



“This will be for us a new Pentecost!”

Archbishop Listecki: Synod is a call to discipleship



It's hard to believe that we are only a few weeks away from the Archdiocesan Synod. Over the past 20 months,

thousands from across southeastern Wisconsin have been praying, discerning and discussing the future of our archdiocese. We've had a chance to look anew at our future as a Church, and call upon the Holy Spirit for guidance in developing our priorities for the next 10-15 years. I believe this will be for us a new Pentecost!

This discernment process began with my Pastoral Letter, *“Who Do You Say that I Am?”* which was intended to reflect on the rich theological nature of the Church. We looked

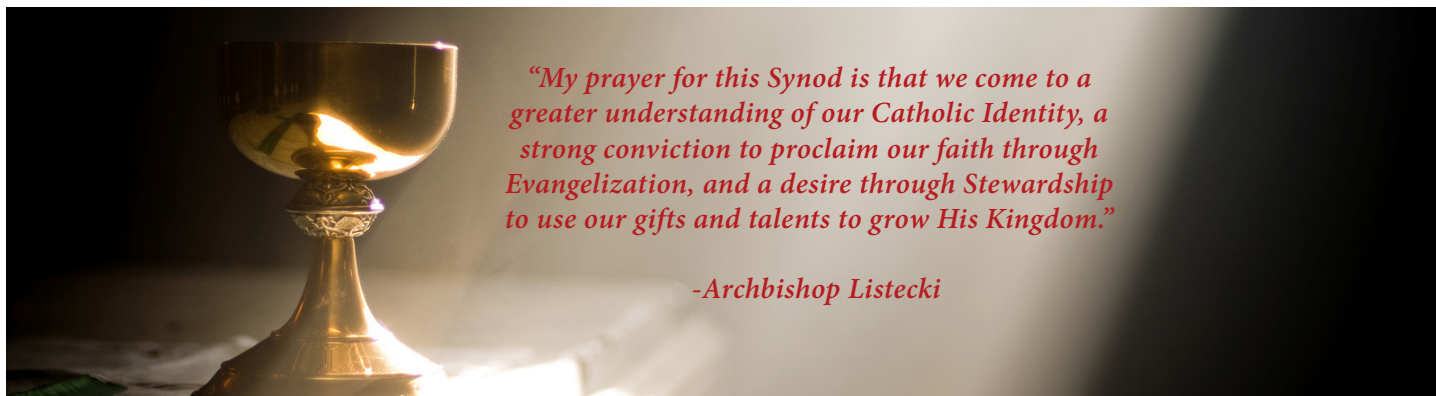
at the mystery, sacrament and communion of the Church as a way to remind ourselves of the sheer beauty of our faith. Many discussed this Pastoral Letter at parishes, and shared their pride and joy for our Church, despite some of our shortcomings in recent years.

Well over 15,000 have participated in this prayerful exercise of discernment which has been vitally important to this process. For me, it's been a wonderful testament of the love you have for our Church and the passion you have for passing on the faith. For that, I am so grateful. The Synod comes down to a simple question: how can we become intentional disciples who fulfill Jesus' missionary mandate to 'go and make disciples of all nations?'

At the heart of our Catholic identity is the calling to be disciples

of Jesus Christ. Through baptism we receive strength to carry out His mission on this earth, and to live out our faith authentically in our families, within our parish, where we work, and in our communities.

My prayer for this Synod is that we come to a greater understanding of our Catholic Identity, a strong conviction to proclaim our faith through Evangelization, and a desire through Stewardship to use our gifts and talents to grow His Kingdom. It is in this call of intentional discipleship that I ask for your continued prayers during these final days before the Synod. Please pray for all of the Synod delegates – that the Holy Spirit illuminates their hearts and minds to discern the priorities that will help us carry out this mission of Catholic discipleship for years to come.



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-Archbishop Listecki



SYNOD

ARCHDIOCESE OF MILWAUKEE

Pentecost Weekend | June 6-8, 2014

A New Pentecost: Pastoral Priorities for the Next Decade of Discipleship

PASTORAL LETTER > LEADERSHIP REFLECTION > PARISH SESSIONS > DISTRICT GATHERINGS

8 Mission Areas of the Church
6-8 Key Initiatives per Mission Area

SYNOD OPENING PRAYER and INTRODUCTION to the PROCESS

DISCERNING PASTORAL PRIORITIES

CATHOLIC IDENTITY | "Who We Are"

Liturgy
Cultural Diversity

- General Assembly | Introduction
- Small Discernment Groups
- General Assembly | Input and Voting

EVANGELIZATION | "What We Do"

Evangelization
Formation
Catholic Social Teaching
Marriage and Family

- General Assembly | Introduction
- Small Discernment Groups
- General Assembly | Input and Voting

STEWARDSHIP | "How We Do It"

Stewardship
Leadership

- General Assembly | Introduction
- Small Discernment Groups
- General Assembly | Input and Voting

SYNOD RESULTS

8-10 Mission Areas of the Church
2-3 Pastoral Priorities per Mission Area

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)

We give you thanks O Lord, for the men and women who have offered their lives as gifts to build His Church.

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.



District Gatherings

Throughout February and March across 15 districts, hundreds of faithful met to delve deeper into the discernment process preparing for the Synod. Small groups were assembled at these gatherings to discuss "Calls to Strengthen the Mission of the Church."

Seven challenges were identified

in parish sessions: 1) Media and Culture 2) Social Media, Technology and Traditional Media 3) Catholic Church's Image 4) Busyness of Family Life 5) Adult Formation for Intentional Discipleship 6) Building a Culture of Invitation and Involvement and 7) Development of Parish Leadership.

