

*Fortnightly Newsletter*

For a synodal Church  
 communion | participation | mission

## DATE CHANGE

As reported previously the Vatican has extended the time frame for responses to

**Synod  
2021-2023**

For a synodal Church

With the changes to the Vatican deadline the New Zealand Bishops have moved their milestones. Consequentially the Auckland Diocese time-frame has been adjusted.

Submission are due to the Diocesan office [synod@cda.org.nz](mailto:synod@cda.org.nz) or through the [online response form](#) by **14 April 2022.**

The pre-synodal meeting will be held **10-12 Saturday 14 May.** 10am St Joseph's Takapuna.

### Information for the Listening Church Process



## GO OUT

The goal of the Synod process is to ensure the participation of the greatest number possible, in order to listen to the living voice of the **entire People of God**

## INVITE ALL

We are to make special efforts to actively reach out to people where they're at, especially those who are often excluded or who are not involved in the life of the Church.

## BEING SYNOD TOGETHER -HELP AT HAND

<https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/synod/>

For advice, guidance and resources for this stage of the synod people are encouraged to go to the diocesan website.

As more resources are gathered and further information is released it will be uploaded. If something is missing please let us know at [synod@cda.org.nz](mailto:synod@cda.org.nz) and we will see what we can do.



NDCATHOLIC.ORG.NZ

- Catholic Diocese of Auckland

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The fundamental question for the consultation of the People of God

*A synodal Church, in announcing the Gospel, “journeys together:” How is this “journeying together” happening today in your local Church? What steps does the Spirit invite us to take in order to grow in our “journeying together”?*

(PD, 26)



## TWO SETS OF QUESTIONS?

<https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/WelcomeProcess.pdf>

You may have noticed that there are two sets of questions. Which should you use? Either. We are not completing a survey we are listening to the Spirit through the minds and hearts of individuals.

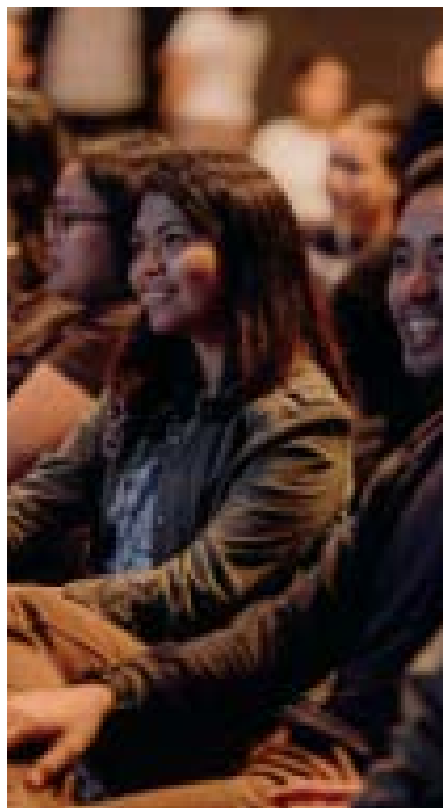
The welcoming process document on the website contains a page of the themes for unpacking the fundamental question. As many or as few themes and questions may be used according to need. On the website the themes are unpacked with more and different questions. Either set or even a mix will work. Remember the themes and questions are tools not an end in themselves.

## SPIRITUAL CONVERSATIONS

<https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/GroupDiscernment.pdf>

The process recommended for discerning the movement of the spirit is to invite people to be part of a **Spiritual Conversation**. Instructions for this process can be found on the website.

It is a suitable method for group dialogue which resonates with the principles of synodality as it promotes active participation, attentive listening, reflective speaking, and spiritual discernment.



## EXPLORING SYNOD

*What ? Why ?*

Synodality indicates walking together and listening to one another but above all listening to the Holy Spirit.

To deepen this essential characteristic of the Church, this synod is unlike any previous one. It starts with, and involves all the faithful at local Churches across the world, promising to listen to all, especially to laypeople.

That is why this Synod is a 2-year process.

*“In the one People of God, therefore, let us journey together, in order to experience a Church that receives and lives this gift of unity, and is open to the voice of the Spirit,”*

Pope Francis

Pope Francis in talking about the Synod stresses that the Synod is an “ecclesial moment”, not a parliament or an investigation into opinions, but “an ecclesial moment” whose protagonist is the Holy Spirit.

*“Without the Spirit, there is no Synod,”*

Pope Francis