

SYNOD AT ALL SAINTS PARISH



A synod, in the Catholic Church, is a process of journeying together. Up until now, synods in the Church have happened for hundreds, even thousands of years, but were mainly bishops..

This year, our Bishop Lucia, Bishop of Syracuse, as well as Pope Francis, have declared a synod. Bishop Lucia's synod is a chance for him to listen to the people in the Diocese of Syracuse. Pope Francis' synod is the first world-wide synod meant for all people. Pope Francis is asking for the voices of not only the bishops, but all priests and religious, and all Catholics around the world, as well as those who are not Catholic. Bishop Lucia is going to every area of the Diocese, and many churches, to listen to the people of the Diocese of Syracuse.

On April 6, 2022, Bishop Lucia is coming to All Saints Church from 6:30-8:30pm to listen. You are invited to attend this listening session! All are welcome! Family friends, and everyone from those who go to Mass every day to those who have never been to church! He will be here to listen to anything the people of our community have on their hearts that the Holy Spirit is calling them to share.

Bring your family and friends! Not sure what to say? Don't worry! Both Pope Francis and Bishop Lucia have provided some reflection questions!

Pope Francis asks:

- "A synodal Church, in announcing the Gospel, 'journeys together.' How is this 'journeying together' happening today in your particular Church? What steps does the Holy Spirit invite us to take in order to grow in our 'journeying together?'"
- Think about these questions to guide your reflection:
 - What has been your experience of Church in your parish and diocese?
 - How have you experienced "journeying together" in your parish? In the community? Globally?
 - What could be improved in the Church?
 - What do you hope for in your parish? Your community? The Church?

Bishop Lucia asks:

- "Though we are many parts, how can we better reflect the presence of the Risen Christ - as His body - in the 21st Century?"
- Think about these questions to guide your reflection:
 - How do you understand the Church's belief in Christ?
 - How do you encounter Christ in your life?
 - What would help you to live your faith in Christ?
 - What else would you like to say to Bishop Lucia?



What might you want to say to Bishop Lucia at our listening session at All Saints?

Prayer for the Synod

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

With 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.

Feel free to bring this with you to the listening session on April 6th so you know what you want to say! If you do better reading something complete sentences, like a little speech, feel free to turn your thoughts into a complete paragraph!