

# Archdiocesan Synod June 7 - 8, 2014

A newsletter devoted to the preparations for the 2014 Archdiocese of Milwaukee Synod

## “Our Moment in History”

Archbishop ListECKi announces Synod to take place June 7-8, 2014

On May 19, 2013, the Feast of Pentecost, Archbishop Jerome E. ListECKi announced that there will be an Archdiocesan Synod, June 7-8, 2014. A Synod, simply put, is an assembly where the faithful deliberate on the pastoral needs of the diocese. A diocesan Synod is called by the bishop, where he gathers together ordained and lay leaders from throughout the diocese.

In an interview with the Catholic Herald (May 23, 2013), Archbishop ListECKi said, “Having heard from the People of God of southeastern Wisconsin, we have determined that the time is ripe for setting forth a vision of the future and determining the priorities that will move us forward.”

Archbishop ListECKi has determined that this is the right moment in history to reflect on the topic of “Ecclesiology” (or Church) as a way to bring greater awareness of our Catholic Identity and the importance of Evangelization and Stewardship in our Church mission. He said, “through preparation for, celebration of, and implementation after the Synod, together we can ‘rediscover the joy of believing and the enthusiasm for communicating the faith’” — quoting Pope Benedict’s “Door of Faith.”

The Archdiocese of Milwaukee Synod will bring together people from the entire Catholic community to discuss archdiocesan and parish pastoral priorities for the Church of southeastern Wisconsin. The Synod and the sessions leading up to it should be a wonderful and exciting spirit-led

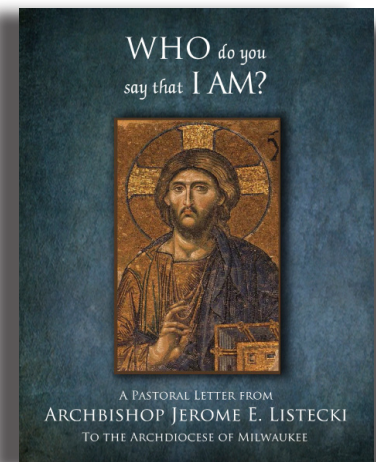


Archbishop Jerome E. ListECKi reads the Synod Decree during Mass at the Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist, Milwaukee, May 19. (Photo by Juan C. Medina/Photo Ventures, LLC)

process that will give the archdiocese a clearer direction of priorities for the next 10 years.

### The Process of Discernment

Archbishop ListECKi’s Pastoral Letter, “Who Do You Say That I Am?” which is a theological reflection on ecclesiology, will be the foundation from which the people of the Milwaukee Archdiocese will pray, discern and discuss in



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preparation for the Synod. Over the next 12 months, Archbishop ListECKI has called for a Church-wide effort to discuss and reflect on the vision of our Southeastern Wisconsin parishes for the next 10 years.

Parishes will have the opportunity to offer their feedback through a variety of reflection sessions. The Synod will also provide parishes with pastoral priorities and guidelines for implementing them in the areas of Catholic Identity, Evangelization and Stewardship.

The outcome of the Synod will be a “synodal declaration” that provides a framework and direction for the Church of southeastern Wisconsin through 2025. It will include:

- Pastoral priorities for the Archdiocese of Milwaukee;
- Pastoral priorities for parishes in the archdiocese;
- Guidelines and resources to assist parishes in implementing the pastoral priorities;
- Ways to engage parish and archdiocesan leadership to ensure progress toward the pastoral priorities is achieved;
- An effective communication system allowing parishes to easily share ideas and best practices regarding the implementation of the pastoral priorities on a parish, cluster and district level.

When remarking on the process of discernment, Archbishop ListECKI said, “It is my hope that my Pastoral Letter will prompt and inform further discussion and study, which will reinforce the theological and spiritual richness of the Church. However, our ultimate goal is for believers to renew their own spiritual fervor and reconnect to the supernatural source and transcendent power that has motivated so many believers to build up the Archdiocese of Milwaukee, and indeed change the world.”



