In 2022, the bishops of the universal Catholic Church will meet for a Synod in Rome. The theme will be synodality. The synodalisation of the Catholic Church is a matter close to the heart of Pope Francis. The survey, to which Tomas Halik, Peter Neuner, Anna Hennersperger and myself (Paul M. Zulehner) cordially invite you, is itself a kind of practised synodality. We hope for strong participation. The results are intended to familiarise the Synod with views from the people of God and encourage them to bold deliberations and decisions.

If you know someone in your area who would also like to take part, please pass on the following link: https://survey.zulehner.org/index.php/514332?lang=en

The survey is available in German and English. For another language, please use a computer program (e.g. https://translate.google.com/) to translate the questionnaire which you find attached.

Thank you very much for your interest in the development of the universal Catholic Church, which you express by participating in the survey.

On behalf of all of us, Paul M. Zulehner

Section A: At the beginning

A1. In which country do you live?

Section B: Inculturation

B1. What do you think of these statements?

1 = I fully agree. 5 = I totally disagree. You can fine-tune in between.

In future, the Catholic Church will become more integrated into the respective cultures. [Likert scale]

Through inculturation the liturgy will become more diverse. [Likert scale]
Through inculturation the local churches will take responsibility for the mission of the Gospel in their respective cultures.

In future, the Pope will encourage the local churches to develop locally.

To inculturate the gospel, it will be an important task of the Pope in future to encourage the local churches toward local developments.

Synodalisation helps the Church to bridge the gap between cultures and the Gospel.

**Section C: Participation**

C1. **What do You think about participation in the Christian Churches?**

   *1 = I fully agree. 5 = I totally disagree. You can fine-tune in between.*

   Many people are accustomed to a cooperative approach in their professional life.

   In their jobs, people have the opportunity to make decisions.

**Section D: Levels of Participation**

According to Sherry Arnstein the levels are: non-participation (instrumentalisation, instruction) preliminary stages of participation (information, consultation, involvement-consulting) participation (co-determination, partial decision-making power, decision-making power) beyond participation (self-organisation)

D1. **How I experience it in the Catholic Church.**

   Please select the appropriate levels. Multiple answers are possible.

   - instrumentalisation
   - instruction
   - information
   - consultation
   - involvement, consulting
   - co-determination
   - partial decision-making power
   - decision-making power
   - self-organisation

D2. **This is how I experience(d) it in my professional life - in society.**

   Please select the appropriate levels. Multiple answers are possible.

   - instrumentalisation
## Section E: ... in other Christian Churches

### E1. This is how I experience it in the Protestant Churches.

*Please select the appropriate levels. Multiple answers are possible.*

- instrumentalisation
- instruction
- information
- consultation
- involvement, consulting
- co-determination
- partial decision-making power
- decision-making power
- self-organisation

### E2. This is how I experience it in the Orthodox Church.

*Please select the appropriate levels. Multiple answers are possible.*

- instrumentalisation
- instruction
- information
- consultation
- involvement, consulting
- co-determination
- partial decision-making power
- decision-making power
Section F: Synodality als spiritual process

F1. What do you think of these statements?

1 = I fully agree, 5 = I totally disagree. You can fine-tune in between.

1 2 3 4 5

Today, synodality is proving to be the preferred means of preserving the unity (koinonia, communio) of the church (congregation).

When decisions are made in our parish council, it is always a spiritual process.

The church is not a democracy.

You cannot vote on truths of faith.

Synodality calls the hierarchical structure into question.

With the help of the discernment of spirits, synodality seeks out the activity of the Holy Spirit through his Church.

Synodality is a spiritual process.

Every baptised person is called to participate actively in the Church.

Without participation there is no identification.

Section G: Synodaly in practice - a new culture of ministry

G1. What do you think of these statements?

1 = I fully agree, 5 = I totally disagree. You can fine-tune in between.

1 2 3 4 5

Synodality can be practised all the better the more it is anchored in the structures of the Church and in Canon law.

In future, not only ministers but also christifideles laici (lay people) will participate in synodal processes with a seat and a vote.

A kind of church parliament would be helpful for major decisions in local churches (dioceses).

The diocesan council should decide on the Church finances.

The diocesan and parish councils should deliberate and decide.

If a church body decides with unanimity, then the responsible minister must give serious reasons to veto it.

