



*Synod on Synodality  
Opening Mass*

*Sunday, October 17<sup>th</sup>, 2021*

Worship Aid  
Opening of the Synod in local Churches

The Prayer of the Synod:  
Adsumus Sancte Spiritus

We stand before You, Holy Spirit,  
as we gather together in Your name.

With You alone to guide us,  
make Yourself at home in our hearts;

Teach us the way we must go  
and how we are to pursue it.

We are weak and sinful;  
do not let us promote disorder.

Do not let ignorance lead us down the wrong path  
nor partiality influence our actions.

Let us find in You our unity  
so that we may journey together to eternal life  
and not stray from the way of truth  
and what is right.

All this we ask of You,  
who are at work in every place and time,  
in the communion of the Father and the Son,  
forever and ever. Amen.

## Structure of the Mass:

Beginning at the door of the church  
(Baptistery)

Sign of the cross

Greeting

Renewal of Baptismal Promises

*Asperges* (Sprinkling rite)

Start of the Procession towards the Altar

The Book of the Gospels precedes the Procession

Processional hymn: Litany of the Saints

Following the Book of the Gospels,  
an image (icon) of Mary is carried in the procession.

The Book of the Gospels will be placed on the altar and  
the Marian image or icon near the altar.

Gloria

Collect Prayer

## For a Synod

### Entrance Antiphon

Cf. Col 3: 14-15

And over all things put on love,  
which is the bond of perfection,  
and let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts.

### Collect

O Lord, ruler and guardian of your Church,  
pour out, we pray, upon your servants  
a spirit of truth, understanding and peace,  
that they may strive with all their heart  
to know what is pleasing to you  
and then pursue it with all their strength.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
God, for ever and ever.

or:

O God, who care for your peoples with gentleness  
and rule them in love,  
endow with a spirit of wisdom  
those to whom you have handed on authority to govern,  
that your people may be led to know the truth more fully  
and to grow in holiness according to your will.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
God, for ever and ever.

### Prayer over the Offerings

Look upon the offerings of your servants,  
O God of all compassion,  
and bestow on them the grace of your light,  
that they may have a true understanding  
of what is right in your eyes  
and boldly carry it out.  
Through Christ our lord.

Preface II of the Holy Spirit, p. 1342.

### Communion antiphon

Where true charity is dwelling, god is present there.  
By the love of Christ we have been brought together.

### Prayer after Communion

Grant, we pray, O merciful God,  
that the holy gifts we have received  
may confirm your servants in the truth  
and prompt them to seek the honor of your name.  
Through Christ our lord.

## Proclamation of the Word

### Reading I

[Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48](#)

When Peter entered, Cornelius met him  
and, falling at his feet, paid him homage.  
Peter, however, raised him up, saying,  
“Get up. I myself am also a human being.”

Then Peter proceeded to speak and said,  
“In truth, I see that God shows no partiality.  
Rather, in every nation whoever fears him and acts uprightly  
is acceptable to him.”

While Peter was still speaking these things,  
the Holy Spirit fell upon all who were listening to the word.  
The circumcised believers who had accompanied Peter  
were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit  
should have been poured out on the Gentiles also,  
for they could hear them speaking in tongues and glorifying God.  
Then Peter responded,  
“Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people,  
who have received the Holy Spirit even as we have?”  
He ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ.

The Word of the Lord.

## Responsorial Psalm

[Ps 104:1, 24, 29-30, 31, 34](#)

R. (cf. 30) **Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.**

or:

R. **Alleluia.**

Bless the LORD, O my soul!

O LORD, my God, you are great indeed!

How manifold are your works, O Lord!

the earth is full of your creatures;

R. **Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.**

or:

R. **Alleluia.**

May the glory of the LORD endure forever;

may the LORD be glad in his works!

Pleasing to him be my theme;

I will be glad in the LORD.

R. **Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.**

or:

R. **Alleluia.**

If you take away their breath, they perish

and return to their dust.

When you send forth your spirit, they are created,

and you renew the face of the earth.