## Prayer in Preparation for the Synod

O Lord, we accept your invitation to enter into the great mystery of your love and presence within your Church.

Through word and sacrament, you lead us into communion with you. Relying on this spiritual intimacy, help open our hearts to the work of the Holy Spirit as we fashion our response to the cries of the poor who struggle to know Jesus.

*(Pause and silently mention your personal intentions.)*

Renew within us the fire that burns with the love of the Lord for our brothers and sisters.

As we seek to fulfill our responsibilities through the Archdiocesan Synod, we stand with St. John the Evangelist, patron of the archdiocese, who was charged to care for Mary, Mother of the Church. Asking their intercession, we offer this prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen.

## Parish Reflection Sessions Commence in October

To prepare for the Synod, parishes are being asked to hold parish or cluster sessions — mornings or evenings of reflection — in October and November for all parishioners. These sessions will be rooted in the Archbishop ListECKI's recently released Pastoral Letter on the Church, "*Who Do You Say That I Am?*" and will give parishioners an opportunity to provide input on pastoral goals and future initiatives of the archdiocese.

The hope of the Synod will be to re-energize Catholics in their faith and inspire a new evangelization within the Church of southeastern Wisconsin. The Synod will

provide the faith community the opportunity to develop a renewed vision of how we work together in implementing our pastoral priorities of Catholic Identity, Evangelization and Stewardship.

The Pastoral Letter is the foundation on which these sessions will be based. Though not a requirement, participants are encouraged to read and reflect on this letter.

The Synod and these reflection sessions should be a wonderful and exciting Spirit-led process that will give the archdiocese a clearer direction of priorities for the next 10 years.



### Ten Reasons to Participate in Your Parish Reflection Session

1. It's a time of grace for our Church - a Synod rarely occurs!
2. The Holy Spirit abounds and we expect great things to come from these efforts.
3. The Church needs all Her members to pray, share and discern.
4. Want to share your love for our Church? There's no better way than to be a part of this effort.
5. Perhaps you have ideas on what will bring fallen away Catholics back to the Church. We need your voice.
6. Want to share your joy in the sacramental life? This is the time.
7. Looking for ways to revitalize your parish? Join others in this dialogue.
8. Looking for hope and a bright future? Come be a part of creating it!
9. Pray for our archdiocese through the intercession of our Mother, Mary, and the saints.
10. Our Lord is calling YOU!

## Commission Members

### **Carol Abraham**

St. John, Twin Lakes

### **Fr. John Burns**

Christ the King, Wauwatosa

### **Gabriela Cabrera**

St. Patrick/Cristo Rey, Racine

### **Barbara Anne Cusak**

Archdiocese of Milwaukee

### **Fr. Jeff Haines**, Cathedral of St.

John the Evangelist, Milwaukee

### **Debra Hintz**, St. Catherine of

Alexandria, Milwaukee

### **Peggy Hughes**

Lumen Christi, Mequon

### **Bishop Donald Hying**

Archdiocese of Milwaukee

### **Shandera Johnson**

St. Michael/St. Rose, Milwaukee

### **Gail Kraig**

Catholic East Elementary,

Milwaukee

### **Margie Mandli**

St. Anne, Pleasant Prairie

### **Fr. Ricardo Martin**

Sacred Heart, Racine

### **Randy Nohl**

Archdiocese of Milwaukee

### **Deacon Sandy Sites**, Good

Shepherd, Menomonee Falls

### **Andrew Schueller**

St. Charles, Hartland

### **Sr. Alice Thepoulthay**

St. Michael/St. Rose, Milwaukee

### **Tom Tuttle**

St. Anthony, Milwaukee

### **Rosalita Villa**

Archdiocese of Milwaukee

## Find Out More!

For more information on the Synod, visit [www.archmil.org/Synod2014.htm](http://www.archmil.org/Synod2014.htm), or contact Randy Nohl, director, John Paul II Center, (414) 758-2216, [nohrl@archmil.org](mailto:nohrl@archmil.org).

