

**Consultation of People of God**  
**by the Assembly of Bishops in Synod 2021-2023**  
**Questionnaire**  
**(For the Catholic Diocese of Hong Kong)**

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ :

Thank you very much for spending time to respond to the Consultation. Please note the followings before completing this Questionnaire:

- 1) Please pray in order that your response be under the guidance and enlightenment of the Holy Spirit;
- 2) You or your community may choose to answer part or all of the questions in the Questionnaire.
- 3) You may complete the Google Form, Word file, or PDF file ([catholic.org.hk/synod21-23](http://catholic.org.hk/synod21-23)). Please use separate sheet to fill in your answer if necessary.
- 4) Please send your answer **on or before 30th April 2022** by email to [synod2021to2023@catholic.org.hk](mailto:synod2021to2023@catholic.org.hk), or by post to : Diocese Centre, 12th Floor, 16 Caine Road, Hong Kong, marked for the attention of “Consultation Committee for the 16th Synod of Bishops”.

**The Fundamental Question**

A synodal Church, in announcing the Gospel, “journeys together.” How is this “journeying together” happening today in your local Church (diocese, parish, community, etc.)? What steps does the Spirit invite us to take in order to grow in our “journeying together”? (Preparatory Document, 26)

Ten Themes in the Consultation - divided into three parts: Communion, Participation, and Mission.

**Part 1 : COMMUNION**

**1. COMPANIONS ON THE JOURNEY**

Belief : In the Church and in society we are side by side on the same road (faith, moral, environment, education and other aspects).

Q1: In our local Church (diocese, parish, community, etc.), who are those who “walk together”?

(Pls answer in a separate sheet if necessary)

Q2: Who are those who seem further apart?

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Q3: What groups or individuals are left on the margins?

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## 2. LISTENING

Belief : Listening is the first step, but it requires an open mind and heart, without prejudice.

Q1 : How does the local Church (diocese, parish, community, etc.) listen to the laity, especially women and young people ?

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Q2: How is the contribution of consecrated men and women integrated?

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Q3: What space is there for the local Church to listen to the voice of minorities, people who experience marginalization, or social exclusion?

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Q4: In listening to the voice of others, how can we notice the social and cultural background is affecting mutual communication?

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### 3. SPEAKING OUT

Belief : All are invited to speak with courage and parrhesia, that is, in freedom, truth, and charity.

Q1: What enables or hinders speaking up courageously, candidly, and responsibly in our local Church ?

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Q2: How does the relationship with the local media work (e.g. communication, co-operation and interaction)?

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#### **4. CELEBRATION**

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

Q1: How do prayer and liturgical celebrations (prayers of individual and community, celebrating mass, receiving sacraments etc.) actually inspire and guide our common life and mission in our community?

Q2: How do we promote the active participation of all the faithful in the liturgy? What space is given to participating in various ministries?

#### **Part 2 : MISSION**

#### **5. SHARING RESPONSIBILITY FOR OUR COMMON MISSION**

Belief : Synodality is at the service of the mission of the Church, in which all members are called to participate.

Q1: Since we are all missionary disciples, how is every baptised person called to participate in the mission of the Church?

Q2: How does the community support its members who serve society in various ways (social involvement, scientific research, education, promoting development in society, caring for the environment, etc.)?

## 6. DIALOGUE IN CHURCH AND SOCIETY

Belief : Dialogue requires perseverance and patience. While dialogue requires keeping silent and enduring suffering, it enables us to learn from the experience of people from different culture and race.

Q1: How do we promote collaboration with neighbouring dioceses, consecrated and religious communities in the area, lay associations and movements?

Q2: What experiences of dialogue and collaboration do we have with believers of other religions and with those who have no religious affiliation?

Q3: How does the Church dialogue with and learn from other sectors of society: the spheres of politics, economics, culture, civil society, and people who live in poverty?

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## 7. ECUMENISM

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

Q1: What relationships does our Church community have with members of other Christian traditions and denominations?

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Q2: What do we share and how do we journey together? What fruits have we drawn from walking together? What are the difficulties?

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### **Part 3 : PARTICIPATION**

#### **8. AUTHORITY AND PARTICIPATION**

Belief : A synodal church is a participatory and co-responsible Church.

Q1: How does our Church community identify the goals to be pursued, the way to reach them, and the steps to be taken?

Q2: How are teamwork and co-responsibility put into practice? How are lay ministries and the responsibility of lay people promoted?

#### **9. DISCERNING AND DECIDING**

Belief : In a synodal style we make decisions through discernment of what the Holy Spirit is saying through our whole community.

Q1: What methods and processes do we use in spiritual discernment and decision-making? How can they be improved?

Q2: How do we promote participation in decision-making within hierarchical structures of the church?

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Q3: What tools and procedures do we use to promote transparency and accountability?

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**10. FORMING OURSELVES IN SYNODALITY**

Belief : Synodality entails receptivity to change, formation, and on-going learning.

Q1: How does our church community form people especially those shoulder responsibilities in the community, to be more capable of “walking together,” listening to one another, participating in mission, and engaging in dialogue?

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Q2: What formation is offered to foster discernment and the exercise of authority in a synodal way?

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Are there any other points you want to make in relation to the above ten themes ?

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**11. PERSONAL INFORMATION (Optional):**

Q1: Name of Parish/Community:	
Ans.:	

Q2: Are you (1) clergy, (2) consecrated persons, or (3) laity?	
Ans.:	

Q3: Your age group: (1) born before 1950, (2) 1951-1970, (3) 1971-1990, (4) after 1990	
Ans.:	

Q4: Your frequency in attending mass: (1) daily, (2) weekly, (3) monthly, (4) occasionally	
Ans.:	

Contact (email address, postal address, telephone number, others)	

**Personal Information Collection Statement**

The provision of your personal data is entirely voluntary. Personal data provided by you will only be used for the purpose of verification and compilation of the Report. The Report will not contain your personal data. The data will be destroyed within 6 months after compilation of the Report. You have right to request access to and correction of your personal data provided in accordance with the Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance (Cap. 486). Please send email to [syond2021to2023@catholic.org.hk](mailto:syond2021to2023@catholic.org.hk) to make such request.