



Synod
2021
2023

For a synodal Church
communion | participation | mission

Synod Questions

Archdiocese of Seattle – December 2021

Here are the questions for use during the synodal activities at your parish or ministry.

The fundamental questions that we are seeking answers to (per the Vatican) in the listening sessions are:

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

The Vatican also provides some questions for participants to pray through in advance of listening sessions in light of the fundamental questions:

- To recall experiences: What experiences of our local Church does this question call to mind? (Stories)
- To re-read these experiences in greater depth: What joys did they bring? What difficulties and obstacles have they encountered? What wounds did they reveal? What insights have they elicited?
- To gather the fruits to share: Where in these experiences does the voice of the Holy Spirit resound? What is the Spirit 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 local Church?
- To prayerfully consider answers to questions: In advance, responding succinctly to respect the goal of max participation.

Finally, we are asking the coordinators to consider the following questions and provide responses in the online form:

- What were common or important themes that emerged from the listening sessions?
- Which particular stories or real-life experiences were shared related to the way our church currently journeys together?
- What dreams, desires, and aspirations for our Church were expressed by participants?
- What challenges or opportunities do these reflections pose as we journey together?
- What did participants share related to the question of “what steps does the Holy Spirit invite us to take in order to grow in our journeying together”?

For more information, please review the recorded training sessions on the Archdiocese of Seattle Synod webpage - [Synodal Process - Archdiocese of Seattle \(archseattle.org\)](https://www.archseattle.org/synodal-process). Please email us at pastoralcouncil@seattlearch.org if you have additional questions.