



For a Synodal Church Communion, Participation, and Mission

Week 1: Journeying together, announcing the Gospel

Listening Circle:

We have received the Holy Spirit in baptism and confirmation and are endowed with diverse gifts and charisms for the renewal and building up of the Church and society, as members of the Body of Christ.

“The Second Vatican Council reinvigorated the sense that all the baptised are called to be active participants in the saving mission of the Church” (LG, 32-33). Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in[a] the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”(Luke 28:19)

1. How does my calling as a baptised and confirmed disciple inspire and direct my “journeying together” in the Church and in Society?
2. How does being sent out inspire the most important decisions of my life?
3. How do I promote the active participation of all the Faithful in the liturgy and in the life of the parish?

First Round of Sharing: one at a time sharing

Each person takes the cross (or any other appropriate symbol) and shares the fruit of his/her experience and reflection. The others listen attentively. During this first round, there are **no interactions** between the participants except to ask an explanation about a word or a wording.

Ask yourselves what experiences in your particular Church the fundamental questions calls to mind;

Reread these experiences in greater depth:

- What joys did they provoke as someone was sharing?
- What difficulties and obstacles have they encountered that resonate within you also?
- What wounds have they brought to light?
- What insights have they elicited?

Then 2 to 5 minutes of silent reflection to ask yourself certain questions, such as,

- What impressed me as the others shared?
- Where did I experience deeper union with the others?
- What new insights did I gain?

SECOND ROUND: spontaneous conversation.

Whoever wishes to, takes the cross and shares the fruits of this moment of silent reflection. This will be followed by a time of open and spontaneous conversation between everyone.

THIRD ROUND: conversation with the Lord.

Together collect and express the fruit of sharing, the grace received.

Gather the fruits to share:

Where, in these experiences, does the voice of the Spirit resound?

What is he asking of us?

What are the points to be confirmed, the prospects for change, the steps to be taken?

Where do we register a consensus?

What paths are opening up for our particular Church?

Pew Questions:

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Having received the Holy Spirit through our Baptism and Confirmation and being sent out by Jesus Christ:

- What has been my experience of Journeying together in the Church?
- How has the Holy Spirit moved me to announcing the Gospel to my family, my co-workers and my friends?
- What more could be done in supporting and deepening our journey together?

Any other comments:

