



Dialogue 3 Outline

*“Synodality is at the service of the mission of the Church, in which all its members are called to participate”
(Vademecum)*

We are in a missionary Diocese. The reality and challenges within our churches and communities vary depending on where we live in the Yukon or Northern BC. Nevertheless, in our “journey together”, we all have gifts and strengths to share with others, both in the Church and in the broader society.

How can we carry out together the mission of the Church within our faith community and in our broader society?

If you are leading a meeting, you must refer to the Leader’s Guide and familiarize yourself with the materials. Ensure you have a recorder to take notes during the meeting. The Leader than guides the group through the following steps:

1. **Ask each participant to briefly introduce themselves.**
2. **Introduction:**

We are meeting today, not to complete a survey or to evaluate the Church. Rather, this is an opportunity for us to listen, reflect and discuss how the Holy Spirit is enlightening our path today, and how we can journey together in communion, participation, and mission. You are invited to answer the questions and sub-questions according to your experience and what applies to you.

We will reflect on our experience of discipleship in our parish, our diocese, and in our surrounding community. As baptized, we are called to participate in the mission of our Church: to spread the Good News of the Kingdom of God, the reign of righteousness, justice, and peace for all in the name of Jesus Christ. All of us prepared ourselves for this meeting, we reflected on this question and are ready to come together to share our experiences and have a conversation.

3. **Prayer**

Let us recite together the prayer to the Holy Spirit for the beginning of a synodal meeting.

Adsumus Sancte Spiritus

Prayer of invocation to the Holy Spirit for an ecclesial assembly of governance or discernment (thus synodal)

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.

4. **Word of God**

Now we will proclaim a gospel to help guide our discussion (when possible, please read from a Bible)

Luke 10:1-11 After this the Lord appointed seventy more disciples, and he sent them two by two before him to all the towns and places where he himself was to go. He said to them, the harvest is great, but there are few 24 workers. Therefore pray to the Lord of the harvest to send labourers into his harvest. Go; behold, I send you forth as lambs in the midst of wolves. Do not carry purses, bags or shoes, and do not greet anyone on the way. In whatever house you enter, say first: Peace be upon this house! And if there is a child of peace there, your peace will rest on him; otherwise, it will come back to you. Stay in that house, eating and drinking what you are given; because the worker deserves his salary. Do not go from house to house. In whatever city you enter, and where you will be received, eat whatever is presented to you, heal the sick who are there, and say to them, the Kingdom of God is near to you. But in whatever city you enter, and where you will not be received, go into its streets, and say: We shake against you the very dust of your city which has clung to our feet; know, however, that the kingdom of God has drawn near.

5. **Sharing** (up to 20 minutes)

Identify an experience in the parish or in your community where you felt that you were participating in the mission of the Church. What facilitated or hindered your participation in the mission? What meaning or impact did this experience have for you, or continue to have on you?

There is no discussion during this round. Each participant listens to what the other is expressing, with an attitude of listening to what the Holy Spirit is trying to tell us within ourselves, and through the person who is expressing himself or herself.

6. **Dialogue** (up to 20 minutes)

After listening to the experience of others, we ask ourselves: How is active participation and involvement of the faithful's encouraged in our community, in our parish, in our diocese? What areas of mission are we neglecting? How does the community support its members who serve society in various ways (social and political involvement, scientific research, education, promoting social justice, protecting human rights, caring for the environment, etc.)? How does our Church support these members to live out their service in the society?

In this second round, the participants engage in a respectful dialogue where all opinions are heard. An attitude of attentiveness and spiritual listening is maintained. This is not an occasion for confrontation or debate. Rather, it is an opportunity to have a conversation about what struck us during the sharing and about where we are at. The sub-questions for this round are suggestions to guide the conversation. It is not necessary to answer each question specifically.

7. **Discernment** (up to 20 minutes)

Through what has just been shared on the challenges of participation and co-responsibility for the mission of the Church, the Holy Spirit whispers to our hearts a direction, a pastoral conversion. What is the Holy Spirit saying to each of us in the Church?

In this discernment round, the participants reflect on what seemed to emerge and resonate during the conversation, and what touched them, moved them, and made sense to them. We seek to discern what the Spirit is saying to the Church through our dialogue.

8. **Conclusion**

Go around the table and ask participants to summarize in a few words what they are taking away from the dialogue and how they would answer: **"How can we carry out together the mission of the Church within our faith community and in our broader society?"**

The Leader will end the meeting by leading the group in prayer (the **Our Father** or a prayer of your choice).