

# Note Taker

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_









**Please provide brief comments to the Synod’s Core Question: Discerning and Deciding**

*In a Synodal style, we make decisions through discernment of what the Holy Spirit is saying through our whole community. Synodal style of decision-making is to listen first, dialogue, pray, discern, and then the pastor makes a decision on behalf of community. A Synodal Church does not make decisions to accomplish pre-identified priorities. “In a Synodal Church, the whole community, in the free and rich diversity of its members, is called together to pray, listen, analyze, dialogue, discern and offer advice on making pastoral decisions which correspond as closely as possible to God’s will.” (Vademecum no. 1.4)*

- How does your organization use the methods of listening and speaking (consultation) to make decisions?
- How does your organization promote participation in decision-making within the hierarchical structures of the Church?
- Do the decision-making methods of your organization help you to listen to all members of the community, including those who are on the peripheries of involvement in the organization?

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**Please provide brief comments to the Synod's Core Question: With other Christian Denominations**

- *“May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the holy Spirit.”* (Romans 15:13) The Holy Spirit sent by Christ and received in our Baptism and Confirmation guides our efforts, breathes life and vitality into the Church, and leads us into a deeper relationship with Jesus and deeper communion with the Church in order to proclaim the Gospel. This Synodal journey is guided by the Holy Spirit (c.f. *Vademecum* 1.2)

What relations do we have with the brothers and sisters of other Christian denominations? What areas do they concern? What fruits have we drawn from this “journeying together”? What are the difficulties?



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**Please provide brief comments to the Synod’s Core Question: Dialogue in Church and Society**

- “They devoted themselves to the teaching of the apostles and to the communal life, to the breaking of the bread and to the prayers. Awe came upon everyone, and many wonders and signs were done through the apostles” (Acts 2:42-43).
- “Journeying together” is only possible if it is based on communal listening to the Word and the celebration of the Eucharist. (*Preparatory Document* no. 30)

How does the Church dialogue with and learn from other sectors of society: the world of politics, economics, culture, civil society, the poo? What are the places and modes of dialogue within our particular Church? How do we promote collaboration with neighboring Dioceses, with and among religious communities in the area, with and among lay associations and movements, etc.?



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