

We thank you for your time spent taking this survey.  
Your response has been recorded.

Below is a summary of your responses

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## FOR A SYNODAL CHURCH: COMMUNION, PARTICIPATION AND MISSION



As the Synod of Bishops prepares for its XVI Ordinary General Assembly in October 2023, Pope Francis invites the entire Church to reflect on a theme that is decisive for its life and mission: Synodality. He writes:

*"It is precisely this path of synodality which God expects of the Church of the third millennium. This journey, which follows in the wake of the Church's 'renewal' proposed by the Second Vatican Council, is both a gift and a task."*

The Australian Bishops are inviting you to contribute to this consultation. You would have already reflected on the questions. If not, please click this link to access the Synod Listening and Discernment Adult Session Guides: [www.catholic.org.au/synodalchurch](http://www.catholic.org.au/synodalchurch)

If you have already summarised your or your group's reflection, this short submission process should only take 5-10 minutes to complete. If you do not want to answer any question, move on to the next one.

This portal accepts submissions of 250 words or less. If you would like to make a larger submission, please send it directly to your diocese

If you are aged under 16, please have a parent or guardian complete the submission on your behalf. You can make your submission anonymously or you can provide your details at the end. This submission portal will remain open until **Sunday 27 February 2022**.

Before you commence the submission process, please complete the following task so we know you're a real person . . .

In which diocese are you or your group located?

(Note: Eastern Rite dioceses/eparchies and Ordinariates are listed underneath the geographical dioceses.)

Are you responding on behalf of a group or as an individual?

**As a group, organisation or family**

As an individual

What is the name of your group?

Please describe briefly the people in your group, such as the type of group, special characteristics, its ethnic makeup, interest area, etc. Some examples could be:

*We are a group of 25 Catholics of all ages and ethnicities passionate about social justice issues.*

or:

*Our group is a family of five who are actively involved in our local parish.*

Our organisation consists of 325 newsletter recipients of which 154 are paid up members. Our supporters endorse the mission and vision of Concerned Catholics Tasmania, available on our website, [concernedcatholicstasmania.org](http://concernedcatholicstasmania.org). This submission is a reflection of our mission and vision and the views expressed by our supporters at our gatherings. We are Tasmanians of different ages, though mostly 50 years and over. We hold meetings/spiritual gatherings at least 4 times each year and a major focus is imagining the kind of church that we seek, that is a truly synodal church.

How many people in your group are in each of the following age groups?

0-17 years

18-29 years

30-59 years

60-79 years

Which of the following ten themes did you or your group reflect upon? (Please select as many as you like.)

If you are unsure, please click on this link to learn about the ten themes in greater detail:

[www.catholic.org.au/synodalchurch](http://www.catholic.org.au/synodalchurch)

## Communion

- Companions on the Journey** - In the Church and in society we are side by side on the same road
- Listening** - Listening is the first step, but it requires an open mind and heart, without prejudice
- Speaking out** - All are invited to speak with courage and parrhesia, that is, in freedom, truth, and charity
- Celebration** - "Walking together" is only possible if it is based on communal listening to the Word and the celebration of the Eucharist

## Participation

- Authority and participation** - A synodal church is a participatory and co-responsible Church
- Discerning and deciding** - In a synodal style we make decisions through discernment of what the Holy Spirit is saying through our whole community
- Forming ourselves in synodality** - Synodality entails receptivity to change, formation, and on-going learning

## Mission

- Sharing responsibility for our common mission** - Synodality is at the service of the mission of the Church, in which all members are called to participate
- Dialogue in Church and society** - Dialogue requires perseverance and patience, but it also enables mutual understanding
- Ecumenism** - The dialogue between Christians of different confessions, united by one baptism, has a special place in the synodal journey
- All of the above**

Please provide a summary of your or your group's reflection in 250 words or less.

*Because of the nature of this synodal process and the short timeline, we regret that we are not able to accept additional information.*

WE SEEK A CHURCH THAT: -Recognises: • the innate dignity of each person; • rejects all forms of discrimination; • exemplifies equality of status for all the baptised, regardless of gender, marital status, sexual orientation, race or ability; • welcomes women and men equally into all its roles of leadership, ministry and service, so that everyone shares co-responsibly for the mission of the Church. -Commits to synodality at all levels of authority and decision making by maintaining an ongoing and open dialogue with all Christ's faithful and being guided by the discernment of the faithful (sensus fidei fidelium). -Adopts the best models, structures and practices of leadership and governance that are genuinely transparent and accountable to the people of God. -Establishes National, Diocesan and Parish pastoral councils, which ensure the diversity of the faithful within the church have a genuine voice, with members selected on capability. -Realizes the vision of Vatican II for a truly synodal Church in which decisions respect culture, community and circumstances. -Provides faith development opportunities for all and recognises importance of scripture, theology and liturgy for everyone. -Is free from clericalism in which: • candidates for the

priesthood are selected and imbued with a spirit of service; • any form of exceptionalism is rejected; and • participatory processes for the selection of bishops are used. -Reflects the vision of Jesus by • modelling Christian values in playing its role in society; • working for a world that is more just, compassionate, egalitarian, and committed to peace.

Characters remaining: 76

**OPTIONAL.** If you would like to include your contact details, please do so below. If not, simply click through to the next page to make your submission.

Name

Email address

Thank you for participating in the local consultation for the Synod of Bishops.

Please submit your response by clicking the ' -> ' button below. You will then have the option of downloading a copy of your response.

Once submitted you will be unable to go back.

*For technical assistance in completing this submission,  
please contact the ACBC National Centre for Pastoral Research via email at [stephen.reid@catholic.org.au](mailto:stephen.reid@catholic.org.au)*

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