

In these days, the Catholic Church throughout the world and in Ireland is beginning a series of conversations about what God wants of his people at this time. These conversations are often referred to as a Synodal Process. “Synodal” comes from a Greek word which means “walking together”.

On Sunday 17th October we mark the opening of this Synodal Process entitled, *For a synodal Church: communion, participation and mission*. This Synodal Process coincides with the start of the two-year Synodal Pathway for the Catholic Church in Ireland which will lead, in time, to a National Synodal Assembly in Ireland.

We pray that the next two years will be a time of prayer, listening and discernment, involving a consultative conversation. This will allow all people - both within the Church and in society at large, to share their insights into the Catholic Church in Ireland – past, present and future – so that we can prepare for a National Synodal Assembly in the coming years.

[www.catholicbishops.ie/synod](http://www.catholicbishops.ie/synod) - to learn more about the Synodal Pathway for the Catholic Church in Ireland

[www.synod.va](http://www.synod.va) – to learn more about the worldwide Synod