

Response to questions in the Synod Participation Booklet

Name:

Parish:

*(Including your name and parish is optional)*

You can respond to as many or as few of the topics and questions as you choose.

Submitting your response: Email it to [synod@wn.catholic.org.nz](mailto:synod@wn.catholic.org.nz) or print and post it to: Anne Dickinson, Archdiocese of Wellington, P O Box 1937, WELLINGTON 6140

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Reflection on “Go you are sent”

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Topic 1: Go, you are sent…to find leaders

1. What can we do to respond to the challenge to lay people “to apply the Gospel to the transformation of society” (Evangelii Gaudium 102)?
2. What can we do to encourage new initiatives and leadership in our faith communities in response to the needs outlined by Pope Francis in his interview with Eugenio Scalfari? (see quote in booklet)

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Topic 2: Go, you are sent…to the peripheries of society

1. Who are the poor, the marginalised, the struggling, the homeless, in our local areas?
2. What do the words of Pope Francis (see quotes) mean in the context of our parishes, schools and communities?
3. As a parish/school/community, what can we do to serve those in need better, both in terms of their needs and in advocating for them?

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Topic 3: Go, you are sent…to deepen our bicultural relationship

1. What does recognition of Māori and commitment to biculturalism in the life and mission of the Church mean for today?
2. How can the whole Archdiocese deepen its relationship with Māori today?

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Topic 4: Go, you are sent…as members of the one Body of Christ

1. What would help new immigrants feel at home in the parish and encourage them to participate in shaping the parish’s identity?
2. What should be the role of ethnic chaplaincies in the Archdiocese?

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Topic 5: Go, you are sent…to your own peripheries

1. Who is missing from our communities?
2. What implications does the law of gradualness have for our understanding of community, and for pastoral care (see quote in Synod Participation Booklet)?

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Topic 6: Go, you are sent…to refugees and migrants

1. What involvement have parishes and schools in your area had with refugees?
2. How can we grow “merciful hearts” (*Pope Francis, World Youth Day Poland 2016)?*
3. How can we further assist refugees, both those who come here and those who are waiting for a country to accept them?

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Topic 7: Go, you are sent…tocare for creation

1. What distinguishes a Catholic approach to care for creation from that of other organizations?
2. What can we do – in our homes, parishes, schools, archdiocese - to promote a culture of care for the earth among ourselves and in our society?
3. Who should we seek to influence and how should we do it?

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Topic 8: Go you are sent…to fellow Christians

1. How could we expand joint prayer and worship with other Christian denominations?
2. What opportunities already exist to work with other denominations in the service of those who are disadvantaged in our community?
3. What new actions could we initiate with one or more other denominations to assist those in need?

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Topic 9: Go, you are sent…to accompany one another

1. What initiatives taken to accompany young people in your family, parish, or the archdiocese have young people responded well or poorly to?
2. What can be done by, with and for young people to assist them to “discover their life plan and achieve it joyfully”?
3. What would help young people to be “drawn to the overwhelmingly attractive figure of Jesus, and stirred by the challenge of the Gospel's sublime ideals”? (*Ecclesia in Oceania* 44)

*If you are 16-30 years of age please also answer this question:*

1. What forms of accompaniment and support (not just spiritual) do you and your friends use, or would use if they were available?

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Topic 10: Go, you are sent…to support marriage and families

1. How can marriage be made easier and more desirable for young Catholics? (*Anyone can answer this question, but please say if you are a young Catholic.)*
2. What initiatives would help families which are in difficulty, in the Catholic community and in the wider community?
3. What do those who are divorced, who have remarried or not remarried, and blended families need from their Church community, and how can the community respond?

*Please say if the circumstances in Q2 or Q3 are yours or those of someone close to you (anonymously is fine) as your answers will provide important insights.*

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