If a minister vetoes a unanimous decision taken by a committee, the issue must be further negotiated in the committee in order to find a common solution.
It is not the role of the Office to decide everything alone.

What concerns everyone should be decided by everyone.

The Office has the responsibility to ensure that decisions are made in fidelity to the message of the Gospel.

More synodality in the Church changes the culture of ministry.

Synodality demands more not less leadership.

All ministers need experience in the practice of synodality in their education and in their first years in the profession.

Section H: Local Churches

H1. Please take a position

The local churches should appoint the bishop through electoral bodies.

The powers of the Bishops' Conferences should be enhanced.

The pope can accept or reject an election of the bishop by a Local Church.

If the Pope rejects an election, he shall give the electoral body a reason for doing so.

Section I: Pastoral Council

I1. How is your opinion?

We do not make decisions in our pastoral council.

We do not make any decision in our pastoral council without the parish priest.

In my work as a parish councillor I want to make forward-looking decisions for the parish.

Without prejudice to the responsibilities of the ministers, the committees should not only be able to deliberate but also to take decisions on matters which affect everyone.
**Section J: A new shape for the Papcy**

**J1. Please take a stance!**

1 = I fully agree. 5 = I totally disagree. You can fine-tune in between.

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<th></th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The Pope does not ensure uniformity, but unity in diversity.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Centralism leads to the stagnation of the Church.</td>
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**Section K: Ecumenism**

**K1. What is your position?**

1 = I fully agree. 5 = I totally disagree. You can fine-tune in between.

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<th>1</th>
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<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A synodalisation of the Catholic Church is an important contribution to ecumenism with the other Christian Churches.</td>
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<td>The papacy as a service to the universal unity of Christians can make a significant contribution to ecumenism.</td>
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<td>Synodality makes decision-making processes more complex and often slows them down.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Synodality put in danger the taking of necessary decisions.</td>
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<td>Synodal processes strive for unanimity, but not a block vote.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Majority decision-making is incompatible with synodality.</td>
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<tr>
<td>If a Synod fails to reach a unanimous decision, authority is called upon to act.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Without authority, a Synod cannot act.</td>
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<td>Roma locuta causa finita (Rome has spoken and the discussion is finished)</td>
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**Section L: Two open questions**

**L1. What do you expect from the 2022 World Synod of Bishops on Synodality for the Catholic Church and for ecumenism?**
Section M: Personality

M1. What is your position?

1 = I fully agree. 5 = I totally disagree. You can fine-tune in between.

- Where there is strict authority, there is justice.
- The most important thing children must learn is obedience.
- One should only have a say and participate in decision-making when one has worked hard to achieve a position.
- The amount of freedom young people have today is definitely not good.
- It's better not to support people who don't work properly.
- From time to time, I would like to see a dictatorship in my country so there wouldn't be so many problems.

Section N: Church authority

N1. Mor questions on authority

1 = I fully agree. 5 = I totally disagree. You can fine-tune in between.

- I expect authority from a Church.
- Faith must be treated with reverence, not criticism.
- Faith should be something immutable, something to be guided by.
- The many changes in the Church make one uncertain about faith.
- Those who participate in synodal processes should have experience in Church life.
### Section O: 7. Information about you

Personal information is helpful for a thorough social science analysis of the data. These data, like all information provided so far, will of course remain anonymous. You always have the option to cross "no answer".

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Q</th>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Answer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>O1</td>
<td>Your gender</td>
<td>male</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O2</td>
<td>In which year were you born</td>
<td>1967</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O3</td>
<td>Please indicate your marital status. Are you ...</td>
<td>married</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O4</td>
<td>Are you employed or not?</td>
<td>yes, full time (30 hours or more)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O5</td>
<td>What was the last school you attended or you are still attending?</td>
<td>primary school</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O6</td>
<td>How many children do you have?</td>
<td>none</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O7</td>
<td>Which of these terms best describes your residential area?</td>
<td>big city</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O8</td>
<td>Which of the statements comes closest to your beliefs?</td>
<td>There is a personal god.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O9</td>
<td>How often do you participate in a religious service?</td>
<td>several times a week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O10</td>
<td>Which religious denomination do you belong to?</td>
<td>catholic</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Thanks a lot for participating, Paul M. Zulehner