

**Diocese of Sault Ste. Marie**



**Diocèse de Sault Ste-Marie**

December 17<sup>th</sup>, 2021

Dear Synod participants,

On behalf of Bishop Dowd, we are delighted to invite you to be involved in the synodal process.

Your involvement may be individual or in groups. Specific questions will guide you through the process. This process is an opportunity to allow the Holy Spirit to guide us on this “journey together”.

In person meetings must adhere to all pandemic restrictions. Zoom meetings and conference calls are acceptable means of communication.

As encouraged by Bishop Thomas Dowd, in his pastoral letter regarding the Synod: “What we therefore need to do is make [every member of] the Church more adept at listening to the voice of the Holy Spirit.”

We encourage you to use and reflect on, the Prayer of the Synod.

*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.*

All required documents for the synodal process can be found on the diocesan website, at <https://dioceseofsaultstemarie.org/synod>.

We are available to assist you should you have any questions or concerns. You may contact Sister Alice Greer, CSJ, at [synod@ssmd.ca](mailto:synod@ssmd.ca), or Fr. Roch Martin at [r.martin@ssmd.ca](mailto:r.martin@ssmd.ca).

Answers to the questions **must be submitted by January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2022**. Your responses may be submitted by email or by regular mail to the Diocesan Centre at 30, Ste-Anne Rd., Sudbury ON P3C 5E1. Please note that groups submit one response for the group.

May the gifts of the Holy Spirit guide you in your proceedings and know that we are praying for you as we hope you are remembering us in your prayers.

Your coordinators for the Synodal Process in the Diocese of Sault Ste. Marie,

Sister Alice Greer, CSJ

Rev. Roch Martin