

# Synodality Study – Session 1 Responses

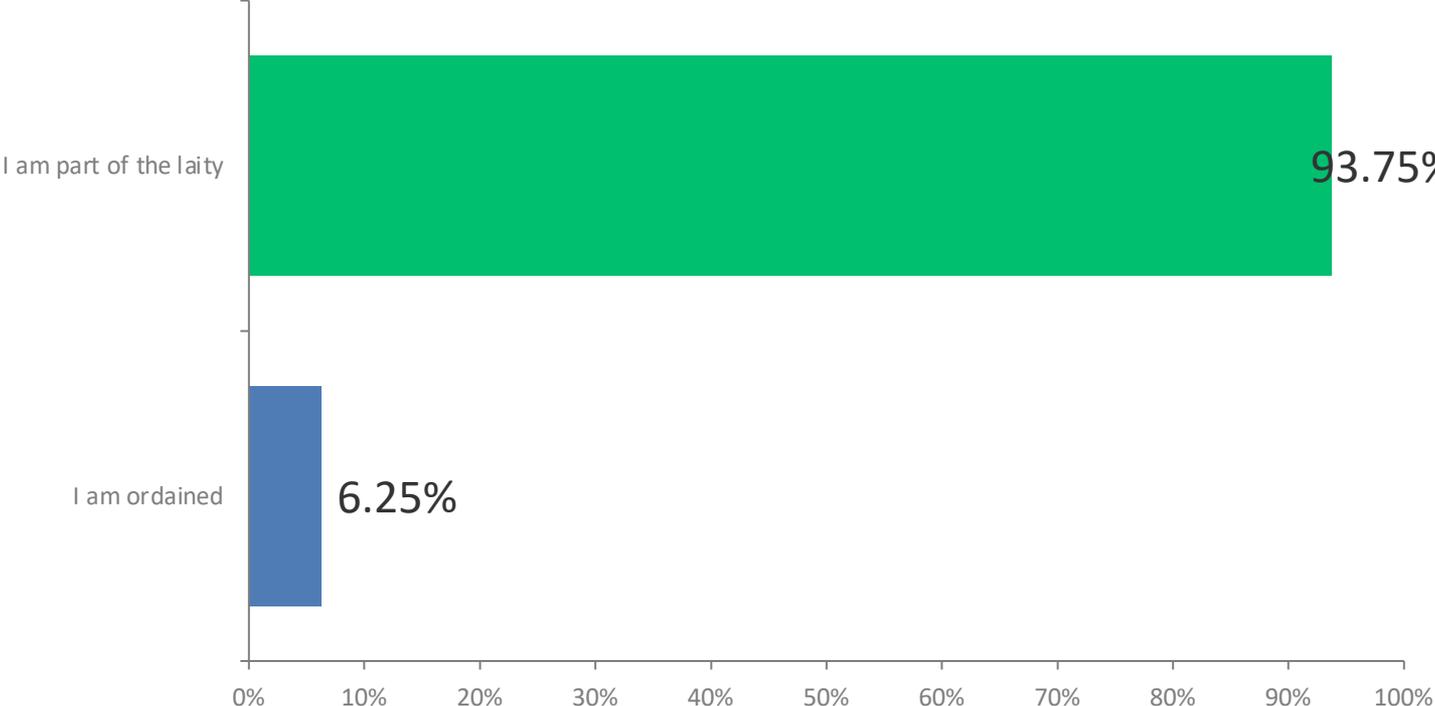
49 respondents

