



Synod Reporting Form

You can scan this form and email it to synod@archatl.com or you can mail to:

Synod Report
Archdiocese of Atlanta
2401 Lake Park Drive
Smyrna, Ga. 30080

Reports are due by April 30, 2022.

1. Email

2. First Name

3. Last Name

4. Phone Number

5. Parish/school/community/group name

6. Name of pastor/leader

7. Location

8. When and where did you host your listening session(s)

9. Time of day of listening session

10. Location, such as virtual meeting

11. In-person in the parish hall or other)

12. Number of attendees

Synod Reporting Form Questions

13. Please describe the process(es) you chose to consult your community.
(Check all that apply)

Check all that apply.

- One-day Prayer-Centered Listening Sessions
- Three-day Prayer-Centered Listening Sessions
- Online Survey
- Meetings
- Phone Calls
- Other _____

14. Whom did you consult? Please check all that apply:

Check all that apply.

- Parish / community members
- Parish / community leadership, staff & volunteers
- Parish councils (pastoral and finance)
- Inactive Catholics
- Other Christians
- Those of other religions
- Unaffiliated
- Other: _____

15. What was the most challenging aspect of the consultation process? What are some lessons learned?

16. What was the best part of the process? What were the high points?

17. Are there any fruits or steps that your community will be implementing as a result of this process?

Insight Questions

Please share four or five of the most important insights from your local synodal experience. In order to discern these fruits, we ask that you invoke the Holy Spirit for guidance. The guides prepared by the Archdiocese of Atlanta Synod team offered several insights as points of reflection. You need only to respond to the insights you used in your session(s). If you used a theme or question not in our guides, just specify that in your response. As an aid, consider the following points in your discernment:

- Consider not only reporting common trends and points of convergence, but also highlighting those points that strike a chord, inspire an original point of view or open a new horizon.
- Pay special attention to the voices of those who are not often heard or perhaps less frequently affirmed, keeping in mind the insights that can come from a minority of voices.
- Consider not only underlining positive experiences, but also bringing to light challenging and negative experiences in order to reflect the reality of what has been listened to.
- Keep in mind the experience of the local gathering: the attitudes of the participants and the joys and challenges of engaging together in prayer, listening and discernment

Insight 1: The Fundamental Question OR alternate theme:

17. The Fundamental Question; A synodal Church, in announcing the Gospel, “journeys together.” How is this “journeying together” happening today in our parish/community? How is the Holy Spirit inviting our parish/community to grow in “journeying together?”

First Theme

First Insight

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Insight 2: Listening & Discernment OR alternate theme:

18. Listening & Discernment; Listening is a first step that requires an open mind and heart, without prejudice. Discernment in a synodal style, which requires attentiveness to the Holy Spirit through the prayer and sharing of the whole community, depends first on listening.

How do you listen to God’s voice every day? How is God speaking to us through the voices that are in our midst, including those on the peripheries (the poor, marginalized, socially excluded, disaffiliated, etc.)? How do we hear the voices from the peripheries without prejudice?

What space(s) does our parish/community provide for listening and sharing (speaking freely) among all the members as well as those not regularly connected to our community? How do we together discern God’s will in our parish/community, and what role does consultation play?

Second Theme

Second Insight

Insight 3: Co-Responsibility & Participation OR alternate theme:

19. Prayer and Celebration; Central to “walking together” is the communal listening to the Word and the celebration of the Eucharist. How do prayer and liturgical celebrations, especially Sunday Mass, inspire and guide our parish/community in our shared life and mission?

How does listening to the Word of God together (e.g., Holy Mass, Scripture study groups, Holy Hours, etc.) inspire our parish/community’s most important decisions? What does the Eucharist mean to you? How does the Eucharist inspire your life and actions? How do we encourage the active participation of all the faithful in prayer, the liturgy and the sacraments?

Third Theme

Third Insight

Insight 4: Prayer and Celebration OR alternate theme:

20. Prayer and Celebration; Central to “walking together” is the communal listening to the Word and the celebration of the Eucharist. How do prayer and liturgical celebrations, especially Sunday Mass, inspire and guide our parish/community in our shared life and mission?

How does listening to the Word of God together (e.g., Holy Mass, Scripture study groups, Holy Hours, etc.) inspire our parish/community’s most important decisions? What does the Eucharist mean to you? How does the Eucharist inspire your life and actions? How do we encourage the active participation of all the faithful in prayer, the liturgy and the sacraments?

Fourth Theme

Fourth Insight

Insight 5: Listening to the Holy Spirit OR alternate theme:

21. Listening to the Holy Spirit; In what ways do you (pastor/leader in consultation with your team) see the Holy Spirit inviting the local Church here in the Archdiocese of Atlanta to grow in synodality?

Fifth Theme

Fifth Insight

Thank you for submitting your responses!

Thank you for submitting your responses. This does not have to be the end of the synodal process in your local community. We encourage you to take all of the insights from your listening session(s) into prayer and discernment to determine where you might be called by the Holy Spirit. We encourage you to present your insights to your community. You may consider publishing an expanded version of this report or offering another session to present what you heard. If you found the prayer-centered listening session to be fruitful, you can host them again in the future. In all things, our wish is that the work of the Holy Spirit will continue to inspire and inform the work of the church.

-Your Synod Core Team



