

PREPARING OUR HEARTS AND VOICES

As we prepare to enter into
this experience of Church
we invite you to prepare through
reflection and prayer.



For a synodal Church

communion | participation | mission

"The Synodal Process is first and foremost a spiritual process.
It is not a mechanical data-gathering exercise or a series of meetings and debates.

Synodal listening is oriented towards discernment."*

We are being invited to listen to the Holy Spirit in the voices of the faithful.

ATTITUDES TO CULTIVATE

Listening

We are called to listen humbly and to speak courageously; to listen in a manner that invites others to share authentically while we ourselves share our experiences and hopes with mercy and charity.

Newness and Conversion

We are invited to embrace the action of the Holy Spirit, particularly in the ways in which the Spirit inspires us to new views and new ways of being Church.

Allowing God to Lead

We are called to allow the Spirit to direct us. To set aside our own expectations so that we can listen more clearly to what God desires of us.

Focus on others

"The Synodal Process is an opportunity to open up, to look around us, to see things from other points of view, and to move out in missionary outreach to the peripheries".

LEAVE BEHIND

Self-centeredness

We need one another. When we set aside self-centeredness "we are able to learn from each other, journey together, and be at the service of one another."

Division and Discord

We are challenged to suspend our judgments and ideologies in order to enter into dialogue that promotes mutual understanding and unity.

Fear

"For God did not give us a spirit of cowardice but rather of power and love and self-control." 2 Tim 1-7 We are reminded that change is a necessary part of growth and fear inhibits growth.

Self-doubt

The participation of each person is essential for the synodal process to achieve its objective. You are called by virtue of your Baptism, to listen to the Holy Spirit in your life and to share your experience of God and His Church for the good of all His people.

*Vatican Synod Handbook 2.2 - 2.4