

TIMELINE FOR THE SYNOD ON YOUNG PEOPLE, THE FAITH, AND VOCATIONAL DISCERNMENT

JANUARY 2017:

Pope Francis released the "Synod Preparatory Document" looking at the global situation, the lives of young people in the modern world, and the process of walking with young people as they discern their personal "vocation of love". The document ended with a questionnaire of 15 questions for everybody and three specific questions for each continent. Responses were incorporated into the working document.

JUNE 2017:

The Vatican Synod Office launched a special website and survey aimed directly at youth and young adults. The survey aimed to help the Synod Office better understand the realities of young people today and their pathways to vocation and the Catholic faith.

MARCH 2018:

A week-long pre-Synodal meeting was held in Rome with 300 young people from all over the world. Together they drafted a document, in preparation for the Synod. This was presented to Pope Francis on Palm Sunday.

3-28 OCTOBER 2018:

"The Synod on Young People, the Faith, and Vocational Discernment" will be held at the Vatican.

NOVEMBER 2018:

A final report from the Synod will be produced quite soon after the event, then translated into other languages.

6-12 MONTHS LATER

The Pope will most likely write a document (an apostolic exhortation) based on the learnings from the Synod.

Resources

www.usccb.org The United States Catholic Conference of Bishops
<https://w2.vatican.va> The Vatican Website

OCTOBER 2016:

The Holy Father announced the theme of the XV Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops: "Young People, the Faith and Vocational Discernment"

APRIL 2017:

An international conference was hosted in Rome by the Dicastery for the Laity, Family and Life in collaboration with the General Secretariat of the Synod of Bishops in Rome 'From Krakow to Panama: The Synod Journeying with Young People.' 270 delegates attended from 103 countries.

SEPTEMBER 2017

An International Seminar on the Condition of Youth in the World took place, with the participation of many experts and young people, that helped focus on the situation of young people today from a scientific standpoint.

JUNE 2018:

The *Instrumentum Laboris* (Working Document) for the Synod of Bishops released on June 19, 2018. The document includes input from the global consultations, online survey, and the Pre-Synod feedback.

INSIDE THE SYNOD:

The Synod runs 6 days a week from 9am – 1pm, then 4pm til 7pm.

The first week is a giant plenary (gathering) where each and every representative (Cardinals, Archbishops, Bishops, lay representatives) are given 4 minutes (and no more!) to give a speech.

In the second week, small groups of 30 are formed. The small groups are language based. Within the English group, there may be many with English as a second language such as Indonesians or Scandinavians. The small groups will analyse the *Working Document* paragraph by paragraph for two weeks. Notes will be prepared and submitted to an editing panel.

The editing panel will then present the new draft back to another series of plenary sessions where each paragraph of the Working Document will be voted on. The text that was selected by the majority will be used to form the final document.