

Diocese of Northampton 2021

The Church of God is convoked in Synod.
With this convocation,
Pope Francis invites the whole Church
to question itself on synodality:
a decisive theme for the life and mission of the Church.



After the opening ceremony in Rome on October 10, 2021 there are 7 days between the opening ceremony in Rome and the opening ceremony in our Cathedral with Bishop David (October 17, 2021, 3pm) which will be livestreamed. As a spiritual preparation for the opening of the Synod in each local Church, you are invited to use this time as 7 days of prayer for specific intentions related to the Synod. Pray this prayer daily at Mass or in school assembly. It could be used as a conclusion to the daily Universal Prayer [Prayer of the Faithful] or before the blessing at Mass.

The Prayer to the Holy Spirit for the Synod: *Adsumus Sancte Spiritus*

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.

*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 prayer invites the Holy Spirit to operate within us so that we may be a community and a people of grace. For the Synod 2021-2023, we propose to use this simplified version, so that any group or liturgical assembly can pray more easily.*

For further resources see synod.va

The Prayer to the Holy Spirit for the Synod: *Adsumus Sancte Spiritus* - adapted for younger people

Holy Spirit of God be with us as we pray.
Come into our hearts to guide us.
Show us what to do
because we need your help to always do what is good.
Keep us away from anything that is wrong.
Bring us together as God's people
to always know what is true and right.
We ask you this because you are with us always and everywhere
in the communion of the Father and the Son, forever and ever. Amen