

Dialogue V

How do we carry the mission together in the Church?

Let's introduce ourselves

- Each person briefly introduces themselves.
- Activity to put people at ease: each person is asked to describe their favorite food.
- Go around the table briefly to ask each participant how they feel and validate it.

Introduction

"Synodality is at the service of the mission of the Church, in which all its members are called to participate" (Vademecum for the Synod on Synodality). In today's meeting, we will reflect on the missionary dimension of the whole Church. We will share our experience by answering the question: how do we carry out the mission of the Church in our Christian community, our movement, our diocese. Since we are all missionary as disciples, how is each baptized person called to participate in the mission of the Church?

Time of Prayer

Let us take the time to arrive with what we are, let us take the time to centre ourselves on our breathing, let us unite our spirit to our body, without judging ourselves; let us dispose ourselves to hear the breath of the Holy Spirit breathing in us and uniting us to each other. Let us be willing to enter into an attitude of listening and discernment.

Let us recite together the prayer to the Holy Spirit for the beginning of a synodal meeting.

Prayer for the Beginning of a Synodal Meeting

Here we are before you, Holy Spirit; in your name we are gathered.

You, our only counselor, come to us, dwell with us, deign to dwell in our hearts.

Teach us where to go, show us how we should walk together.

We who are weak and sinful, do not allow ourselves to cause disorder.

Let us not be led astray by ignorance, nor let partiality influence our actions.

*May we find our unity in you, without straying from the path of truth and justice,
advancing together towards eternal life.*

*We ask this of you, who act in all times and places, in the communion of the Father and
the Son, for ever and ever. Amen*

Word of God

Luke 10:1-11

After this the Lord appointed seventy more disciples, and he sent them two by two before him to all the towns and places where he himself was to go. He said to them, The harvest is great, but there are few workers. Therefore pray to the Lord of the harvest to send labourers into his harvest. Go; behold, I send you forth as lambs in the midst of wolves. Do not carry purses, bags or shoes, and do not greet anyone on the way. In whatever house you enter, say first: Peace be upon this house! And if there is a child of peace there, your peace will rest on him; otherwise, it will come back to you. Stay in that house, eating and drinking what you are given; because the worker deserves his salary. Do not go from house to house. In whatever city you enter, and where you will be received, eat whatever is presented to you, heal the sick who are there, and say to them, The kingdom of God is near to you. But in whatever city you enter, and where you will not be received, go into its streets, and say: We shake against you the very dust of your city which has clung to our feet; know, however, that the kingdom of God has drawn near.

Song: 'The Harvest' (Allison Huntley)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y8wHsD5hdqU>

Jesus saw the multitudes and with compassion He was moved, for the people were like sheep without a shepherd.

So Jesus had one prayer request that laborers would be sent into the fields to collect the harvest. For the harvest is plenteous but the laborers are few.

God send me into your harvest, let me be used. Lord You see the multitudes and Your compassion still moves, for the people are like sheep without a shepherd.

So I pray Your one request that labourers would be sent into the fields to collect the harvest.

First round of dialogue (twenty minutes)

You identify an experience in your Christian community where you felt, as a baptized person, that you were participating in the mission of the Church. According to your experience, what facilitated or hindered your participation in the mission? How did you live it?

(Time of silence)

Everyone has an equal time to speak on the issues. There is no discussion during this round: each participant listens deeply to what the other is expressing, in an attitude of listening to what the Holy Spirit is trying to tell us in ourselves, through the person who is expressing himself.

Second round of dialogue (twenty minutes)

How are lay ministries and the assumption of responsibility by the faithful encouraged in your community, your religious movement, in the diocese?

(Time of silence)

In a second round, the participants express what struck them most in what was shared, in the words expressed as well as in the silences (an attitude of attentive and spiritual listening is kept in view, not confrontation or debate) but a respectful dialogue.

Third round of dialogue (twenty minutes)

Through what has just been shared on the challenges of co-responsibility for the mission, the Holy Spirit whispers to our hearts a direction, a pastoral conversion; what is the Holy Spirit saying to each of us in the Church?

(Time of silence)

Finally, in the third round, the participants reflect on what seems to emerge, to surface, what resonated during the conversation and which touched them, moved them and made sense to them.

Conclusion

Go around the table and ask participants to summarize in a few words what they remember from the workshop on "How do we carry the mission of the Church together" and how they found the process. A secretary takes note of these comments and prepares a summary of the conclusions of the meeting. (See the last page of this document for tips on writing your report).

Prayer of thanksgiving

Let us recite together Psalm 147

Hallelujah! Praise the Lord from heaven, praise him on high.

You, all his angels, praise him, praise him, all the universe.

Praise him, sun and moon, praise him, all the stars of light;

you, heavens of heavens, praise him, and the waters of the heights of heaven.

Let them praise the name of the Lord: by his command they were created;

He set them down for ever under a law that shall not pass away.

Praise the Lord from the earth, you sea monsters, all the depths;

fire and hail, snow and fog, hurricane wind that fulfills his word; the trees of the orchards,
all the cedars;

The mountains and all the hills,

the wild beasts and all the flocks, the reptile and the flying bird;

the kings of the earth and all the peoples, the princes and all the judges of the earth;

all the young men and women, old men and children.

Let them praise the name of the Lord, the only one above every name; in heaven and on
earth his splendour:

he increases the strength of his people. Praise to all his faithful, to the sons of Israel, the
people of his kin! Hallelujah!

A time of gratitude

As you return home and think about what you have heard in these exchanges, in the presence of the Risen One, ask yourself today and in the days to come: What is rising in me? What is the call that the Lord is placing in me? Perhaps you might catch yourself saying, "Lord, what do you want me to do?"

To write the meeting report

This report should not exceed 2 printed pages.

1. Describe the group that met: level of involvement in the church, membership (parishioners, religious, committee, service or movement members), young or old, homogeneous or diverse group, etc.
2. How did the process go: smoothly? with difficulty? Why did it happen? If you adapted it, how?
3. From the notes that were collected at the conclusion (after the third round of dialogue), present the main conclusions reached by the group: findings, sources of joy or sadness, awareness, proposals, hopes, etc.
4. Did the group members leave satisfied with the experience? Why or why not?

Please send your report to Mr. André Inkel.

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