

SYNOD ON SYNODALITY TIMELINE

UNIVERSAL CHURCH	CBCP	RCAP	IMPORTANT POINTS, DOCUMENT & EVENTS
<p>Preparatory Phase</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● March 2020: Pope Francis announces the synod's theme. Pope Francis announced "For a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation and Mission" as the theme for the next Synod of Bishops, originally scheduled for October 2022. ● May 2021: The synod meeting in Rome is postponed to 2023, preceded by a two-year process involving local churches. The synod meeting was postponed to October 2023, and 			<p>Pope Francis: “The Synod is not a parliament, the Synod is not an inquiry into opinions; the Synod is an ecclesial moment, and the protagonist of the Synod is the Holy Spirit. If there is no Spirit, there will be no Synod.”</p> <p><i>(opening of the preparatory phase for the Synod on Synodality on October 9, 2021; opening remarks for the first session of the XVI Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops in October 2023.).</i></p> <p>DOCUMENT: Note of the General Secretariat of the Synod of Bishops</p>

<p>the scope widened to include a multi-stage process involving the entire global Church.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • September 2021: The Vatican releases preparatory documents to guide the consultation process in dioceses. <p>The Multi-stage Process</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • October 2021 - April 2022: Diocesan Phase (local consultation and participation of the People of God). October 10, 2021- Opening of the Synodal Process of the Synod on Synodality in Rome 	<p>JESUS WALKED WITH THEM Pastoral message for the Opening in the local churches of the Synod on Communion, Participation and Mission (17 October 2021)</p>	<p>12 September 2021: DISSEMINATION of Preparatory Document & Vademecum to the clergy & lay coordinators</p> <p>6 October 2021- NATIONAL SYNOD ORIENTATION MEETING via zoom (Palo participated-Msgr. Gilbert & Vicvic)</p> <p>7 October 2021- Meeting of the Vicars Forane with Archbishop John. Planning of the process of the Synodal journey and presentation of the timeline.</p>	<p>DOCUMENTS <i>issued 7 September 2021</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. For a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation, Mission 2. Vademecum for the Synod
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8-15 October:

PREPARATION OF THE DOCUMENTS:

- Translation of the Ten Themes for Synodal Process in Binisaya (Waray) and Cebuano
- Production of the Manual, c/o LAIKO and APC Staff
- Presentation of the Timeline and identification of the sectors for consultations

17 October 2021. 10am:

OPENING LITURGY of the SYNOD in the CATHEDRAL – presided by Archbishop DU and attended by the parishioners and the initial lay coordinators belonging to the LAIKO

