



Synod
2021
2023

For a synodal Church
communion | participation | mission

Generally speaking, the Synodal Journey will be undertaken in three Phases

Phase I

- the Focus on the Local Church

Phase II

- Focus on the Continents

Phase III

- XVI ORDINARY GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE SYNOD OF BISHOPS.



John of Damascus

According to John of Damascus, the virtue of discernment "is greater than any other virtue; and is the queen and crown of all the virtues"







**PRAYING
IN THE LIGHT
OF THE
SCRIPTURES**



LISTENING TO EACH OTHER

10 Foci
For our Contemplative Dialogue

- What is my dream for the Church so that it can become more outward looking, more missionary, especially towards those on the margins?
- How is God speaking to us through voices we sometimes ignore? What space is there for the voice of minorities, especially people who experience poverty, marginalization, or social exclusion?
- What enables or hinders speaking up courageously, candidly, and responsibly in our local Church and in society?
- How do prayer and liturgical celebrations actually inspire and guide our common life and mission in our community?

- What hinders the baptised from being active in mission? How does the community support its members who serve society in various ways (social and political involvement, scientific research, education, promoting social justice, protecting human rights, caring for the environment, etc.)?
- How are divergences of vision, or conflicts and difficulties addressed? What particular issues in the Church and society do we need to pay more attention to? How does the Church dialogue with and learn from other sectors of society: the spheres of politics, economics, culture, civil society, and people who live in poverty?
- To what extent do we share our journey with members of other Christian traditions and denominations? What fruits have we drawn from walking together?

- How is authority or governance exercised within our local Church? How are teamwork and co-responsibility put into practice? How are evaluations conducted and by whom? How are lay ministries and the responsibility of lay people promoted?
- Is there freedom to exercise our particular ministry in the Church and participate in this common work of discernment and decision-making?
- What additional formation do I need to be a missionary disciple? What tools are necessary for the Church to be truly synodal, listening and journeying together?

Matthew 14:13-21

Then he broke the loaves and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. And they all ate and were satisfied. And they took up twelve baskets full of the broken pieces left over. And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

