



## ST. JOHN THE APOSTLE PARISH

### **A Synod is...**

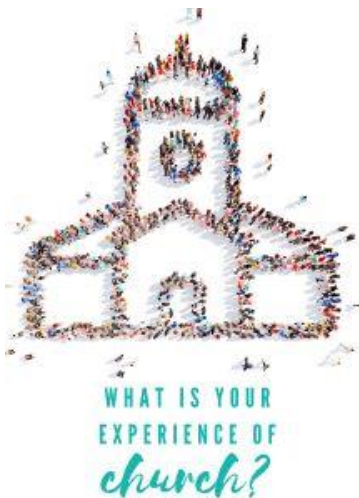
The official process of the Church of listening to the guidance of the Holy Spirit on a particular subject. This special Synod is on Synodality, which means “journeying together.”

Pope Francis is inviting everyone to share his/her personal experiences of the Church and to discern and propose the path forward for their own parish and the Roman Catholic Church.

We are offering you, members of the parish and others, to heed the call of the Pope and answer these fundamental questions below.

### **Synodal Prayer**

We stand 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



### **The Fundamental Questions of this Synod**

The Pope would like to hear from the People of God on what the Holy Spirit is saying to our Church today and how we can become a more synodal, listening Church.

- 1. What has been your experience, in terms of joys and challenges, as you live your faith within and outside our parish and the Catholic Church?**
- 2. What improvements can our parish and the Catholic Church make as they endeavour to spread the joy and love of Christ’s gospel to all; in our parish, neighbourhood and nation?**

Reflect on these questions. Gather with family and friends if you are comfortable to discern together. Responses can be written in point form on the back of this sheet, dropped into the collection basket in the coming weeks or email to parish office. All responses confidential. Your responses will be sent to those responsible for conveying your responses to Rome in preparation for the 2023 Synod.