Small groups discussed ideas on how we can respond to these challenges as well as how we can strengthen the mission of the Church in key focus areas. Here are sentiments from some participants of the District Gatherings.



"As we journey on the road to inclusiveness and growth in our diocese, it is clear that the attempt to walk in each other's shoes

would make a great impact. However, removing our shoes and washing each other's feet would make a better one. The work that needs to be done will make our hands dirty, but that is what soap and water is for."

Clinton and Bashaun Wray

All Saints Catholic Church, Milwaukee



"As Catholics, we have to reach out to others through innovative ways, spreading the Gospel message, especially in today's society! Don't be afraid, instead, stand firm in your beliefs! Become united with Christ, showing what Catholic means: universal to all peoples of God."

Andrew Doan

Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Kenosha
St. Joseph Catholic Academy Student



"If enthusiasm and joy for the love of Jesus Christ are prerequisites to successful evangelization, the parish representatives assembled for the District 7 Synod meeting are ready to change the world!"

Randy Richard

St. Katharine Drexel Parish, Beaver Dam



"The district gathering was a time of great renewal and excitement for me to see all these members of the Church come together and consider how they can help build the body of Christ. My hope for the Synod discernment is that all who are involved will

become reinvigorated with their faith so that they may be transformed into Christ and so transform the world."

Fr. Philip Schumaker

Associate Pastor, St. John Vianney, Brookfield



"People want to connect as human persons - to build relationships with one another in order to experience God's grace mediated through one another. We truly are sacramental, Eucharistic people who radiate God's love!"

Jackie Lichter, Ph.D.

St. Leonard Parish, Muskego
Principal, All Saints Catholic School, Kenosha

Este será un nuevo Pentecostés para nosotros

Arzobispo ListECKi: El sínodo es un llamado al discipulado



Es increíble que en unas pocas semanas se llevará a cabo el Sínodo Arquidiocesano. En los últimos 20 meses, miles de personas alrededor del

sureste de Wisconsin han estado orando, discerniendo y dialogando sobre el futuro de nuestra arquidiócesis. Se nos ha dado la oportunidad de formar una visión futura para la Iglesia y llamar al Espíritu Santo para que nos guíe en nuestras prioridades para los próximos 10-15 años. ¡Creo que será un nuevo Pentecostés para nosotros!

El proceso de discernimiento comenzó con mi Carta Pastoral, “¿Quién dicen ustedes que Soy Yo?”, con el objetivo de reflexionar sobre la rica naturaleza teológica de la Iglesia.

Examinamos los aspectos del misterio, el sacramento y la comunión de la Iglesia como una manera de recordarnos sobre la gran belleza de nuestra fe. Varios de ustedes analizaron esta Carta Pastoral en sus parroquias y compartieron su orgullo y alegría por nuestra Iglesia, a pesar de algunas de nuestras desilusiones en años recientes.

Más de 15,000 individuos participaron en el ejercicio de discernimiento, el cual fue vitalmente importante en este proceso. Para mí, esto ha sido una demostración maravillosa del amor que ustedes tienen para nuestra Iglesia y la pasión que ustedes tienen para transmitir la fe. Por esta razón, estoy bien agradecido. El Sínodo se reduce a una simple pregunta. ¿Cómo podemos convertirnos en discípulos intencionales que cumplen con la misión de Jesús de ‘ir y hacer discípulos de todas las naciones’?

El centro de nuestra identidad católica es el llamado a ser discípulos de Jesucristo. A través del bautismo recibimos la fortaleza de difundir Su misión en la tierra, y de vivir nuestra fe auténticamente en nuestras familias, dentro de nuestras parroquias, en nuestros lugares de trabajo y en nuestras comunidades.

Mi oración para este Sínodo es que lleguemos a un conocimiento mayor de nuestra identidad católica, a la convicción de proclamar nuestra fe a través de la evangelización, y a un deseo de utilizar nuestros dones y talentos para edificar Su Reino a través del servicio. Es en este llamado al discipulado intencional que pido sus oraciones continuamente durante estos últimos días antes del Sínodo. Por favor oren por todos los delegados para el Sínodo – que el Espíritu Santo ilumine sus corazones y sus mentes para discernir las prioridades que nos ayudarán a cumplir con la misión del discipulado católico en los próximos años.

Carta Pastoral > Reflexiones de Liderazgo > Sesiones Parroquiales > Reuniones de Distrito

8 áreas de misión de la Iglesia
6-8 iniciativas claves por áreas de misión

Oración de Apertura para el Sínodo e Introducción al proceso

Discernimiento de prioridades pastorales

La identidad católica / “¿Quiénes Somos?”

Liturgia
Diversidad Cultural

- Grupos en general / Introducción
- Dialogo en grupos pequeños
- Grupos en general / aportación de ideas y votación

La Evangelización / ¿Qué hacemos?

Evangelización
Formación

Enseñanza Social de la Iglesia
Matrimonio y Familia

- Grupos en general / Introducción
- Dialogo en grupos pequeños
- Grupos en general / aportación de ideas y votación

El Servicio / “¿Cómo lo hacemos?”

Servicio
Liderazgo

- Grupos en general / Introducción
- Dialogo en grupos pequeños
- Grupos en general / aportación de ideas y votación

Resultados del sínodo

8 – 10 áreas de misión de la Iglesia
2-3 prioridades pastorales por área de misión