

RESPOND

You are invited to listen to each other carefully and prepare a response of up to 250 words. The submission can consider points like:

- Is there a common thread in what was shared? Is there something missing that you had expected would be said?
- Have you received any particular insight or revelation? What is it?
- Where did you experience a sense of harmony with others as you shared with one another?
- What are the feelings of the group? Is there consensus or disagreement?
- What is the way forward?

HAVE YOUR SAY

1. **Online, by 25 March 2022 using the *SUBMIT YOUR RESPONSE HERE* button at <https://darwin.catholic.org.au/synod-of-bishops/>**

Or use the QR Code below to visit the page.



2. **While online responses are preferred, you may wish to email or handwrite a response. Download the pdf version of the Synod Reflection Response from <https://darwin.catholic.org.au/synod-of-bishops/> or get a copy from your Parish Office and either email it to: synod@darwin.catholic.org.au or hand it into your Parish Office or Church.**

MORE INFORMATION

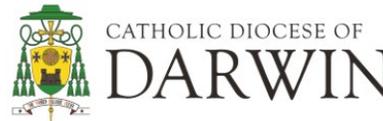
Email: synod@darwin.catholic.org.au

Darwin Diocese:

<https://darwin.catholic.org.au/synod-of-bishops/>

Australian Catholic Bishops Conference:

www.catholic.org.au/synodalchurch



Coffee Conversations

Preparing for the Synod:

Let's walk together with one another

Prayer for the Synod: *Adsumus Sancte Spiritus*

We stand before You, Holy Spirit,
as we gather together in Your name.

You alone to guide us,
make Yourself at home in our hearts;
Teach us the way we must go
and how we are to pursue it.

We are weak and sinful;
do not let us promote disorder.
Do not let ignorance lead us down the wrong path
nor partiality influence our actions.

Let us find in You our unity
so that we may journey together to eternal life
and not stray from the way of truth
and what is right.

All this we ask of You,
who are at work in every place and time,
in the communion of the Father and the Son,
forever and ever.

Amen.

We want to hear from you!
To start your conversation, choose a theme and reflect on the questions.

COMMUNION. Questions to guide your reflection.

- 1. COMPANIONS ON THE JOURNEY.** Jesus wants us to walk together, side by side.
What and who enables us to share in the integration of our life and faith journey in families and the communities in which we live, work and pray?
- 2. OUR LISTENING.** Listening is the first step - it requires an open mind and heart, without prejudice.
What and who is being listened to in our families and the communities in which we live, work, and pray?
- 3. OUR SPEAKING OUT.** Everyone is invited to speak boldly and courageously in the freedom, truth and love of Christ.
What and who enables our voice to be heard about what matters to us as baptised Catholics?
- 4. OUR CELEBRATION.** For Catholics, 'togetherness' is based on gathering to explore the Gospels (Word) and to break bread (Eucharist).
What and who enables us to explore and experience meaningful celebrations of the Word of God and Eucharist in our daily lives?

Communion Reflection Question:

How can we better journey together in listening, speaking out and celebrating?

PARTICIPATION. Questions to guide your reflection.

- 5. SHARING AUTHORITY AND RESPONSIBILITY.** Our Church is all about participation and shared responsibility.
Who identifies the goals for our church community and how to achieve them?
How is our church community balanced in terms of teamwork, responsibility, and participation opportunities for all?
- 6. OUR DISCERNMENT AND DECISION-MAKING.** Our aim is to make decisions by discerning what the Holy Spirit is saying through our whole community.
What methods or processes do we as catholic communities use to discern decisions?
Do you feel included in the decision-making process? How can we ensure all levels of the church are included?
- 7. BEING FORMED TO JOURNEY TOGETHER.** All of us need to be open to change and receive ongoing learning and formation to be Synodal.
If the goal is for our community to be 'walking together' what formation/learning could be offered?
What practices/processes could we implement to enact change and wider discernment?

Participation Reflection Question:

How can we better participate in the life of the Church?

MISSION. Questions to guide your reflection.

- 8. OUR COMMON MISSION.** Walking together enables us all to accept our mission to share the Good News.

How do we as Church members walk together and spread the Good News of Jesus Christ?
What stops us from being active in mission?

- 9. OUR CONVERSATIONS.** Genuine conversation requires perseverance and patience that leads to understanding.
Good dialogue leads to collaboration – how, and how well, do we collaborate as Catholics in our local community?
In what ways could we dialogue and collaborate better with all people in society (e.g.in politics, economics, culture, civil society, and those who are poor or disadvantaged?)
- 10. WALKING WITH OTHER CHRISTIANS/ECUMENISM.** The dialogue between Christians of different confessions, united by one baptism, has a special place in the synodal journey.
What relationships does our Church community have with members of other Christian traditions and denominations?
How can we take the next step in walking forward with other Christian traditions and denominations?

Mission Reflection Question:

How can we better journey together in a shared Mission?