R. **Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.**

or:

R. **Alleluia.**

## Reading II

Gal 5:16-25

Brothers and sisters, live by the Spirit  
and you will certainly not gratify the desire of the flesh.  
For the flesh has desires against the Spirit,  
and the Spirit against the flesh;  
these are opposed to each other,  
so that you may not do what you want.  
But if you are guided by the Spirit, you are not under the law.  
Now the works of the flesh are obvious:  
immorality, impurity, lust, idolatry,  
sorcery, hatreds, rivalry, jealousy,  
outbursts of fury, acts of selfishness,  
dissensions, factions, occasions of envy,  
drinking bouts, orgies, and the like.  
I warn you, as I warned you before,  
that those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.  
In contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace,  
patience, kindness, generosity,  
faithfulness, gentleness, self-control.  
Against such there is no law.  
Now those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified their flesh  
with its passions and desires.  
If we live in the Spirit, let us also follow the Spirit.

The Word of the Lord

## Gospel

[Lk 24:13-35](#)

That very day, the first day of the week,  
two of Jesus' disciples were going  
to a village seven miles from Jerusalem called Emmaus,  
and they were conversing about all the things that had occurred.  
And it happened that while they were conversing and debating,  
Jesus himself drew near and walked with them,  
but their eyes were prevented from recognizing him.  
He asked them,  
"What are you discussing as you walk along?"  
They stopped, looking downcast.  
One of them, named Cleopas, said to him in reply,  
"Are you the only visitor to Jerusalem  
who does not know of the things  
that have taken place there in these days?"  
And he replied to them, "What sort of things?"  
They said to him,  
"The things that happened to Jesus the Nazarene,  
who was a prophet mighty in deed and word  
before God and all the people,  
how our chief priests and rulers both handed him over  
to a sentence of death and crucified him.  
But we were hoping that he would be the one to redeem Israel;  
and besides all this,  
it is now the third day since this took place.  
Some women from our group, however, have astounded us:  
they were at the tomb early in the morning  
and did not find his body;  
they came back and reported  
that they had indeed seen a vision of angels  
who announced that he was alive.  
Then some of those with us went to the tomb  
and found things just as the women had described,  
but him they did not see."  
And he said to them, "Oh, how foolish you are!  
How slow of heart to believe all that the prophets spoke!  
Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things



and enter into his glory?”

Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets,  
he interpreted to them what referred to him  
in all the Scriptures.

As they approached the village to which they were going,  
he gave the impression that he was going on farther.

But they urged him, “Stay with us,  
for it is nearly evening and the day is almost over.”

So he went in to stay with them.

And it happened that, while he was with them at table,  
he took bread, said the blessing,  
broke it, and gave it to them.

With that their eyes were opened and they recognized him,  
but he vanished from their sight.

Then they said to each other,

“Were not our hearts burning within us  
while he spoke to us on the way and opened the Scriptures to us?”

So they set out at once and returned to Jerusalem  
where they found gathered together  
the eleven and those with them who were saying,

“The Lord has truly been raised and has appeared to Simon!”

Then the two recounted

what had taken place on the way

and how he was made known to them in the breaking of bread.

**Homily – An opportunity to instruct the faithful on “synodality”  
and the Holy Father’s desire for the whole Universal Church to  
come together in a structured way, to have a conversation  
among all of the relevant ecclesial players—bishops, priests, and  
laity—for the sake of hearing the voice of the Spirit.**

**Creed**

# The Universal Prayer

## *Priest's Introduction*

As we await with longing the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, dear brothers and sisters, let us with renewed devotion beseech his mercy, that, as he came into the world to bring the Good News to the poor and to heal the contrite of heart, so in our own time, also, he may bring salvation to all in need.

## **Prayers of the Faithful**

1. For God's holy Church:  
That it may be a light to the nations and the universal sacrament of salvation, walking with all peoples to the Kingdom of God.
2. For Francis our Pope, Thomas our Bishop, and the holy, faithful People of God in the Diocese of Miami that the celebration of this Synod may help us to discern God's will and to boldly carry it out.
3. For all civil and public authorities:  
that they may always seek the common good, acting with justice and integrity.
4. For the sick, the lonely, the oppressed, and the suffering:  
That they may never be discarded, but rather treasured and cared for as the face of Christ in a suffering world.
5. For ourselves, gathered here:  
That this Synodal Process may lead us ever deeper into the communion of the Church, foster our participation in it, and equip us to go out on mission.

## **Priest's prayer**

O God, our refuge and our strength,  
hear the prayers of your Church, for you yourself are the source of all devotion, and grant, we pray, that what we ask in faith we may truly obtain.  
Through Christ our Lord.

*Mass continues as usual*

Final Prayer

The handing over of the Synod Documents to the parish representatives as a sign  
of the beginning of the synod  
(Parish representatives come forward to receive booklet from Pastor)

Blessing

Dismissal