



Many of you have already heard about the Synod that Pope Francis has called. It is a gathering of the bishops of the world with Pope Francis, to be held in October 2023. This will be the 16th Synod to be held. The purpose of the Synod is not to produce documents, but to “plant dreams, draw forth prophecies and visions, allow hope to be nourished, inspire trust, bind up wounds, weave together relationships, awaken a dawn of hope, learn from one another, and create a bright resourcefulness that will enlighten minds, warm hearts, give strength to our hands.” (PD. 32).

Pope Francis has invited the whole universal Church, those who are active and those less or not at all active, to reflect on the following questions together: How does this “journeying together,” which takes place today on different levels (from the local level to the universal one), allow the Church to proclaim the Gospel in accordance with the mission entrusted to her; and what steps does the Spirit invite us to take in order to grow as a synodal Church? (PD, 2)

We are invited to provide input into this process from now until March 31st of 2022. This will happen in our local Church (dioceses) across the world. You will be hearing more about this in the next issues of the bulletin and on our website. Stay tuned and consider how you might like to participate in order to have your voice heard in this process. Together we are “Church listening to the will of God in a dynamic of discerning and listening together to the voice of the Holy Spirit.” (Pope Francis)