

## Ten Themes to Explore and Questions to Discuss

### 1. THE JOURNEYING COMPANIONS

**In the Church and in society, we are side by side on the same road.**

- a. When we say “our Church,” who is part of it?
- b. Do I feel invited to be part of the journey?
- c. When have I felt that I was or was not invited to the journey?
- d. Have I seen or experienced persons or groups who have not felt invited to be part of the journey?

### 2. LISTENING

**Listening is the first step, but it requires having an open mind and heart, without prejudices.**

- a. In your experience, to whom does your local parish Church ‘need to listen to’?
- b. In your experience, to whom does the Church at large need to listen to?

### 3. SPEAKING OUT

**All are invited to speak with courage and boldness, that is, integrating freedom, truth and charity.**

- a. Are you aware if your parish has resources where you may share your concerns with truth, charity, and boldness?

### 4. CELEBRATING

**“Journeying together” is only possible if it is based on communal listening to the Word and the celebration of the Eucharist.**

- a. How does prayer and liturgical celebrations (Mass and Communal Prayer) at my parish inspire and guide our “journeying together”?
- b. Do you feel engaged in the liturgy and prayer life of your parish community?

### 5. CO- RESPONSIBLE IN THE MISSION

**Synodality is at the service of the Church’s mission, in which all her members are called to participate.**

- a. We are called to be missionary disciples, how are you as a baptized person called to participate in the mission of proclaiming the Gospel?
- b. How is your parish living the mission of proclaiming the Gospel?

## 6. DIALOGUE IN THE CHURCH AND SOCIETY

**Dialogue is a path of perseverance that is ideally capable of gathering experiences of all persons, including those who feel they have been silenced or have been suffering in silence.**

- a. Does your parish engage with other believers and with non-believers?
- b. Is there a place for your parish members to dialogue openly?
- c. How has differing opinions been addressed at your parish?

## 7. WITH THE OTHER CHRISTIAN CONFESSIONS

**The dialogue between Christians of different confessions, united by one Baptism, has a special place in the synodal journey.**

- a. What relations does your parish have with the brother and sisters of other Christian denominations?
- b. What areas do they concern?
- c. What fruits have we drawn from this “journeying together”?
- d. What are the difficulties?

## 8. AUTHORITY AND PARTICIPATION

**A synodal Church is a listening Church that provides opportunities to listen to the Holy Spirit and People of God in order to discern together and walk forward on a common path.**

- a. How does your parish identify the goals to be pursued, the way to achieve them and the steps to be taken?
- b. How are the practices of teamwork, co-responsibility, and lay ministries promoted in your parish?

## 9. DISCERNING AND DECIDING

**In a synodal style, decisions are made through discernment, based on a consensus that flows from the common obedience to the Holy Spirit.**

- a. By what procedures and methods do we discern together and make decisions?
- b. How can they be improved?

## 10. FORMING OURSELVES IN SYNODALITY

**Journeying together calls us to lifelong formation and growth in our Christian faith.**

- a. How does your parish provide the tools you need to be a disciple of Jesus Christ?
- b. How does your parish provide opportunities for praying together, listening to one another, and engaging in dialogue as a community of believers to further the mission of the Gospel?