



Promotional blurbs to encourage Synod participation - #2

- ❖ Join us on this journey that will lead us to “A Synodal Church: Communion, Participation and Mission.” Pope Francis reminds us that “on this synodal journey the most important thing is the process because it is already the result.” Let us not focus on the documents or work plans that can be generated from this Synod of Bishops; let us leave room to the Holy Spirit who will guide us through the dialogue and journey to become a People of God that listens and accompanies. To learn more about this important invitation and how you can participate, visit the diocesan webpage www.dor.org/synod and/or contact [add parish contact and information here].
- ❖ You can find some great resources to continue praying for a fruitful Synod process, ways to participate, and engage others in the conversations on our diocesan webpage at www.dor.org/synod. The resources are also available in Spanish. You can also contact [add parish contact and information here].

Sunday Gospel Synodal connections...

- **12/26/21 – Feast of the Holy Family (Lk 2:41-52):** “After they had completed its days, as they were returning, the boy Jesus remained behind in Jerusalem, but His parents did not know it. Thinking that He was in the caravan, they journeyed for a day and looked for Him among their relatives and acquaintances...” (Lk 2:43-44) The Greek word used in the Gospel reading for “caravan that journeyed” was “*synodia*”. “Clearly [this] evokes a larger ‘community on journey’ of which the Holy Family was a part.” (Pope Francis, *Christus Vivit*, 29) Synod theme #1 – **Journeying Companions** asks, “In your local Church, who are the ones “journeying together”? When we say, “our Church”, who is part of it? Who are the road companions, including those “outside” the Church? Learn more and/or participate by visiting the webpage www.dor.org/synod also by contacting [add parish contact and information].
- **1/2/22 – Solemnity of the Epiphany (Eph 3:2-3a,5-6):** St. Paul preached saying, “the Gentiles are coheirs, members of the same body and co-partners in the promise of Christ through the Gospel.” (Eph 3:6) As part of our synodal journey we must seek out the “religious other/Gentiles”. Synod theme #6 – **Dialogue on Church and Society** invites us to enter into conversations with other faiths, with non-believers, with the secular society, etc... and gather the experiences of the entire Body of Christ because we are all “members of the same body”. (Eph 3:6) Learn more and/or participate by visiting the webpage www.dor.org/synod also by contacting [add parish contact and information].

- **1/9/22 – Baptism of the Lord (Lk 3:15-16, 21-22):** John the Baptist answered saying, “I am baptizing you with water, but one mightier than I is coming... He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.” (Lk 3:15-16) Synod theme #7 – **With Other Christian Denominations** reminds us that we are united with other Christian denominations by ONE Baptism. Because of this we share a special place on this synodal journey. What relations do we have with our brothers and sisters of other Christian denominations? Learn more and/or participate by visiting the webpage www.dor.org/synod also by contacting [\[add parish contact and information\]](#).
- **1/16/22 – 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time (Jn 2:1-11):** The Wedding in Cana – “Everyone serves good wine first... but you have kept the good wine until now.” (Jn 2:10) On this synodal journey it is extremely important to remember that Jesus is the main figure and therefore central to our situation. The Holy Spirit needs to guide the conversations and the process so that this journey can bear good fruit and even better “wine” to come. Learn more and/or participate by visiting the webpage www.dor.org/synod also by contacting [\[add parish contact and information\]](#).
- **1/23/22 – 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time (Lk 1:1-4; 4:14-21):** Jesus unrolled the scroll and read, “...the Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, because He has anointed me to bring glad tidings to the poor... proclaim liberty to the captives... recovery of sight to the blind... let the oppressed go free... proclaim a year acceptable to the Lord.” (Lk 4:18-19) Synod theme #2 – **Listening** is the first step. Lived synodality is only possible by being a listening Church, open to gathering and reflecting on the experiences of all its members, including making space for those often excluded and discarded. What space is there for the voiceless, the marginalized, and the excluded? How do we listen to the social and cultural context in which we live? Learn more and/or participate by visiting the webpage www.dor.org/synod also by contacting [\[add parish contact and information\]](#).
- **1/30/22 – 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Lk 4:21-30):** “They also asked: ‘Isn’t this the son of Joseph?’... And He said, ‘Amen, I say to you, no prophet is accepted in his own native place.’... they were filled with fury. They rose up, drove Him out of town, and led him to the brow of the hill... to hurl Him down.” (Lk 4:22, 24, 28) Synod theme #8 – **Authority and Participation** reminds us that a synodal Church is a participatory and co-responsible Church. All are not endowed with the same charisms; welcoming the gifts and talents of others is a great step to helping everyone, especially the lay Faithful, discover God’s call and stewardship for the Church. What are the practices of teamwork and co-responsibility? How are lay ministries and the assumption of responsibility by the Faithful promoted? What understanding is there of the mission of the bishops, the successors to the holy Apostles? Learn more and/or participate by visiting the webpage www.dor.org/synod also by contacting [\[add parish contact and information\]](#).