



### Promotional blurbs to encourage Synod participation - #3

- ❖ "This Synod then offers us the opportunity to become a “listening Church”, to break out of our routine and pause from our pastoral concerns in order to stop and listen. To listen to the Spirit in adoration and prayer... Finally, it offers an opportunity to become a Church of closeness. Let us keep going back to God's own style, which is closeness, compassion and tender love. God has always operated that way. If we do not become this Church of closeness with attitudes of compassion and tender love, we will not be the Lord's Church." ~*Pope Francis, October 9, 2021* To learn more about this important invitation and how you can participate, visit the diocesan webpage [www.dor.org/synod](http://www.dor.org/synod) and/or contact [\[add parish contact and information here\]](#).
  
- ❖ Pope Francis asks us this fundamental question as part of the process, “A synodal Church, in announcing the Gospel, ‘journeys together’: How is this ‘journeying together’ happening today in your particular Church? What steps does the Spirit invite us to take in order to grow in our ‘journeying together’? You can find some great resources to join in the dialogue for a fruitful Synod process and ways to and engage others in the conversations on our diocesan webpage at [www.dor.org/synod](http://www.dor.org/synod). The resources are also available in Spanish. You can also contact [\[add parish contact and information here\]](#).
  
- ❖ At the Vatican's October 10, 2021 opening mass for the launching of the Synod 2021-23, Pope Francis urged the global Catholic Church to master the "art of encounter." "Everything changes once we are capable of genuine encounters with [Jesus} and with one another, without formalism or pretense, but simply as we are... Every encounter, as we know, calls for openness, courage and a willingness to let ourselves be challenged by the presence and the stories of others"... Let us ask in church, are we good at listening? How good is the hearing of our heart?"... Do we allow people to express themselves, to walk in faith even though they have had difficulties in life, and to be part of the life of the community without being hindered, rejected or judged?" To learn more about this important invitation and how you can participate, visit the diocesan webpage [www.dor.org/synod](http://www.dor.org/synod) and/or contact [\[add parish contact and information here\]](#).

**PARISHES:** Please remember to share pictures of your synodal journey on social media using the hashtag **#DORSynod**. This can help encourage others to join the journey.

#### Sunday Gospel Synodal connections...

- **2/6/22 – 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time (Lk 5:1-11):** Jesus said to Simon, “Put out into deep water and lower your nets for a catch.” Simon said, “Master, we have worked hard all night and have caught nothing, but at your command I will lower the nets.” When they had done this they caught a great number of fish and their nets were tearing. (Lk 5:4-6) Pope Francis tells us that, “Synodality is more than just a word or a slogan. Synodality is

an expression of the very nature of the Church – the process of discerning how the Spirit is moving us, so that we may continue to fulfill our mission to evangelize in the world.” Let us use this synodal experience to reach out “again” in new ways as one Church to bring others to an encounter as we listen to their realities. To learn more and/or participate by visiting the webpage [www.dor.org/synod](http://www.dor.org/synod) also, by contacting [add parish contact and information].

- **2/13/22 – 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time (Lk 6:17, 20-26):** Jesus spoke to a multitude of disciples and followers about the rewards that await those who live in His ways especially through adversity. Isn't this the message of the Church left to us by Christ Jesus and shared with us by the Apostles in our day? Synod theme #4 – **Celebrating** tells us that “Journeying together is only possible if it is based in prayer, on a communal listening to the Word of God and the celebration of the Eucharist.” (PD 30 #4) What joy and freedom can be found when we live life as we ought and help others follow the same path together. This is very possible when we listen to the needs of those we set out to journey together with and understand what is keeping them from entering the path toward the joy and celebration of Jesus. To learn more and/or participate by visiting the webpage [www.dor.org/synod](http://www.dor.org/synod) also, by contacting [add parish contact and information].
- **2/20/22 – 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time (Lk 6:27-38):** “For if you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? ... And if you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you?” (Lk 6:32-33) In Acts 10 – 11:1-18 we read the story about Peter being sent by a vision to bring the message of the Good News to a centurion named Cornelius, a gentile and not of Jewish tradition called to conversion by a vision. Peter says to Cornelius, “In truth, I see that God shows no partiality. Rather, in every nation whoever fears Him and acts uprightly is acceptable to Him.” While Peter was still speaking these things, the Holy Spirit fell upon all those who were listening... and they were baptized. Jesus came to save all, not only those who see as we see. Let us reach outside of our walls and bring with us the Good News so we can share Christ's love with all we meet. To learn more and/or participate by visiting the webpage [www.dor.org/synod](http://www.dor.org/synod) also by contacting [add parish contact and information].
- **2/27/22 – 8<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time (Lk 6:39-45):** Jesus told His disciples, “Can a blind person guide a blind person? Will not both fall into a pit? No disciple is superior to the teacher, but when fully trained, every disciple will be like his teacher.” (Lk 6:39-40) Synod theme #4 – **Forming Ourselves in Synodality** says “The spirituality of journeying together is called to become an educational principle for the formation of the human person and of the Christian, of the families, and of the communities. How do we form people, especially those who hold roles of responsibility within the Christian community, to make them more capable of “journeying together”, listening to one another and engaging in dialogue?” We as Christians are called to help guide others to Christ. Let us learn to journey together. To learn more and/or participate by visiting the webpage [www.dor.org/synod](http://www.dor.org/synod) also by contacting [add parish contact and information].