

What is a Synod?

Listen, Encounter, Discern

Pope Francis has launched a two-year global consultation process leading to the October 2023 Synod on Synodality. The Pope has said that Catholics taking part in the synod path should strive to “become experts in Encounter...listening to what the Spirit wants to say to the church.”

The word ‘Synod’ means walking together. We will be supporting this process by providing opportunities for consultation and conversation in our Parish and other partner organizations.

Listen, Encounter - What does it mean to me?

What steps does the Spirit invite us to take in order to grow in our “journeying together”?

St. John the Baptist Parish is requesting that our Parish Family and those who form our larger community reflect on how we as a Church are ‘walking together’. Your responses are important to us.

How is our Church responding to our community, are we meeting its needs?

- o What impact does our Church have on our lives and the community around us?
- o How have individuals and our community experienced ‘walking together’ ?
- o How is the Holy Spirit inviting us to grow in ‘walking together’ with others?

“LET US NOT SOUNDPROOF OUR HEARTS; LET US NOT REMAIN BARRICADED IN OUR CERTAINTIES. CERTAINTIES OFTEN CLOSE US OFF. LET US LISTEN TO ONE ANOTHER.”

POPE FRANCIS OCTOBER 10, 2021



How can you participate?

PARTICIPATE IN A GROUP CONSULTATION

COMPLETE AN INDIVIDUAL RESPONSE ONLINE OR A PRINTABLE FORM

SUBMIT YOUR RESPONSE DIRECTLY TO THE ARCHDIOCESE

HAVE A CONVERSATION WITH YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS - SUBMIT YOUR RESPONSES

CHECK THE WEBSITE FOR MORE INFORMATION
[HTTPS://STJOHNTHEBAPTISTESTEVAN.COM/](https://stjohnthebaptistestevan.com/)

In the words of Pope Francis...

It is precisely this path of synodality which God expects of the Church of the third millennium.

Community Consultations: Attend a Consultation Session where we will explore the essential questions and themes of the Synod. A reflection is available ahead of time to ensure this is a Spirit-driven experience of active listening and walking together.

Individual Responses: Individual participants can submit their own personal responses to the Fundamental Question or any of the theme questions.

Online Submissions: A link is available for parishioners to submit their responses on line. All responses will be kept confidential. <https://stjohnthebaptistestevan.com/>

Printable Synod Response Forms: You may drop off your completed forms in the collection basket at Holy Mass, at the Parish Office during business hours or mail it to us:

St. John the Baptist Parish

ATTN: Synod Consultation

109 12th Ave

Estevan, Saskatchewan S4A 1C9

One to one Conversations: Parishioners are encouraged to engage in conversation with friends and family for this synodal process. We want to know what impact our community would like the Church to have in their lives and the community around them.

Other Ways to respond -Direct submission to the Archdiocese

The Archdiocese Synod Consultation site link is:

<https://archregina.sk.ca/synod-2021-2023>

You may submit a printable response form to :

Archdiocese of Regina

ATTN: Synod Consultation

445 Broad St. N

Regina, Saskatchewan. S4R 2X8

Discern - Plans for Gathered Information

All information will be submitted to the Regina Archdiocese by May 9th, 2022. The Archdiocese will then use the information to submit a document to the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops (CCCB).

In 2022, the CCCB will develop a national synthesis document summarizing its key findings. The national synthesis document along with contributions from the local churches will be sent to the General Secretariat of the Synod of Bishops in Rome for review and setting direction for the Catholic Church into the future. In 2023, the outcomes of the Synod will be published and released.