For a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation, Mission Advent 2024



Intercessions based on the Final Document of the 2nd Session of the XVI Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops (October 2-27, 2024)

For Peace and Hope in the Jubilee Year #1, #6

 God of Peace, you call us to conversion. In this season of Advent, we pray for your peace to be kindled anew in our hearts. As we return to you, the source of all goodness and mercy, we pray that we welcome your Holy Spirit into our lives. Build among us a unity that establishes harmony amidst differences. Be with us as we seek to become a sign and sacrament of your love alive and active in our world. We pray to the Lord. *All: Lord, hear our prayer.*

2. God of Hope, as we begin our Jubilee Year, we ask for your holy presence to guide and inspire us as we walk forward together as *Pilgrims of Hope*. Make us bearers of the light of compassion, capable of sharing the forgiveness and reconciliation that come from you. We pray that your Church is experienced as a place of welcome, hope, and joy, especially for the most vulnerable and hurting among us. We pray to the Lord. *All: Lord, hear our prayer.*

For the People of God: at the service of the common good #38, #57, #114, #122

3. For the People of God. We pray that our local faith communities welcome the enriching gifts of diverse peoples, ages, languages, vocations, charisms and ministries. We ask for the guidance of the Spirit as we continue along the path of encounter, mutual understanding and exchange of gifts that nourish communion. We pray to the Lord. *All: Lord, hear our prayer.*

For a Synodal Spirituality: *cultivating a spiritual disposition* #41, #51, #78, #83, #91

4. For Listening. We pray that our Catholic faith communities cultivate a synodal spirituality that flows from the action of the Holy Spirit. Keep us open to the Word of God, to contemplation, to silence, and to the lived experience of each other. Lead us to conversion of mind and heart as we seek to follow your way, truth, and life. We pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

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For New Relationships: a renewal of grace #50, #81, #121

5. For Relationships. We pray that we generously answer the call to build a Church with a greater capacity to nurture relationships: with the Lord, between women and men, in the family, in the local community, among social groups and religions, and with sacred creation. Form us in your justice and solidarity with all the members of the Body of Christ. We pray to the Lord. *All: Lord, hear our prayer.*

For Faithfulness to Mission: the call to discipleship #97, #98, #121

6. For Trust. We pray that transparency and accountability are embedded in the practices of the synodal Church so that trust and credibility can be rebuilt. Strengthen in us a commitment to healing the wounds of memory and to walking the path of reconciliation. We pray for commitment to the safeguarding of all God's children, especially minors and vulnerable adults. We pray to the Lord. *All: Lord, hear our prayer.*

For Interreligious Dialogue and Respect: an exchange of gifts #122, #123

7. For Mutual Aid and Activity: we pray that the synodal Church commits itself to walking the path of fruitful and respectful dialogue alongside the believers of other religions and people of other beliefs. Teach us to share the joy of the Gospel and to gratefully receive the gifts of our sisters and brothers as we build cultures of life, action and prayer. We pray to the Lord. *All: Lord, hear our prayer.*

For A Church on Mission: the feast meant for everyone #141-2, #144, #146-7, #151-4

8. For a Church on Mission: we pray that the evangelising mission of the Church is carried forward today by missionary disciples formed in love of God and neighbour. May those who witness to the light of Christ alive and active in the world defend human life and rights, the dignity of work, a fair and supportive economy, and an integral ecology. We pray to the Lord. *All: Lord, hear our prayer.*

Intercessions prepared by Fiona Dyball, based on the Final Document.