



Synod 2021-2023  
Mary Queen of Peace Catholic Church  
Sammamish, WA  
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<https://mqpevents.weebly.com/synod-2021---2023.html>

## **Mary Queen of Peace and the Worldwide Synod** **Jim Chambers and the MQP Synod Team**

A year has passed since we launched the Worldwide Synod Listening Sessions at Mary, Queen of Peace. On behalf of Mary, Queen of Peace, Father Chad, and the MQP Synod Team, we want to thank every one of you who came to a session or submitted your thoughts and considerations toward the project. It was our pleasure to host these sessions. We met so many people and heard some great stories about your history with the Church, with the Parish, or just life in general. You all were respectful, warm, and inviting as we worked through so many challenging subjects. We ran meetings from January through March to gather the input for the Archdiocese and ultimately the Vatican.

Your input was invaluable. We received heartfelt thoughts on so many subjects and discovered an unexpected hunger for everyone to participate in these small group discussions. That the session groups were of people who may or may not have known each other was not a problem. Our common interests and backgrounds created an immediate bond between the individuals in each of our groups. It was incredible to watch, and we can only hope that you all are able to continue this by engaging in our Parish with our numerous ministry groups rebuilding in the post-pandemic era. There is a place for everyone.

Our duty was to reduce the session notes to a report for the Archdiocese in May. With several meetings and drafts, the MQP Synod Team finished our report and submitted it to the Seattle Archdiocese on time. It was no literary work of art, but we were able to include as much of the content to the Archdiocese as we could fit into the report format. The Archdiocese in turn, compiled their report out of each of the Parish reports and passed it up the chain. Here is what we have heard back from the Archdiocese

### **Synod Extended through 2024**

Many have already seen that [Pope Francis extended the Synod on Synodality through 2024](#). Bishops will meet in Rome in both October of 2023 and October of 2024. Pope Francis's decision reflects his desire that the church discern the theme of synodality over a longer period. Also for the synod to be thought of as a process where (only by the grace of the Holy Spirit) the People of God walk together toward the Lord's will for His Church. Certainly, the prayerful dialogue of the diocesan phase has created some energy, excitement, and shared vision of a Church that journeys together.

### **Synod Continental Stage**

A new stage of the Synod means a new working document for the People of God to prayerfully read, reflect, listen, and dialogue on. The Continental Working Document, available in both [English](#) and [Spanish](#), is a synthesis of all national reports and includes citations from local churches across the globe. The reader benefits from having participated during the diocesan phase, but this is encouraged reading for all as it is the basis for continental assembly dialogue.



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### **Continental Delegates**

Archbishop Etienne has appointed 5 archdiocesan delegates to attend these continental assemblies. They are Jesus Gomez-Sanchez (St. Joseph, Vancouver), Patricia Davis (St. Michael, Olympia), Mayra Ponce (Immaculate Conception, Mt. Vernon), Thuy-Tien Vo (Pope St. John XXIII, Tacoma), and Rosa Luna (Pope Pius X, Mountlake Terrace). Continental assemblies will be hosted jointly by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops and the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops and will conclude in January of 2023.

In conclusion I wish to compliment and congratulate each of our Synod Team Members. They gave so much of their time and energy with planning, holding listening sessions, taking meticulous notes and the efforts of drafting the report. The members were: Chris Morgan, Marietta Newland, Brian Gallagher, Denis Malone, Werner Fee, Katja May, John Rodman, Chris Kaukl, Greg Magnoni, Kenneth Cameron, Amy Wells, Kevin McCarthy, David Kopczynski, along with the MQP Staff, including Ana Maria, Barbi, Karen, Linda, and Rich. All of you did a great service to our Parish and were a distinct pleasure to work with. I look forward to future projects together.