

ROMAN CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF REGINA OFFICE OF THE ARCHBISHOP

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February 28, 2024

To all the faithful of the Archdiocese of Regina

Dear friends in Christ,

Over two years ago, the whole church began a synodal process of reflection and listening, walking together as the people of God. This path began in our Archdiocese on October 17, 2021, with a special celebration of the Eucharist at Holy Rosary Cathedral and continued through the next months with local listening sessions in parishes, schools, religious orders, and many other places. Input from these sessions was fed into the Synod assembly in October 2023.

I am writing to ask for your prayerful participation in the next phase of the worldwide synodal path. Pope Francis has invited every diocese to contribute to the work of the 2024 session of the Synod of Bishops. The 2023 Synod has issued a Synthesis Report titled "A Synodal Church in Mission." We are invited as a diocese to "deepen" aspects of this report based on our own local experience as a pilgrim church.

Over the next six weeks, we are asked to gather into local listening sessions using a similar process as before but guided by a new fundamental question: "How can we be a synodal Church in mission?" Each parish, prayer group, youth group, Catholic organization, or other kind of church gathering is encouraged to hold at least one listening session during the month of March and to report back by April 8.

Our Archdiocesan Synod Team will be holding a series of Zoom conversations in March and April. You may participate in any of these, as well as your local listening sessions. A final gathering will review a draft report to assist in the preparation of a Canadian submission to the Synod Assembly in October 2024.

A revised resource for the "Spiritual Conversation" has been prepared. The Synod Team is recommending that we focus our reflections within the Synthesis Report on the following themes. In your listening sessions, you are encouraged to pick one of these themes. You may, of course, offer your reflections on any of the 20 themes in the report.

Part I. The Face of the Synodal Church

Mar. 20 @ 7 pm

3. Entering the Community of Faith: Christian Initiation

5. A Church "out of every tribe, tongue, people and nation"

Part II. All Disciples, All Missionaries

Mar. 23 @ 10 am

8. Church is Mission

9. Women in the Life and Mission of the Church

Part III. Weaving Bonds, Building Communities

Apr. 6 @ 10 am

14. A Synodal Approach to Formation

18. Structures for Participation

Draft report on 2024 Archdiocesan phase

Apr. 13 @ 10 am

If you are coordinating a listening session, please prepare a brief report on it and send it to the Archdiocesan Synod Team at njesson@archregina.sk.ca before April 8.

In Christ,

Very. Rev. Brian Meredith

Vicar General, Archdiocese of Regina

I present

Resources:

A Synodal Church in Mission, the 2023 Synod Synthesis Report, https://bit.ly/A-Synodal-Church-in-Mission

Spiritual Conversation Guide, https://bit.ly/Spiritual-Conversation-Guide

Zoom gatherings: March 20 & 23, April 6 & 13: https://bit.ly/YQR-Synod-2024

For more information, contact: Nick Jesson Archdiocesan Synod Coordinator njesson@archregina.sk.ca