# YOUR DIOCESE



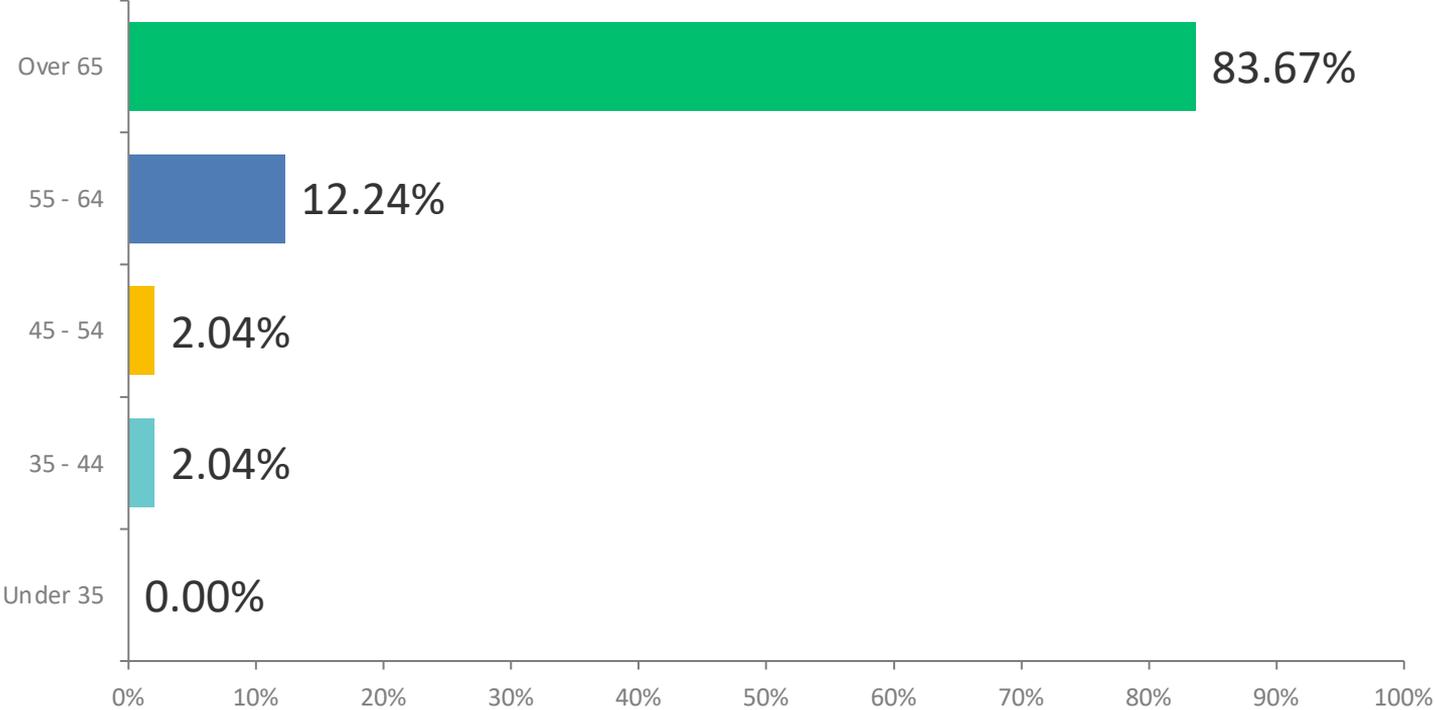
# Q2: Are you part of the laity or are you ordained? (choose one)

