



**A YOUNG CHURCH...**

**...and now, let the Synod begin!**

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- **Synod:** meeting of Bishops from all over the world
- **Participants:** around 300, elected by Bishop Conferences + appointed by the Pope (+ auditors/experts)
- **Topic: “Young People, Faith and Vocational Discernment”**
- **After the Synod:** apostolic Exhortation “**Christus Vivit**”



## October 2018: The Synod of Young People

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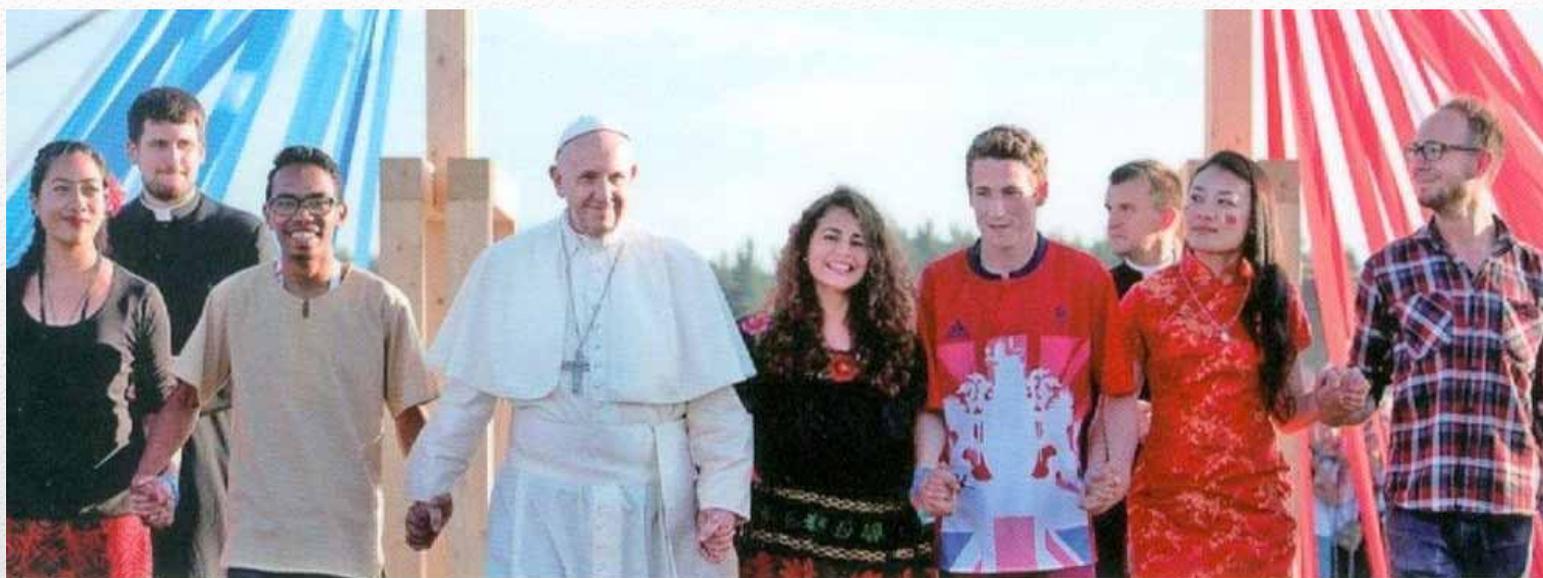
- January 2017: **Preparatory Document**
- January – September 2017: debate in the diocese and answers to the **questionnaires**
- **May 2017: website to consult all the young people (youth.synod2018.va)**
- Beginning of 2018: **Instrumentum laboris**
- **March 2018: Pre-Synodal Meeting of young people**
- October 2018: **Synod assembly**
- Following months: **Post-Synodal exhortation and implementation**

# **Synod is a PROCESS**

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**The Synod ... of all the young people**



## I giovani, la fede e il discernimento vocazionale

**RECOGNISE– INTERPRETE – CHOOSE**



**THE IMAGE: EMMAUS DISCIPLES**

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A young Church ...  
... full of diversity

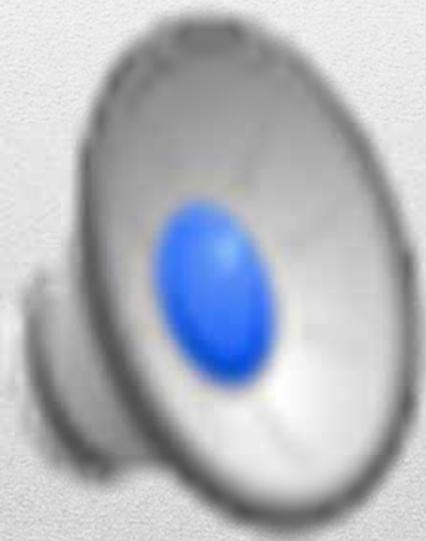




A young Church...  
...which knows how  
to listen



# The Synod : A young Church





A young Church...  
... with  
intergenerational dialogue

A young Church...



... which knows  
how to do “a step forward”

## SOME PATHS TO FOLLOW... /1

- We invite the Episcopal Conferences and particular Churches to continue this journey, committing themselves to **processes of communal discernment**, including in discussions some who are not bishops, as this Synod has done. The style of these ecclesial processes should include fraternal listening and intergenerational dialogue, **with a view to drawing up pastoral programmes that are particularly attentive to marginalized young people and those who have few or no contacts with ecclesial communities.** (120)
  - The Synod asks that the active **participation of the young become effective and ordinary in places of co-responsibility** in the particular Churches and in the organs of the Episcopal Conferences and the universal Church. (123)
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## SOME PATHS TO FOLLOW ... /2

- The young can help renew the style of parish communities and build a fraternal community that is close to the poor. The poor, the young who are cast aside, those who are suffering most, can become the principle of community renewal. They should be recognized as subjects of evangelization and they help us free ourselves from spiritual worldliness. Often the young are sensitive to the dimension of *diakonia*. Many are actively committed to **voluntary work** and they find in service the way to encounter the Lord. (137)
- **Forming our conscience** is the work of a lifetime. To reach the deepest dimension of conscience, according to the Christian vision, it is important to **cultivate the interiority** that thrives on periods of silence, on prayerful, attentive contemplation of the Word, on the sustenance gained from the sacraments and from Church teaching. Moreover we need to develop the **habit of doing good**, which we review in our examination of conscience. (108)

## A YOUNG CHURCH ... YOUNG AND IN LOVE

«It has been clear from the beginning of the synodal journey that the young form an essential part of the Church. So too, therefore, does their **holiness**, which in recent decades has flourished in many different ways all over the world ...

... Through the holiness of the young, the Church can renew her spiritual ardour and her apostolic vigour. The balsam of holiness generated by the good lives of so many young people can heal the wounds of the Church and of the world, bringing us back to that fullness of **love** to which we have always been called: the young saints inspire us to return to our first love (cf. *Rev* 2:4) ».

*(Final Document of the Synod, n.167 – conclusion)*

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