		<p>LOCAL CONSULTATIONS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 18-30 October: Sessions in Vicariate level (7 Vicariates) General Orientation & Spiritual Conversations - 20 October - Assembly of Lay Organizations Movements and Associations (LOMAs), Vicariate Lay Coordinators, Palo Laiko Officers, Vicariate BEC Coordinators - Orientation & Presentation of the Process/Procedures starting with Session 1 of the Spiritual Conversation - October to December 2021: Formation of Synodal Teams in parishes, mission stations 	<p>SPIRITUAL CONVERSATIONS in parishes: church organizations, barangay chapels, based on the following ten themes (cf. Vademecum):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. COMPANIONS ON THE JOURNEY 2. LISTENING 3. SPEAKING OUT 4. CELEBRATION 5. SHARING RESPONSIBILITY FOR OUR COMMON MISSION 6. DIALOGUE IN CHURCH AND SOCIETY 7. ECUMENISM 8. AUTHORITY AND PARTICIPATION 9. DISCERNING AND DECIDING 10. FORMING OURSELVES IN SYNODALITY
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		<p>and among church organizations and institutions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Series of SYNODAL CONSULTATIONS with the People of God in the parishes, mission stations, seminaries, sectoral group and even non-Catholics (such as the Seventh Day Adventists) - Results/feedback of participants on the Ten themes were collated by the secretary of the group and submitted to the parish synodal team <p>January 2022: Series of Consultations led by Vicariate Lay Synod Coordinators</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 1-14 Jan - Consolidation of data from Parishes, Mission Stations c/o Vicariate Lay Coordinators 	<p>Observations/ Challenges/Recommendations:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. overwhelming support of priests are commendable 2. excitement among those who have participated 3. challenge to reach to the unchurched and parish peripheries 4. desire of all to make church meetings more synodal
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		<p>- 15 Jan - Submission of the Vicariate contribution to Archdiocese</p> <p>- 15-30 Jan - Collation & Editing of the results and layout the Report of the Archdiocese of Palo - c/o Deacons led by Fr. Jonathan Raagas</p> <p>- 25 Jan - Online via zoom-presentation of the report to Archbishop</p> <p>- 30 Jan - Presentation of the final report to the clergy in the presence of Archbishop, Msgr. Gilbert, Palo Laiko & BEC, Vicariate Lay Synod Coordinators, Archdiocesan Synod Team and Deacons – in-charge were Rev. Msgr. Gilbert Urbina & Rev. Fr. Jonathan Raagas</p> <p>February 2022</p> <p>- 1-10 Feb – Collation of the Archdiocesan Synthesis to the CBCP National Synodal Team</p>	<p>Spiritual Conversations based on the Ten Themes were held in the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Vicariate of PALO - all parishes 2. Vicariate of TACLOBAN – all parishes 3. Vicariate of ABUYOG – all parishes 4. Vicariate of CARIGARA 5. Vicariate of BURAUEN 6. Vicariate of ORMOC – all parishes 7. Vicariate of PALOMPON – Vicariate Level 8. Seminaries – SHS and SJEST
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	<p>22 April - The National Synodal Team sent the Document on the Synodal Process to be adapted in the dioceses: SALUBONG: Road to Emmaus.</p>	<p>- 11 Feb - Submission of the Synthesis to the CBCP</p> <p>May 2022 - 15-17 May – Meetings/Consultation - Msgr. Gilbert, PALO LAIKO, Vicariate Lay Coordinators and selected synod facilitators - Finalization of the program - Vicariate presentation - Collation of reports</p> <p>- 28 May - Archdiocesan Synodal Encounter led by Msgr. Gilbert Urbina Salubong- guide from CBCP Synod Team with the support of the Vicar Foranes, the vicariate synod coordinators and team of facilitators and the Archbishop of Palo</p> <p>June 2022 - 15 June - Palo Metropolitan Province Synodal Encounter (Palo, Calbayog, Borongan, Catarman and Naval) using</p>	<p><i>cf.</i> RCAP SYNODAL SYNTHESIS REPORT: High Points</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Feeling of consolation and gratitude among those who participated for having been listened to 2. the participation of people who were previously not involved in church activities 3. the acknowledgement of the church as a safe space 4. the themes of listening, speaking out, journeying and celebrating together resonated strongly 5. the process made all realize that many Catholics out there want to get involved and encounter the Lord. <p>Low Points:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. internal hesitation and negative disposition 2. feeling of disappointment with church leaders and ministers 3. the impression that other religions are more appealing and their members more good mannered.
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	<p>1 June 2022 - SALUBONG Guide for the Metropolitan Synodal Conversation</p>	<p>the <i>Salubong</i> guide from CBCP Synod Team with the presence of the Bishops and Rev. Msgr. Bernie Pantin; hosted by the Archdiocese of Palo</p> <p>- 20 June - Submission of the Metropolitan of Palo report to CBCP c/o Msgr. Gilbert Urbina & Fr. Jonathan Raagas</p> <p>- 21-30 - Preparation of the materials for exhibit on the National Synodal Consultation</p> <p>July 2022 - 4-7 July - National Synodal Consultation at the Carmelite Missionaries Center of Spirituality, Tagaytay City). To represent the Archdiocese of Palo were Archbishop John Du, Msgr. Gilbert Urbina and Ms Vicvic Pasayloon.</p>	<p><i>cf.</i> PALO METROPOLITAN SYNTHESIS REPORT Highlights:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. experience of the Holy Spirit among participants in their generosity, openness, sincerity, willing and commitment 2. the sense of gratitude and belongingness together with the participation of the youth and those who do not regularly come to church. <p>Challenges include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. the church is seen as a minority (those involved even in liturgical celebrations) are a few compared to the many who are baptized) 2. the church vis-à-vis politics: many have unclear notion of the separation of church and state. 3. the reality of a still priest-centered culture; 4. the barriers (physical such as road network, language and educational attainment, social status, etc.) which prevent one to reach out to others and to make everybody understand well.