Answered: 48 Skipped: 1



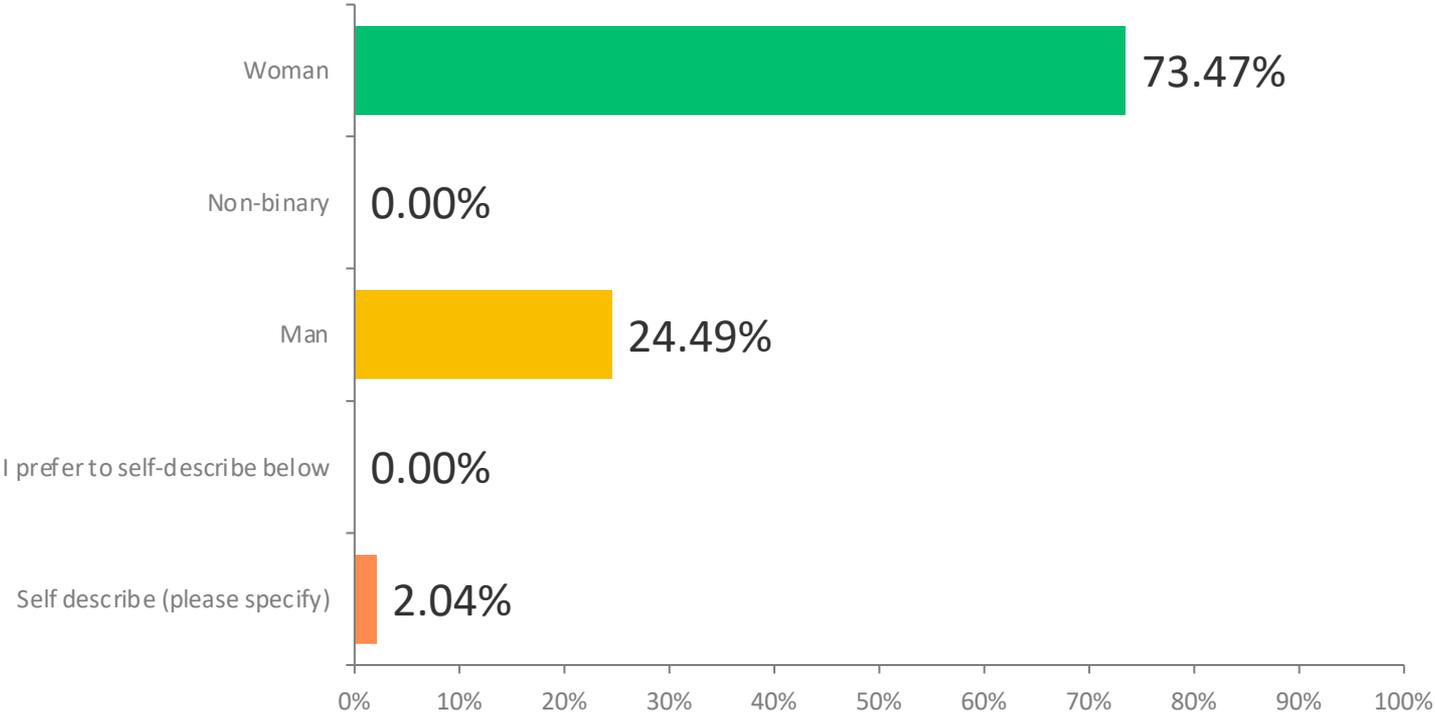
# Q3: Your age (choose one)

Answered: 49 Skipped: 0



# Q4: Gender: How do you identify? (choose one)

Answered: 49 Skipped: 0



## Q 5. What was the most important take-away?

Pentecost happened at a meeting. We need to meet, share what Spirit is saying to us, listen to what others are hearing, discern what Spirit is calling us to as we move forward together.

Education on the concept of clericalism.

I will listen to the recording; I did not heed CT.

That people are talking and somethings are happening. My diocese is planning on further synodal activites to discuss the responses from the parishes and other groups who participated.

Synodality is a huge undertaking with resistance but the Amazonian model of faith sharing groups of empowered laity is hopeful for all of us. We must overcome the fear of something new and embrace the hope. As laity are empowered to fill roles the priests will be more relieved of the stress and more available for sacraments.

Both theory and practical ideas

Wonderful synthesis and practical aids to fully understand and live out synodality in my local church

We need Synodality which, I learned, began for real with Pope Paul VI

We as laity are the church. We need to urge priests in our parishes to support our work as "priests" spreading the good word

An understanding that this will eventually have to be written into Canon Law

That a diocese can do a great deal to move forward with implementing synodality.

Synodality is key to dismantling clericalism, so let's do all we can to plan for the implementation of synodality in our dioceses and parishes sites

I feel there's hope but it's going to take a long time

Though the book is academic; it also is clear about synodality as the only hope for our Church. and - so gratifying to see a Diocese moving ahead in uncharted territory to see where the Spirit is leading. courageous and not easy

The Hopefulness of most everyone.

Rolheisers' pentecost happened at a meeting

WOW! what is MY hope of seeing 10% of all this done in the next 5 yrs.

That so many US parishes have participated 'successfully'

Synodal is natural next step of implementing Vatican II documents in the 3rd millennium

Pentecost happened at a meeting. We are in the upper room.

Overwhelming amount of work to make even the slightest changes

It's underway. Am seeing changes in my parish but no one says why.

Hope for change. I would just like to be referred to as a parishioner instead of a volunteer!

## Q 5. What was the most important take-away?

This is an epochal change!

Thinking of Canon law in a relaxed manner, i.e. "Canon Law Light"

The view of the church as inclusive of all

The synopsis of the book. Excellent...thank you

That we are trying to turn a tanker and it will be slow but must happen.

That the transformation of the Church needs to be systemic in nature on both a personal and the broader Church level.

That the people in my small group session have issues with the institutional church as do I. We see it as non-inclusive and the parish as not very receptive to alternate ways of thinking.

