

OCTOBER  
2024

# METHODOLOGY FOR THE SECOND SESSION OF THE SYNODAL ASSEMBLY



## The question

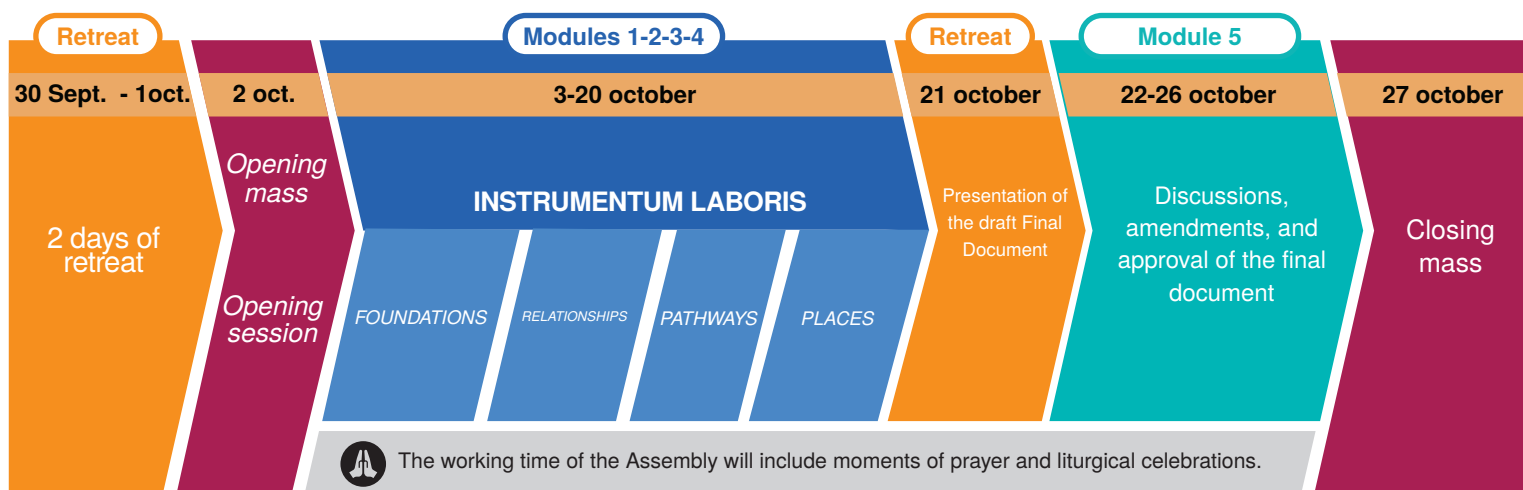
The work of the Assembly will be based on the guiding question for the preparation and execution of the Second Session: "How can the Church be a synodal Church on mission?" In particular, it will focus on "how the identity of the synodal People of God on mission can take concrete form in the relationships, pathways, and places where the life of the Church unfolds."

The work will be based on the fruits of the First Session and the subsequent consultation with Churches around the world, presented in the *Instrumentum Laboris*, as well as on the documents produced throughout the synodal process.

## The Process

In a prayerful atmosphere, the Assembly will engage in a process of spiritual discernment, with the Holy Spirit as its main guide.

The assembly work will be organized based on the structure of the *Instrumentum Laboris*.



## THE FIVE MODULES

### Modules 1-2-3-4

**OBJECTIVE:** To discern the strengths and issues to be deepened based on what was proposed by the *Instrumentum Laboris* to answer the guiding question of the Assembly.

### Module 5

**OBJECTIVE:** To discuss, amend, and approve the Final Document of the XVI Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops to offer the Holy Father guidelines on how to be a synodal Church on mission.

### DRAFTING OF THE FINAL DOCUMENT

- It is carried out under the responsibility of the General Relator and the Special Secretaries.
- Based on the indications of the specific Commission.
- Supported by a dedicated group of experts.
- It takes into account all the materials produced during the two sessions of the XVI Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops.
- With particular attention to the fruit of the discernment of the Second Session.

