



QUESTIONS FOR PHASE 1 DIOCESAN CONSULTATION Dioceses Mont-Laurier/Saint-Jérôme

1. TRAVELING COMPANIONS

In Church and in society we are on the same road, side by side.

- 1a) In our Church, who are “our traveling companions”? Who are we walking with?
- 1b) Who are the people who walk with us, even those who are not in the Church?
- 1c) Did we leave people on the way? Who are they?

2. TO LISTEN

Listening is the first step, but it requires an open mind and heart, without prejudice.

- 2a) How do we have our minds and hearts open to people who cross our path?
- 2b) What kind of ear do we listen to marginalized and distant people?
- 2c) What is preventing our listening?

3. SPEAK

Everyone is invited to speak with courage and parrhesia, that is, freely, in truth and with charity.

- 3a) What promotes or hinders courageous, frank and responsible speaking in our local Church and in society?
- 3b) When and how do we get to say what we think is important?

3c) What relations do we have with the local media (not just the catholic press)?

3d) In the public space, what are the places where we speak?

4. CELEBRATE

"Walking together" is only possible if this path is based on community listening to the Word and on the celebration of the Eucharist.

4a) How are our steps illuminated by the Word of God and the Eucharist?

4b) Are our celebrations and activities attractive and welcoming? If so, how are they? If not, what makes us say that?

4c) How do we promote the active participation of all the faithful in the liturgy?
How do we encourage the active participation of all the faithful in the liturgy?

5. CORESPONSIBLE IN THE MISSION

Synodality is at the service of the mission of the Church, a mission in which all her members are called to participate.

5a) How do we foster the active collaboration and participatory engagement of baptized people

5b) What support do we give to our members engaged in society (social, political, environmental commitment)?

5c) How do our commitments fit into a missionary dynamic?

6. DIALOGUE IN THE CHURCH AND IN SOCIETY

Dialogue is a path which requires perseverance and involves moments of silence and suffering, but which is able of collecting the experience of individuals and peoples.

6a) What are the places and means of dialogue in our Church?

- 6b) How do we deal with differences of opinion and difficulties?
- 6c) How do we encourage collaboration with neighboring dioceses, with religious communities in the region, with associations and lay movements, etc.?
- 6d) What are the problems in the Church and in society that we need to pay more attention to?

7. ECUMENISM

Dialogue between Christians of different faiths, united by one Baptism, occupies a special place on the synodal path.

- 7a) How does our church community relate to members of other traditions and other Christians denominations?
- 7b) What difficulties do we encounter?
- 7c) What fruits have we or could we get from “walking together”?

8. AUTHORITY AND PARTICIPATION

A synodal Church is a Church of participation and co-responsibility.

- 8a) How does our ecclesial community identify the goals to be pursued, the way to achieve them and the steps to follow?
- 8b) How are teamwork and co-responsibility valued in our parish team?
- 8c) How are authority and governance exercised in our particular and diocesan Church?

8d) How do we encourage the taking of responsibility of baptized people?

9. DISCERN AND DECIDE

In a synod style, decisions are made through a process of discernment, based on a consensus that springs from common obedience to the Spirit.

9a) What methods do we use when discerning and making decisions together?

9b) How do we promote the participation of as many people as possible in decision making within our community?

9c) What is the relationship between consultation and decision making, and how do we put it into practice?

9d) In our local Church, how do we support transparency and accountability in consultation and decision making?

10. TRAIN FOR SYNODALITY

The spirituality of “walking together” is called to become the educational principle of the human and christian formation of the person, of the formation of families and communities.

10a) How does our church community train people to be able to "walk together", listen to one another, participate in the mission and enter into dialogue?

10b) What training do we offer to promote discernment and the exercise of authority in a synod style?

10c) Are we sensitive to the impacts of the culture in which we live; what is its impact on the lifestyle of our Church?

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS

11. Please describe in one or two paragraphs the experience of the meeting(s) held in your local church, as well as the overall synodal consultation.

12. Based on the experience of your consultation(s), could you summarize in one or two sentences how the Spirit is calling your Church to grow in "walking together"?

13. Are there other important issues that emerged from your local church consultation that the above questions do not address?