## “Nuestro momento en la historia”

El Arzobispo Listecky anuncia que el Sínodo será el 7 y 8 de junio de 2014

El 19 de mayo de 2013, el Domingo de Pentecostés, el Arzobispo Listecky anunció que habrá un Sínodo Arquidiocesano el 7 y 8 de junio de 2014. Un sínodo, en pocas palabras, es una asamblea donde los fieles discuten sobre las necesidades pastorales de la diócesis. Un sínodo diocesano es convocado por el obispo, en el cual reúne al presbítero y líderes laicos de toda la diócesis.

El Arzobispo Listecky ha decidido que este es el momento apropiado en la historia para reflexionar sobre el tema de la “Eclesiología” (o la Iglesia) como una manera de promover mayor conciencia sobre nuestra identidad católica, la importancia de la evangelización y el servicio en la misión de nuestra Iglesia. Citando al Papa Benedicto en su documento ‘La Puerta de la Fe’, el arzobispo dice: “a través de la preparación, la celebración y la implementación después del sínodo, podemos ‘redescubrir la alegría de ser creyentes y volver a encontrar el entusiasmo que se siente al comunicar la fe’”.

El Sínodo de la Arquidiócesis de Milwaukee reunirá a toda la comunidad católica para dialogar sobre las prioridades pastorales a nivel arquidiocesano y parroquial para la Iglesia del sureste de Wisconsin. Esperamos que el sínodo y las sesiones que se realizarán antes del sínodo sean

un proceso maravilloso y emocionante que dará a la arquidiócesis una dirección más clara de las prioridades para los próximos diez años.

### El proceso de discernimiento

La Carta Pastoral, ¿Quién dicen ustedes que soy yo? la cual es una reflexión sobre la Iglesia o la “eclesiología” escrita por el Arzobispo Listecky será la base para que los fieles de la Arquidiócesis de Milwaukee oren, discernan y dialoguen en preparación para el Sínodo. El Arzobispo Listecky ha llamado a toda la Iglesia a que participen en un proceso de diálogo y reflexión durante los próximos doce meses para crear una visión que guíe a nuestras parroquias en el sureste de Wisconsin durante los próximos diez años.

Las parroquias tendrán la oportunidad para compartir sus comentarios a través de las varias sesiones de reflexión. Además, el Sínodo proporcionará a las parroquias con prioridades pastorales y alineamientos para implementar dichas prioridades en las áreas de la Identidad Católica, la Evangelización y el Servicio.

El resultado del Sínodo de la Arquidiócesis de Milwaukee será una “declaración sinodal” que proveerá una estructura y dirección para la Iglesia del sureste de Wisconsin hasta el 2025.

## Sesiones de Reflexión en las Parroquias Comienzan en Octubre

En preparación al Sínodo, se les pide a las parroquias que realicen sesiones de reflexión para los fieles – por la mañana o por la tarde – en octubre y noviembre. Estas sesiones serán basadas en la Carta Pastoral y les darán a los fieles la oportunidad de proporcionar ideas sobre las metas pastorales y las prioridades futuras para la arquidiócesis.

Se espera que el Sínodo reanime a los católicos a renovar su fervor espiritual y les inspire a una nueva evangelización en la Iglesia del sureste de Wisconsin. El Sínodo proveerá a los fieles la oportunidad de desarrollar una visión renovadora sobre cómo podemos trabajar juntos en la implementación de nuestras prioridades pastorales de la Identidad Católica, la Evangelización y el Servicio.

La declaración incluirá:

- Las prioridades pastorales para la Arquidiócesis de Milwaukee
- Las prioridades pastorales para las parroquias en la arquidiócesis
- Las orientaciones y los recursos que ayudarán a las parroquias en la implementación de las prioridades pastorales
- Las maneras para involucrar al liderazgo parroquial y arquidiocesano para asegurar que estamos progresando hacia las prioridades pastorales
- Un sistema efectivo de comunicación que permita a las parroquias compartir con facilidad ideas y estrategias efectivas con respecto a la implementación de las prioridades pastorales a nivel parroquial, así como en “parroquias en colaboración” y de distrito.

