



June 29, 2023

Synod Document Sets Stage for Wide-Ranging Debate

~ by Christopher White, *Vatican News*

When prelates and lay delegates gather in October for the Synod of Bishops, they will be asked to directly confront a number of pressing questions – including the possibility of women deacons, access to the priesthood for married men, the integration of LGBTQ+ Catholics, and penance for sexual abuse and the abuse of power, conscience and money – in consideration of how the Catholic Church might transform and expand its structures to become more welcoming to all its members.

In a much anticipated [document](#) released June 20, the Vatican's synod office set the stage for a wide-ranging discussion for the first session of a high-stakes meeting that is attempting to respond with "missionary urgency" to the challenges of church life in the modern world.



Known in Latin as an *instrumentum laboris*, the 60-page document will guide the month-long Vatican summit on a number of themes and concerns that have emerged during a [three-year consultative process](#), which has focused on how the church could become more

focused on greater listening and participation of all of the baptized, not just the Catholic hierarchy.

Among the issues and considerations in the document are how a synodal church recognizes and values the central role of the poor; the experience of migrants; victims of sexual abuse, violence and other injustices; the disabled; divorced and remarried

Catholics; the need for greater commitment to ecumenism and learning from other faith traditions; and the role of women in the church today.

The newly released document is the culmination of [worldwide listening sessions](#) through local churches that took place 2021-2022 and seven [continental gatherings](#) held in early 2023. To read the full account, please click [here](#)

Can You Help?

Cabrini Immigrant Services (CIS), Dobbs Ferry, NY, is currently reaching out to help several of our sisters and brothers who are seeking asylum in the US. They have arrived from various countries and are being housed temporarily in a nearby motel. Some of these families have children who are 5 years old and younger, and they have visited our office where they have received modest donations of children's and adults' clothing and toys.

The needs are many but currently we are collecting snacks and juice/punch boxes for both the children and the parents. The items must be individually wrapped. The children would also enjoy a toy or a stuffed animal. If you would like to donate items, we have a Wish List on Amazon.com for Cabrini Immigrant Services, Dobbs Ferry or you can purchase items at other places. If you would like to have items sent directly to us, our address is: **Cabrini Immigrant Services, 121 Main St. Dobbs Ferry, NY 10522.** Thank you so much for all your assistance.



~ Lorraine Campanelli, Director, CIS, Dobbs Ferry, NY

One Minute Meditation – Who is Jesus for Us?

There is an inherently cyclical interrelationship between yearning for the presence of Spirit and learning what and who we are in the presence of Spirit. Jesus asks his disciples, "Who do you say that I am?" He is emphasizing that despite what the crowd might be saying about him, it is imperative that they know who he is. It is equally important that we know who Jesus, God, or the Spirit is for us. Our personal beliefs lead us to yearn to know more about our unique relationship to the Divine. This awareness becomes the foundation upon which our spirituality is built. This question goes to the heart of every Christian's, or dare I say, every person's longing for a connection to the Divine, to their deepest self, and to the world they live in.

~ Ruth Takiko West, Reflections on the Presence of the Spirit, Words of Grace

Deepening the CLMs' Connections

The Cabrini Lay Missionaries (CLMs), Guadalupe Province, and some members who are in initial formation to become CLMs, participated in a 3-part presentation given by



Cabrini Lay Missionaries gathered via Zoom to hear Sr. Bernadette Anello, MSC (top left) present on the topic of discernment.

Sr. Bernadette Anello, MSC. The presentations were based on Chapters 9 and 14 in the book, Free Yourself and Put on Wings by Sr. Maria Barbagallo, MSC.

As CLMs, we are part of the Cabrinian family. We live as witnesses to the love of God and share the Cabrinian charism as we journey with the Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart (MSCs).

During the 3rd presentation, Sr. Bernadette shared about the process of discernment. Although not always easy, discerning God's will for our lives is what allows us to have peace of heart in knowing we are doing God's will. We were ask to reflect on "What is the more that God may be calling me and/or the CLMs to?" As we just welcomed three new CLMs on the Feast of the Sacred Heart, we know that God is calling us to pray, to continue to be a presence and to continue to bring the love of God to others.

~ submitted by: Lorraine Campanelli, Director, CLMs



Do you feel God is calling you to be a Cabrini Lay Missionary (CLM)? Would you like some information about the CLMs? Please contact: Lorraine Campanelli, Director, at cabrinilaymissionariesGP@gmail.com

The First of Many!

On a cold winter's day in 1958, baby Francesca Jurate Kristina Sasnaitis entered the world.



Jurate Sasnaitis, holds the photo of her birth at Cabrini Health in 1958. The very first baby born there is an event of great distinction.

Her parents didn't know it at the time, but baby Francesca would forever hold a special place in our hearts as the first baby born at Cabrini.

Francesca, who goes by the preferred name of Jurate, celebrated her birthday and said the "first baby" title is one that she has worn with pride her entire life

She recently returned to Cabrini to help celebrate the hospital's 75th Anniversary and share a story or two.



~submitted by Julie Fleming, Cabrini Health

To read about her visit: <https://ow.ly/4vfH500RpZA>

The Update

Please note that due to scheduling in the Province Communications Office, The Update **will not** be published next Thursday, July 6th.

We wish everyone a Happy 4th of July holiday!

Time to Play Ball!



JOIN US!

**Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus
and**

Cabrini Mission Foundation

invite you to the 2nd annual baseball event at
Staten Island's FerryHawks Stadium.

**SPECIAL FIREWORKS DISPLAY TO BE SHOWN
AFTER THE GAME**

Date: Saturday, August 5th, 2023

Time: 6:30 p.m.

Where: Staten Island University Hospital
Community Park,

75 Richmond Terrace, Staten Island, NY 10301

(Easy to get to by ferry, car, train or bus)

MORE DETAILS TO FOLLOW SOON

Prayer Requests

Cabrini University Administration, Faculty, Staff, Students and Alumni

We unite our hearts, thoughts and prayers with all those in the Cabrini University community at this time.

Hugh Hutchison

Please continue your prayers for Hugh Hutchison who underwent major surgery last Friday. Pray that his recovery will be swift and uneventful.

Fr. John Lager, O.F.M., Cap.

Kindly keep Fr. John Lager in your prayers. He is having knee replacement surgery next Wednesday, July 5. Fr. John is a good friend of the Missionary Sisters. He would truly appreciate our prayers.

A Prayer for Independence Day

July 4, 2023



God, source of all freedom,
this day is bright with the memory of those
who declared life and liberty are your gift to every human being.

Help us to continue a good work begun long ago.

Make our vision clear and our will strong:
that only in human solidarity will we find liberty,
and justice only in the honor that belongs to every life on earth.
Turn our hearts toward the family of nations:
to understand the ways of others, to offer friendship,
and to find safety only in the common good of all.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen. – from *Catholic Household Blessings & Prayers*