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	<p>15 August 2022: - the publication of the document: SALUBONG (Welcoming Encounter) THE PHILIPPINE CATHOLIC CHURCH SYNODAL REPORT. This is the document produced from the national Synodal Consultation.</p>		<p>3. the gaps among priests (between clergy to clergy), the clergy and the laity, laity to laity, the rich and the poor, the youth and the adult, the newcomers, and the seniors (in the years of service in the)</p> <p>4. proselytism of other religions who lure especially the young through financial help and educational scholarship</p> <p><i>cf.</i> SALUBONG (Welcoming Encounter) THE PHILIPPINE CATHOLIC CHURCH SYNODAL REPORT - this document aims to promote Synodality as Encounter (Salubong). As a result of the July 4-7, 2022 National Synodal Consultation, it contains a comprehensive look, into the situation of the Church in the Philippines. It contains instructional as well as the report from the difference dioceses of the country.</p>
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • September 2022 - March 2023: Continental Phase (dialogue and discernment based on the first <i>Instrumentum Laboris</i>, or working document). • October 16, 2022: Pope Francis announced that the final universal phase would be extended and held in two sessions, in October 2023 and October 2024, to allow for more time for discernment. 	<p>10 November 2022: CBCP sent to the dioceses the Working Document for the Continental Stage of the Synod: ENLARGE THE SPACE OF YOUR TENT (Is 54:2) promulgated 24 October 2022</p>	<p>18 November 2022 Online meeting with the archbishop, vicars forane, vicariate lay coordinators and synod team of facilitators</p> <p>15 January 2023 Submission of Report on the Synod Document for the Continental Stage</p>	
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<p>The Universal Phase</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • October 4-29, 2023: First Session of the XVI Ordinary General Assembly held in the Vatican. A Synthesis Report was published at its conclusion. <p>October 28, 2023: The first official report from the assembly phase of the Synod on Synodality, titled "A Synodal Church in Mission (the Synthesis Report)". This report summarized the discussions from the first session of the 16th Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops, which took place at the Vatican from October 4-29, 2023. It was published as a summary document to guide further reflection and work leading up to the second and final session in October 2024.</p>	<p>14 December 2023 – Invitation from the CBCP Synodal Team for all diocesan synodal coordinators to attend the 10th Philippine Conference on the New Evangelization. The conference will be on the continuing synodal process. The theme is SALYA “Let us cross to the other side (Mk 4:35).”</p>	<p>19-21 January 2024: 10th Philippine Conference on New Evangelization (PCNE X), University of Santo Tomas, Manila. On the continuing synodal process and journey, SALYA / SALOK. In attendance from the Archdiocese of Palo were Msgr. Gilbert Urbina & Vicvic Pasayloon as facilitators in <i>Audiam</i> sessions</p> <p>1 February 2024: The diocesan team has chosen SALOK (or SAROK / KABO in the local dialect) sent to CBCP National Synodal Team a synthesis Report and Guidelines for implementation in the dioceses.</p> <p>8 February 2024 – Archdiocese of Palo produced and disseminated the Manual: A SYNODAL CHURCH IN MISSION (Towards a Deeper</p>	<p><i>cf. October 2023:</i> Synod Synthesis Report: A SYNODAL CHURCH IN MISSION</p> <p>Part I: THE FACE OF A SYNODAL CHURCH</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Synodality: Experience and Understanding 2. Gathered and Sent by the Trinity 3. Entering the Community of Faith: Christian Initiation 4. People in Poverty, Protagonists of the Church's Journey 5. A Church "out of every tribe, tongue, people and nation" 6. The Eastern Churches and Latin Church Traditions 7. On the Road Towards Christian Unity <p>PART II: ALL DISCIPLES, ALL MISSIONARIES</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 8. Church is Mission 9. Women in the Life and Mission of the Church 10. Consecrated Life and Lay Associations and Movements: A Charismatic Sign
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • January - May 2024: A new local consultation was launched in dioceses based on the Synthesis Report. 	<p>18 January 2024: The national Synodal Team sent the SALYA / SALOK Guide for the continuing synodal journey in the dioceses</p> <p>20 January 2024: Cardinal Mario Grech the Secretary General of the Synod of Bishops encouraged the synodal teams to continue with the process. He suggested that, since the Synthesis Report (earlier published) gives a comprehensive record of the concerns from the different churches, the diocesan synodal team needs to discuss only one from each subject or topics in the synthesis report which resonate with the experience of each local church.</p>	<p>Reflection and Continuing Spiritual Conversation) based on SALOK (SAROK or KABO). In this model, the spiritual conversation was based on Jesus’ encounter on the Samaritan Woman (Jn 4:1-42, with emphasis on verses 5-6).</p> <p>Based on the Synthesis Report of Part 1 of the Synod (A Synodal Church in Mission), the archdiocesan synodal team chose from Part I “The Face of the Synodal Church” no. 4 People in Poverty, Protagonists of the Church’s Journey; from Part II “All Disciples, all missionaries” no. 11 – Deacons and Priests in a Synodal; and from Part III “Weaving Bonds, Building Communities” no. 18 – Structures for Participation.</p>	<p>11. Deacons and Priests in a Synodal Church 12. The Bishop in Ecclesial Communion 13. The Bishop of Rome in the College of Bishops</p> <p>PART III:WEAVING BONDS, BUILDING COMMUNITIES</p> <p>14. A synodal approach to formation 15. Ecclesial Discernment and Open Questions 16. Towards a Listening and Accompanying Church 17. Mission in the Digital Environment 18. Structures for Participation 19. Groupings of Churches within the Communion of the Whole Church 20. The Synod of Bishops and Ecclesial Assemblies</p>
