities offered for formation, especially for adults and through engaging Scripture
- Successful ministries of outreach, especially to the homebound,



What are we (the Church) doing well?

How is this “journeying together” happening today in your local Church?

- Sense of community, hospitality, and diversity that pervades parish life
- Success of small groups in supporting participants to live out their faith
- Inspiring leadership of Pope Francis and Bishop Parkes.





What consensus emerged regarding what the Holy Spirit calls the Church to do better?
“What steps does the Spirit invite us to take in order to grow in our ‘journeying together’”?

5 Themes Emerged



5 Themes Emerged

Theme #1: Outreach and evangelization, especially to Youth, Young Adults and those who are connected with the Church

Theme #2: Failure to Listen and Poor Communication

Theme #3: Lack of Sense of Community nor a Sense of Unity in the Community

5 Themes Emerged



Theme 4: Lack of Engagement with Scripture, ecumenism and a Need for Vocations, greater attention to the role of and leadership opportunity for women & pastoral sensitivity for and outreach to Catholics who experience same-sex attraction

5 Themes Emerged



Theme 5: More opportunities for the Sacrament of Reconciliation & More opportunities for Small Groups. Greater Clarity and appreciation of Catholic Moral and Social Teaching; Pastoral sensitivity for the divorced or Divorced & Civilly Remarried; Problem with Clericalism, Threat of polarization in the Church



Target Groups:

- **Hispanic Community:** Need for Church Unity especially across divides of language & ethnicity
 - Need for more Spanish-speaking priests
- **Migrant Community:** pastoral care, education and family support to assist in their witnessing to their faith and ability to evangelize
- **African American Catholics:** Racism in society and the Church
- **Homebound:** Outreach to them & to those grieving



Target Groups:

- **Youth:** Greater, more pronounced sense of Community
- **Young Adults:** Need for more formation & Greater accessibility, overcome judgmentalism in the Church and greater degree of courage, clarity and compassion by ecclesiastical leadership



On-line Survey

- The themes of the synod session were also expressed plus
- Greater attention to widows and widowers
- More opportunities to participate in the Mass according to the 1962 Roman Missal

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- Preparing Final Report for Bishop's Review
- By mid-June: Issuing 2-page Executive Summary for parish bulletins
- Placing Executive Summary and Full Bulletin at:
www.dosp.org/Synod
- Turning in report to the USCCB no later than by June 30.

NEXT STEPS

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IMMEDIATELY we are working on:

- Transformational Parish Growth Summit addresses #1 Theme.
- Fervently working on communication to our parishes and the faithful
- Parish Consultative/Synodal Bodies

NEXT STEPS

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THANK YOU FOR YOUR LEADERSHIP

- Closing liturgy on June 14 at the Cathedral Chapel
- General Intercessions at the parish level for the weekend Masses

Honorable Closure