

The Synodal Journey Process

Greetings!



Marcel Damphousse, Archbishop of Ottawa-Cornwall in his invitation to the people of God in the Archdiocese wrote: *“A Synod is fundamentally a spiritual process of listening and discerning how God is calling us to be a Church in the third millennium. It is a humble listening and a journey together which aims towards unity...”* adding that it creates the

opportunity for listening, dialogue and discernment at the local level of the parish.

At St. Joe’s we are in the process of working with volunteers who will then animate and listen to parishioners, friends and anyone who wishes to take part in this two-session process. We will journey together by beginning to hold Zoom sessions with you the parish members. Once you have registered a “Participant Guide” will be sent to you to help you to prepare to answer two fundamental questions. In the first session you will be asked to share your responses to the first question *How is this “journeying together” happening today in our local Church?* and then a week later will come together to respond to the second question of *What steps does the Spirit invite us to take in order to grow in our “journeying together”?* Each session will have an Animator, a Scribe to take notes of the sharings, and you, the participants. There will be moments of prayer, discernment, sharing and listening to what the Spirit is saying within each of us. These sessions will take place in the month of March and then the responses will be pulled together into a summary report which will be sent to Archdiocese offices for May 6, 2022. In the Fall of 2022, the full report will be shared with the parish so that we can look at what our own steps might be.

Eleanor Rabnett

*May the Holy Spirit guide us
in this journey together.*

“Archbishop Marcel Damphousse)