

OPENING PRAYER



2021 Synod 2023
For a synodal Church

Sign of the Cross

Scripture Reading

Mark 10:17-21

Reflection

(Pope Francis, Homily at the Mass for the “Opening of the Synodal Path” [October 10, 2021])

Prayer for the Synod

(Every session of the Second Vatican Council began with the prayer *Adsumus Sancte Spiritus*, the first word of the Latin original meaning, “We stand before You, Holy Spirit,” which has been historically used at Councils, Synods and other Church gatherings for hundreds of years, being attributed to Saint Isidore of Seville [c. 560 - 4 April 636]. As we are called to embrace this synodal path of the Synod 2021-2023, this simplified version of the prayer invites the Holy Spirit to operate within us so that we may be a community and a people of grace.)

***All: 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.

MID SESSION PRAYER

Sign of the Cross

Scripture Reading

Mark 10:17-21

Reflection

(Pope Francis, Homily... [continued])

Prayer for the Synod

(Saint Vincent Archabbey / Latrobe, Pennsylvania)

***All: Holy Spirit,
make Yourself at home in our hearts.***

***Holy Spirit,
we are gathered in the name of Jesus.***

***As his gift to us, guide us;
make Yourself at home
in our hearts,
in our homes,
and in our churches.***

***Show us the way you desire
to renew the Church,
and give us courage to walk it.***

***Let us find our way
to harmony and unity,
to truth and self-knowledge.***

***May we run the way together
to a renewed and relevant church
in the world and to eternal life.***

Amen.



CLOSING PRAYER

Sign of the Cross

Scripture Reading

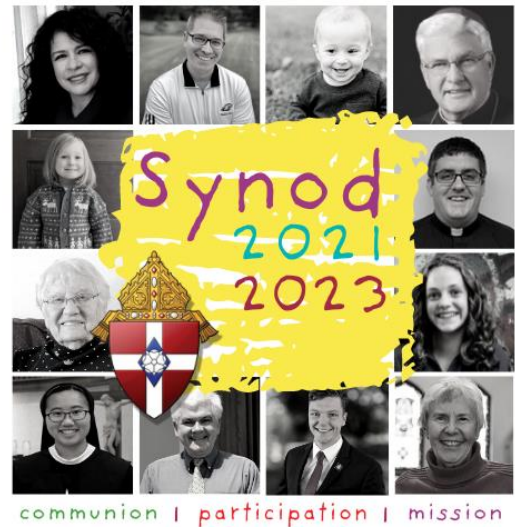
Mark 10:17-21

Reflection

(Pope Francis, Homily... [continued])

Prayer for the Synod

(Pope Francis, From the “Address for the Opening of the Synod” [October 9, 2021])



All: Come Holy Spirit!

***You inspire new tongues
and place words of life on our lips:***

***Keep us from becoming a “museum Church”,
beautiful but mute,
with much past and little future.***

***Come among us,
so that in this synodal experience
we will not lose our enthusiasm,
dilute the power of prophecy,
or descend into useless and unproductive discussions.***

***Come, Spirit of love,
open our hearts to hear your voice!***

***Come, Holy Spirit of holiness,
renew the holy and faithful People of God!***

***Come, Creator Spirit,
renew the face of the earth!***

Amen.