### THE WORKS WILL BE ORGANIZED ACCORDING TO THE FOLLOWING SCHEME

- Holy Mass of the Holy Spirit
- Presentation of the draft Final Document to the Assembly
- Time for personal reflection and sharing in working groups
- Discussion in plenary
- Preparation of amendments to the text in working groups
- Reading and approval of the amended text in the plenary session

## THE DYNAMICS OF EACH MODULE

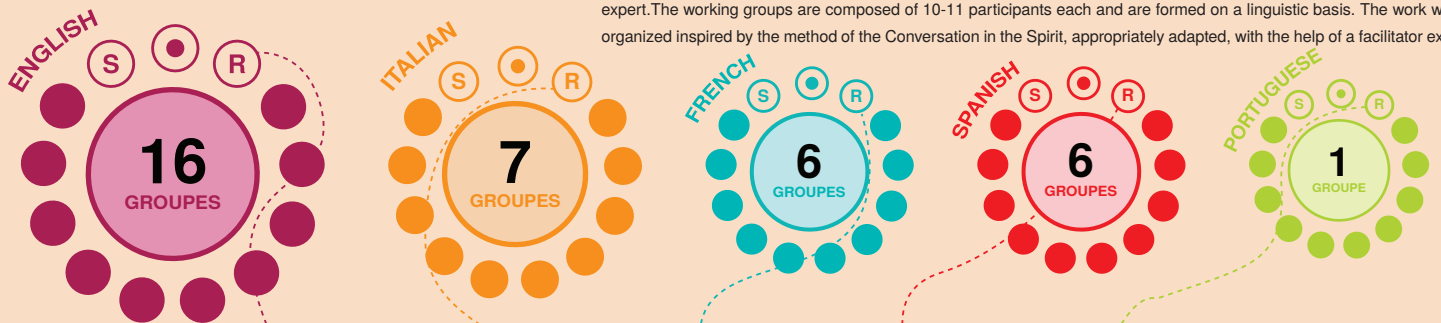
The work of the Assembly in each of the first four modules follows four main steps.



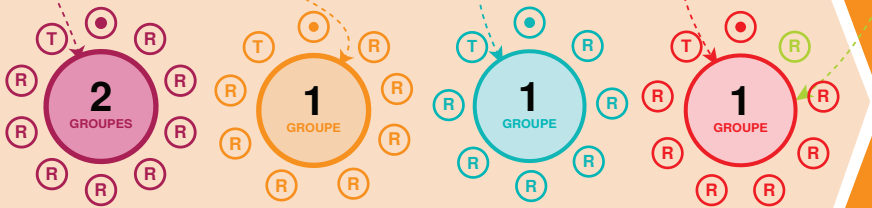
### Working in group

● Participant  
Membres, Délégués fraternels, Invités spéciaux  
(R) Relator (elected) (S) Secretary (F) Facilitator (T) Theological expert

The working groups are composed of 10-11 participants each and are formed on a linguistic basis. The work will be organized inspired by the method of the Conversation in the Spirit, appropriately adapted, with the help of a facilitator expert. The working groups are composed of 10-11 participants each and are formed on a linguistic basis. The work will be organized inspired by the method of the Conversation in the Spirit, appropriately adapted, with the help of a facilitator expert.



### Linguistic Tables



5 SUMMARY OF THE WORK OF THE GROUPS

### Preparation for the Plenary



- 1 Relator General
- 2 Special Secretaries
- 1 Secretary General
- 1 Delegate President



PROPOSAL OF TOPICS TO DISCUSS IN PLENARY

## THE CONVERSATION IN THE SPIRIT A dynamic of discernment of the synodal Church

1

### "Taking the floor and listening"

Everyone takes turns speaking based on their experience and prayer, and listens attentively to the contributions of others.

2

### "Making space for others and the Other"

Each person shares, based on what others have said, what has resonated most with them or what has provoked the most resistance in them, allowing themselves to be guided by the Holy Spirit: "When, while listening, did my heart burn within me?"

3

### "Building together"

We dialogue together starting from what emerged earlier to discern and gather the fruit of the conversation in the spirit: recognizing insights and convergences; identifying discordances, obstacles, and further questions; allowing prophetic voices to emerge. It is important that everyone can feel represented by the outcome of the work. "To what steps is the Holy Spirit calling us together?"