That synodality is more than listening. It involves praying, meeting, working together, discerning, making and taking decisions together.

That change should start at the local level

Sense of hope in the midst of despair

Re-think theology of ordination: "ontological change" is a huge contributor to clericalism

Keep trying to do away with clericalism and be ALL inclusive.

Donna's templates for action planning, ideas about how to communicate what we heard

hope

Practical applications

decoupling governance and ordination

To be creative

That people want to move forward on this.

Spirit moving laity

Others agree that I may have been called to ordination and we need to disrupt the clerical model of church to allow the Spirit to be heard in every day life

Newark Synod Process

I came in late & missed. I was updating an estimate for work

A little bit of hope but not much

## Q 6. What could help make synodality a greater reality in your parish, community or diocese?

Need to embrace Vatican II, listen to the Spirit as we read the signs of the time and how we are called to bring Christ to our world today.

In small group we spent time talking about the need for help educating parish members on the Catholic Social Teachings as integral to our faith

I need to lose the fear of trying to talk about this subject.

Using the model of religious congregations for governance, which is already synodal. As religious communities get smaller, perhaps the Associates could model discernment groups of governance.

Start with what's happening well and build on it.

My old parish is in a change mode with a parish coordinator running the parish and a retired priest doing the sacraments. The parishioners are very conservative. I really don't know what the current status is.

Parish/diocese/church should seriously consider 'suggestion box' system wherein people's ideas are encouraged, acknowledged and sent on to appropriate level of church for implementation or at least response.

Learning how to listen and discern well

I don't know about the parish, but I am part of several non-parish communities that always work this way.

Continue follow-up discussions. Use this book as a way of continuing the conversation

We are not only needing to be a Listening and learning Church but intentional and engaged, that Church is based on relationships and charism, not canon law

Getting a chancellor who will an effective model of implementation in the parishes.

Conversation circles for the laity, in parishes or with the unchurched, the marginated in churches

Changing cannon law

work sheets for parish goals and steps to implementation

recognize ALL can be called to ANY ministry in the Church by the Church

no need to wait, anyone is empowered to initiate a small group, or ongoing discernment with others to see where the Spirit is leading. having a committed bishop or priest is great - but if not - move forward

joanne from san diego loves mcelroy but decries all clergy for not speaking up from pulpit re immigrats needsp

Thinking of "education", teaching Mission of the Church, as educating the HEART... rather than the "brain"

Since parish/diocese response has been minimal, I'm working with another group. up

Really appreciate the really deep faith of the people.

## Q 6. What could help make synodality a greater reality in your parish, community or diocese?

Not an idea, but a question - how do we listen well to the diversity of voices and how do we gather at listening tables with those who think this very act of listening is near heresy (b/c it is all about hierarchy and certainty)?

Movement from listening sessions to consultation.

Move from listening circles to consultation circles

Keep Meeting!! Pentecost happened at a meeting!!!

Good question. I don't participate in the parish anymore. Too conservative and top down.

Focused meetings

Explanation of synod and how it can work

one on one conversations: give coffee coasters out and invite someone who has left the church to a cuppa, and find out why

maybe RVC can try next time? nothing happend this year

We will have to invent our way by walking.

Since I am no longer a part of a parish ??????

Publish!

No synodal meetings in my parish

Communal Discernment

Try to establish small faith communities.

Truly functioning Parish Councils. I think we should look at and adopt the approach of the Eastern Orthodox church where the Parish Council is highly empowered.

The issue of " ontological " for ordained. This gives them an unwarranted justification for their " superiority" So sad when you focus on the radical equality Jesus practices.

That it is a way of including all of the People of God in the decision making and power sharing.

Talk with my pastor who seems to cling to a clerical model of church and parish

Risks must be taken t really make synodality happen.

Keep or open lines of communication open with pastor and bishop.

I do not belong to a parish. However, I did fill out the Synod questionnaire for the Diocese

Having programs such as these to teach and update clergy and laity alike about the synod

Emphasize what "Traditionalists" and "Progressives" have in common and build from there.

Communicating success of Parish/Diocesan/USCCB consistency in what was summarized from listening sessions

The need to gather leaders who can make some of this happen

## Q 7. What kind of support do you need to help you advance synodality?

People need to be engaged and make our faith a priority in discerning the Spirit today. Faith formation of us adults needs to be a priority.

