

Approaches that enable genuine listening and dialogue as we participate in the Synodal Process

- We are invited to speak with authenticity and honesty. Everyone can grow in understanding through dialogue.
- We can often be resistant to what the Holy Spirit is inspiring us to consider. We are called to set aside attitudes of complacency and comfort.
- Move forward with the conviction of faith. We are called to be beacons of hope, not prophets of doom.
- Keep in mind that Synodality is a spiritual process led by the Holy Spirit. We are pilgrims & servants on the path marked out for us by God.
- Avoid the temptation to focus solely on personal concerns. The Synodal Process is an opportunity to look beyond ourselves and see the needs and concerns of others.
- Avoid the temptation to only see "problems." The challenges, difficulties, and hardships facing our world and our Church are many. We can miss the light if we focus only on the darkness.
- Don't take any comment personally. Everyone is doing their best given the circumstances.
- As we proceed along the journey of the Synodal Process, keep in mind that the goal is to discern how God calls us to walk forward together. No one Synodal Process will resolve all our concerns and problems.
- Remember that Synodality is an attitude and an approach of moving forward in a co-responsible way that is open to welcoming God's inspiration over time.