

Synod Information Sheet

Being A Synodal Church

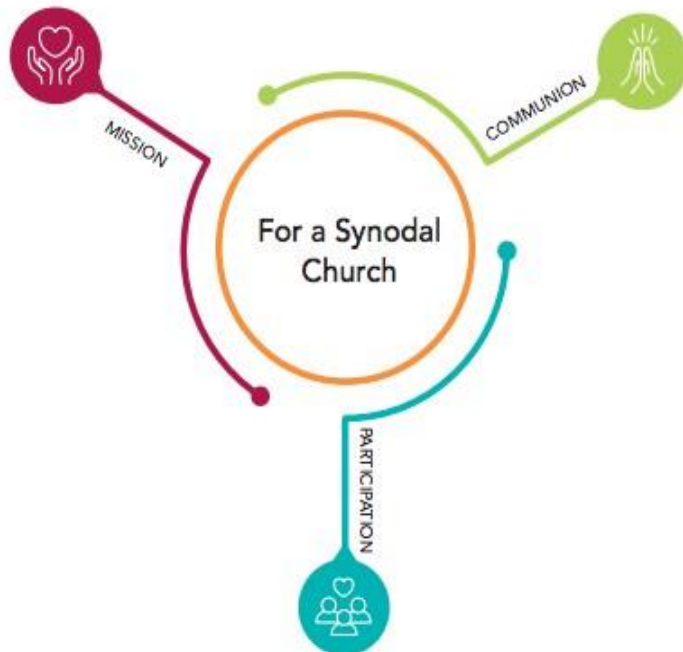
A synod is

- The official process of the Church of listening to the guidance of the Holy Spirit on a particular subject
- This specific Synod is on Synodality. Its focus is on listening to the Holy Spirit on how we can journey better together as Church

Goals of the Synod on Synodality

- To engage as many people as possible in conversation and discernment on what the Holy Spirit is asking of the Church of the 21st Century
- To give prayerful input on the needs of the Church today and the way to speak about the mission of Christ to all people in the world we live today

The KEYS at the Heart of a Synodal Church



- The conversations lead to conversion to Christ and commitment to active participation in the mission of the Church – **COMMUNION**
- Talking and listening to one another about questions that matter – **PARTICIPATION**
- The communion exists for a common purpose: mission flows from the experience of communion – **MISSION**



Being a Synodal Church Requires

- Addressing the basic questions together
- Listening to the Holy Spirit
- Remaining open to the perspectives of others
- Listening, discernment and dialogue, so that the whole People of God can better journey together with one another and the entire human family, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

Together on the Road: Conversations for a Listening Church in the Diocese of London

The theme of this synod is about the very nature of the Church, its way of living and operating as church. It is an opportunity in our parishes, in the diocese and worldwide to listen, learn and together discern how we move along the path toward a more synodal Church. It is a process of listening to one another and to the Holy Spirit to discern a path forward.

This Synod provides opportunities for us to:

- walk together
- understand our diversity
- listen to the Holy Spirit
- anchor ourselves in prayer and the Word of God
- discern together for the good of all
- be open to the unexpected
- take new steps

The Fundamental Question of this Synod

This synod is on synodality itself, which means '*journeying together*'. The Pope would like to hear from the People of God on what the Holy Spirit is saying to our Church today and how we can become a more synodal, listening Church.

The Two Main Questions We are Being Invited to Together Address

What have been your experiences of '*journeying together*' with the Catholic Church?

- What joys did these experiences bring?
- What difficulties and obstacles have you encountered?

As we journey forward together, what are your hopes and dreams for the Church?

For more information or to register for a listening session, visit <https://westmiddlesexcatholic.dol.ca/synod-2021-2023>