



Pope Francis has invited the worldwide Church to participate in preparing for the next meeting of the Synod of Bishops in October 2023.

The topic? SYNODALITY

What pitfalls do we need to avoid in the Synodal Process?

Synodality is a way of “journeying together” – of living out our faith – that calls for speaking and listening to one another and the Holy Spirit. As we follow the path of synodality, we must be aware of pitfalls that could hinder our progress and prevent the Synodal Process from bearing real fruit.

The following should be avoided as we participate in the synod consultation:

- The temptation to lead ourselves instead of being led by God
- The temptation to focus only on ourselves and our immediate concerns
- The temptation to see only problems
- The temptation to focus only on structures
- The temptation to look only within the visible confines of the Church
- The temptation to lose focus of the objectives of the Synodal Process
- The temptation to sow seeds of conflict and division
- The temptation to treat the Synod as a kind of parliament
- The temptation to listen only to those already involved in Church activities

Look for more information on participating in the Synod Consultation in the diocesan *Messenger*, in parish communications, on social media, and on the diocesan website, www.covdio.org/synod.