Educating on social teachings and bridging the wide gap between pre and post Vatican II parishioners

For all of us parishioners: education. General invitation to meet and really learn what this process is about; not fulfilling wish lists, but bringing people together to understand the PROCESS of active participation, of listening, of dialogue, of discernment. Items from our one consultation are being picked out by the Staff and the Pastoral Council.....like continuing prison ministry.....BUT no presentation of this to the parish.....the Council and the Staff deciding.....because it was in a pot of suggestions at the consultation session.....the understanding of the "sheep" participating, of reaching out for individual charisms.....not recognized, not understood.

More education on church as in pastoral care, theology, small group process, faith building

Just need an interested group, adults or parish leaders

I am unaffiliated to a parish at this time. I found an online community during COVID and I am still participating with this group that has members across the country. I don't feel a need to go to a local parish. I just joined the Ignation Volunteer Corps and have begun the doing the 19 th Atonement exercises. I am following my own path.

What you are doing right now is really helpful. Thank you for helping us better understand 'synodality'.

Have a catechist aid in having our discussions to help with talking points that can include everyone.

Concrete examples that we can see and interact with.

Clergy and lay members need to be re-educated together.

learning about discernment will be important but basic listening skills will also be essential

To see pastoral plans with synodality at the core, workshops of pastoral planning for the laity in our parishes.

More meetings explaining what synodality is. We had a meeting but very few people showed up.

Having a Bishop who does more to urge the parishes to get on with it.

if only the bishop showed authentic willingness to reformation

i feel there are tools out there - Luciani's book, the ITC document on synodality, even going back to Lumen Gentium and re-reading and discerning in group setting. lets be the People of God!

demand every seminary emphasize basic human dignity of lay people, how to respect them and listen well, church's social justice teaching and tobin and cupich and mcelroy style implementation of vatican II and how to empower and equip the sts for ministry kyohor

Would love to have some of the info presented from the diocese of Newark.

## Q 7. What kind of support do you need to help you advance synodality?

Getting the word out about the Synod and Vatican II. Here in the Americas Vatican II was mostly ignored.

As a religious congregation we're very synodal.

honestly, hierarchical support - this is especially important to be able to get those who are suspicious of the egalitarian nature of synodality to engage. Also, ways to build trust with those who have given up on the Church as a community that is healthy and nourishing for their spirituality b/c they have been isolated.

Vatican II Archbishop and Pastor

Understanding how clericalism got us in trouble.

Train the priests in synodality. They are the biggest barrier and they have the most to lose in the transition to synodal operations.

To be with people, like the community of Future church to be inspired and nudged out of my comfort zone

The support of the clergy to be open to a more inclusive Church.

Resources that would help to present the contents of the book in a user friendly format.

Outpouring of the Holy Spirit - sharing good practice, like today

In my opinion, we need the receptivity of pastors, bishops to involvement of the laity in leadership--specifically it's about overcoming clericalism. What does it look like to have men and women working together in leadership in the church?

I don't think synodality will happen unless are full participants in the structure and governance of the church.

Get a new Bishop, get a pastor...in the best sense of the word...one co-pastor is a retired \*\* general and has always been top dog, Need openness to change. Thank you . Carol

Examples of what others are doing, as Sr.Donna Ciangio did today

Education via the pastor - currently we do not have a DRE.

ideas of what has worked in other parishes

Correct understanding of Synodal and how it is not some new idea but flows from the Church's teaching

where to begin?...

ongoing social justice teaching and application to our lives

Openness

No longer in a parish

Interchange between people in different parts of the country.

Building self-confidence. (I work among the tribals)

Basic biology texts for the Bishops - so that they STOP TRYING TO KILL US with the anti-abortion nonsense!

## Q 7. What kind of support do you need to help you advance synodality?

Training in: group dynamics, listening and mediation skills.

trust" where we can share experience and accept difference in equality and mutuality.

Today was informative but will need to think about what is next for me.

To get our pastor, staff, councils etc motivated. They are very 'into' the Eucharistic Revival, so perhaps the Holy Spirit will work with us through that.

The kind of process that was outlined for New Jersey

Study of Lumen Gentium

I feel my parish indeed my diocese is atomized. I want dialogue. I can't remember an equal conversation with an ordained priest. My preoccupations is with how to gather a small (8 or 10?) persons who could commit for a season to meet regularly and become a "circle of