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	<p>National Summary of Regional Consultations</p> <p>Participation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - almost all dioceses attended - participation of priests was much appreciated - lay and religious well represented - lacking participation of the youth <p>Content:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - enriching reflections on lived synodal experiences - dialogue with the Final Synodal Document and FABC 50 (Bangkok Document) - wisdom gathering for synod implementation 	<p>February to 6 April 2024 – Phase 2 of the Synodal Process made use of the SAROK/KABO as LENTEN RECOLLECTION (Vicariate and parish level) using the guide c/o Vicvic Pasayloon with Laiko and Vicariate Lay Coordinators. Emphasis was given to Part III, no. 18</p> <p>8-15 April 2024: Collation of Report from parishes and Vicariates regarding the output of the SAROK / KABO Spiritual Conversation - c/o Vicvic Pasayloon & Msgr. Gilbert</p> <p>15 April 2024: Submission of Synthesis from the Archdiocese of Palo</p>	<p><i>cf.</i> ARCHDIOCESAN SYNTHESIS Part 2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - This contains the collated report from the parishes and vicariates centered mainly on no. 18 <p>Highlights:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. the SALOK / SAROK / KABO Lenten activity deepened the synodal experience of discernment for the participants, including parish councils, BEC leaders, lay organizations and the youth. 2. there has been a stronger awareness among the participants of their identity as Church and their duty to participate in the mission of evangelization. However, many still lack the commitment to get involved, especially in reaching out to the unchurched. So a pastoral strategy and plan is truly called for.
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			<p>3. the involvement and membership of the lay in church ministries, parish organization and even devotional groups and their participation in the liturgies have sustained their faith life.</p> <p>4. all agree that church leaders – clerics and lay – should live the synodal model of listening, reaching out and being accountable.</p> <p>Challenges and Proposals:</p> <p>1. Integral faith formation is needed by and for all; this should be Christ-centered, not priest-centered. The goal of this formation, especially in synodality, is also to cultivate a pastoral mind that is, to reach out to others and listen to them. Hence, the challenge to embark on programs such as house visits, and outreach to vulnerable sectors of society, etc.</p> <p>2. The need to strengthen the Christian family and to make sure that the faith is passed on the parents to their children.</p>
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<p>October 2-27, 2024: Second Session of the XVI Ordinary General Assembly held in the Vatican.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • October 26, 2024: The assembly members approved the Final Document, which Pope Francis ratified and published immediately, a break from the usual practice of a post-synodal apostolic exhortation. • November 25, 2024: An accompanying note from Pope Francis stated that the final document "participates in the ordinary magisterium of the successor of Peter" and asks for its acceptance and implementation. 			<p>3. Persons who have an “irregular” status in the church should feel welcomed and be given the pastoral help and support and even be admitted to join the official church organizations.</p> <p>4. without blurring their distinctions, the clergy and the lay should there should possess a synodal mentality especially in decisions affecting parish life. Any semblance of competition between clerics and the lay and even among the lay themselves should be avoided. Membership in church councils should be truly representative of the parish.</p> <p>Cf. FINAL DOCUMENT Pope Francis, XVI Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops, FOR A SYNODAL CHURCH: COMMUNION, PARTICIPATION, MISSION: FINAL DOCUMENT</p>
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<p>Ongoing Implementation March 2025:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pope Francis approved a three-year implementation process to evaluate how Catholic communities worldwide have applied the recommendations of the Synod. <p>October 2028:</p> <p>A special Ecclesial Assembly is scheduled to culminate the implementation phase.</p>	<p>30 April 30, 2025 CBCP Regional Consultation for the Visayas SULONG-PADAYON. Participants from the Archdiocese of Palo were Sis Benita Esguerra and Ms. Vicvic Pasayloon</p> <p>30 June – 3 July 2025: “Sulong-Padayon” National Synod Implementation Assembly and coincided with the Catholic Bishops’ Conference of the Philippines (CBCP) Annual Retreat & 120th Plenary Assembly in Bohol. With the bishops of the metropolitan were Msgr. Hipolito Remandaban (Naval), Marijun Obon (Borongan), Karen Gajutos (Catarman), Mark Jovani Bacolco. (Calbayog) and Sr Benita Esguerra (Palo).</p>	<p>18 - 20 August 2025 – Metropolitan Province of Palo Orientation & Planning Conference for Synodal Implementation hosted by the Archdiocese of Palo at the St. John the Evangelist School of Theology, Palo, Leyte. This was facilitated by the Team from the Metropolitan Province who were in the June 30 to July 3 Assembly in Bohol.</p> <p>13 -15 November 2025: Archdiocese of Palo, Archdiocesan Synodal Assembly at the St. John School of Theology, Palo.</p>	<p>Presentation of the SULONG-PADAYON Framework: Tinig-Tawag: experience of the local church Tawid-Tanaw: conversions / dream statement Tapak-Tindig: pathways to change / commitments Tipan: synod covenant</p>
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