



OFFICE FOR DIVINE WORSHIP
ARCHDIOCESE OF PHILADELPHIA

**PRAYER FOR THE XVI ORDINARY GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OF THE SYNOD OF BISHOPS IN ROME
OCTOBER 4-29, 2023**

Archbishop Perez invites the clergy and lay faithful of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia to pray for the Synod, with confidence in the presence and power of God, the Holy Spirit, at work in the Church, all throughout the month of October. This prayer can be used in a great variety of ways, such as, personally, in families, before parish meetings, and in educational settings. You are encouraged to disseminate the prayer below as widely as possible, especially through social media.

*Every session of the Second Vatican Council began with the prayer *Adsumus Sancte Spiritus*, the first word of the original Latin, meaning, "We stand before You, Holy Spirit," which has been historically used at Councils, Synods, and other Church gatherings for hundreds of years, and is attributed to Saint Isidore of Seville (c. 560 - 4 April 636). This prayer invites the Holy Spirit to be at work in us so that we may be a community and a people of grace. The Holy See proposes this simplified form of the prayer for all to pray during the Synod.*

*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*

INTENTIONS FOR THE UNIVERSAL PRAYER FOR THE XVI ORDINARY GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE SYNOD OF BISHOPS IN ROME

Archbishop Perez invites all parishes, institutions, and religious communities to make use of these intentions for the Universal Prayer on the Sundays of October 2023, as the intention for the needs of the Church, category one:

XXVI Sunday in Ordinary Time, October 1, 2023

For the Universal Church, on the eve of the Synod in Rome,
that the power of the Gospel, alive and at work in her members,
may make her truly and in every way a place of truth, justice, and charity.
Let us pray to the Lord/Lord, hear our prayer.

XXVII Sunday in Ordinary Time, October 8, 2023

For the bishops and all the participants in the Synod in Rome,
that they may be attentive to the voice of God, the Holy Spirit, for the genuine benefit of the People of God
to encourage all to be an attractive witness to the newness of the Gospel in the world.
Let us pray to the Lord/Lord, hear our prayer.

XXVIII Sunday in Ordinary Time, October 15, 2023

For theologians at work on behalf of the Synod in Rome,
that their gifts of wisdom and understanding of the Word of God
may allow the faith to become even more rooted in the life of all the members of the Church.
Let us pray to the Lord/Lord, hear our prayer.

XXIX Sunday in Ordinary Time, October 22, 2023

For young people, seekers of truth and authentic witnesses of Christ,
that the Synod in Rome may inspire them in the midst of the challenges and confusion of our times
to be engaged even more so in the life and mission of the Church
Let us pray to the Lord/Lord, hear our prayer.

XXX Sunday in Ordinary Time, October 29, 2023

For all the members of the Church all over the earth,
that the Synod in Rome may foster among us a profound desire to be in communion with Christ,
the same yesterday, today, and forever, and with one another
so that we may be witnesses to his truth, life, and love for all in the world.
Let us pray to the Lord/Lord, hear our prayer.

For more information on the 2023 Synod in Rome, please see [Synod 2021-2024 | USCCB](#).