

SYNOD: Communion. Participation. Mission.

The Synod on Synodality is an assembling of the entire Church over the next two years, at the invitation of our Holy Father, Pope Francis, to encounter Christ, journey together and listen to the Holy Spirit. In the local phase, which runs through June 2022, we of the Archdiocese of Portland will be engaged in a process of prayer and discernment in each parish to collectively discern where and how God is inviting us to extend the Church's mission in today's new apostolic age.

ALL SYNOD GATHERINGS: The Pastoral Staff and Pastoral Council of Our Lady of the Lake have established five gathering times to pray and provide that participation and dialogue. All parishioners are invited to attend and to invite others to participate who may have left the Catholic church over time. There is no sign-up or registration process. Simply choose to attend one of the sessions.

- **Saturday February 12, 9:30am-12pm**
(Church and Hall)
- **Sunday February 20, 1:30-4pm**
(Church and Hall)
- **Wednesday February 23, 6:30-9pm**
(Church and Hall)
- **ZOOM - Sunday March 6, 1:30-3:30pm**
(Meeting link will be available on our website)
- **ZOOM - Wednesday March 9, 7-9pm**
(Meeting link will be available on our website)

The Process and Questions: Each of the gatherings will include prayer, reflection, and opportunity for dialogue and response. Here are the three scripture passages and reflection questions:

Scripture 1 - *John 3:16-17*

For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him.

Question 1

What in the church fills me with life? How is the Holy Spirit working in my life to deepen my faith and inspire me to be a better disciple and witness of Christ's love to others?



Scripture 2 - *Hebrews 10:21-24*

Since we have “a great priest over the house of God,” let us approach with a sincere heart and in absolute trust, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed in pure water. Let us hold unwaveringly to our confession that gives us hope, for he who made the promise is trustworthy. We must consider how to rouse one another to love and good works.

Question 2

As a community of believers, what experiences of the Catholic Church have brought joys or revealed wounds? And how can these experiences help us grow together in faith and offer the hope and healing of Christ to the greater community in which we live?

Scripture 3 - *1 John 1:1-4*

What was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we looked upon and touched with our hands concerns the Word of life — for the life was made visible; we have seen it and testify to it and proclaim to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was made visible to us— what we have seen and heard we proclaim now to you, so that you too may have fellowship with us; for our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son, Jesus Christ. We are writing this so that our joy may be complete.

Question 3

As a Catholic community, we are expressly enjoined to invite others into a life-giving relationship with Jesus Christ. When we dream about how best to accomplish this, what steps is the Holy Spirit inviting the Church in western Oregon to take?