



United State Conference of Catholic Bishops

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January 11, 2022

Dear Friends,

Pope Francis has invited every Catholic to participate in [*For a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation, and Mission*](#). The invitation bars no one from sharing their voice. As a national Catholic organization your voice is crucial for the synodal process. National Catholic organizations and institutions like yours can help in reaching out and listening to various people that might not connect with the Church, especially those on the margins. The USCCB is asking that all Catholic-affiliated organizations and institutions consider the ways in which they can contribute to the synodal process in a meaningful way.

The Synod is both a gift and a task. As we journey together, listening and reflecting on our experiences, the Church will be able learn. The synodal pathway provides a process that helps the Church “to live communion, to achieve participation, to open Herself to mission” ([Preparatory Document 1](#)). The work of your organization is instrumental to the life and spirit of the Church; please consider sharing your wisdom, experience, and concerns.

The USCCB is here to support you as you think through how this might be possible for your organization. To that effect, we would like to invite you to participate in the synodal process by holding consultations with your members, staff, clients, guests, and other groups and submitting a report to the USCCB with a copy to your episcopal moderator or liaison, should your organization have one.

For resources that can be adapted to fit your organization’s needs, please see www.usccb.org/synod or write to the USCCB Synod Team at synod@usccb.org. Consultations you would like to report must be submitted to the USCCB by **June 30, 2022**, so they may be integrated into the USCCB synthesis. Submission details will be forthcoming.

Thank you for your considered participation for this important event in the life of the Church!

Peace,

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Richard Coll
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Justice, Peace, &
Human Development

& Julia McStravog
Consultant
*For a Synodal Church:
Communion, Participation, &
Mission*