



## United State Conference of Catholic Bishops

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October 29, 2021

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 national Catholic organizations, and partners of national Catholic organizations, your voice is crucial for the synodal process. National Catholic organizations and institutions like yours can also help in reaching out and listening to various people that normally 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.

This is “both a gift and a task: by journeying together and reflecting together on the journey that has been made, the Church will be able to learn through Her experience which processes can help Her to live communion, to achieve participation, to open Herself to mission” ([Preparatory Document](#) 1). The work of your organization is irreplaceable 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 national networks, staff, volunteers, and clients, 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](http://www.usccb.org/synod) or write to the USCCB Synod Team at [synod@usccb.org](mailto: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  
Executive Director  
Justice, Peace, &  
Human Development

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