



DISCERNMENT

(From Listening to Action)

Return to the larger group

Each small group is invited to share briefly, their “We” perspective, focusing on what they sense the Holy Spirit is inviting them to.

Together as a BEC, identify a simple “Move to Action,” to help the Word take root in daily life. For example:

- As an individual, to be more appreciative of the gifts and talents God has given me.
- As a BEC, to affirm and encourage one another to use our gifts to grow in faith and in service to others.

Intercessory Prayer

Facilitator invites all to voice short intentions, for example:

“Lord, help me to be generous in sharing my gifts and talents for the building of your kingdom.”

Response: *“Lord, hear our prayer.”*

Closing Prayer

Heavenly Father, we thank You for the unique gifts and talents You have lovingly given to each one of us.

Help us to recognise these blessings with grateful hearts and to use them faithfully in our daily lives.

Guide us to serve others with humility, generosity, and love.

May all that we do reflect Your goodness and bring hope to those around us. Amen

Closing Hymn:

One Bread One Body

One bread, one body,
one Lord of all
One cup of blessing which we bless
And we, though many,
throughout the Earth
We are one body in this one Lord
Gentile or Jew
Servant or free
Woman or man
No more
One bread, one body,
one Lord of all
One cup of blessing which we bless
And we, though many,
throughout the Earth
We are one body in this one Lord
Many the gifts, many the works
One in the Lord
Of all
One bread, one body,
one Lord of all
One cup of blessing which we bless
And we, though many,
throughout the Earth
We are one body in this one Lord

BECReflection

WALKING TOGETHER TOWARDS A SYNODAL AND PROPHETIC CHURCH

A People for Missionary Discipleship

MONTHLY FOCUS & RATIONALE: CHURCH: LIVING SYNODALITY

The call of the Church today, as continually emphasised by Pope Francis, is to rediscover and live the spirit of synodality—a way of being Church that is rooted in communion, participation, and mission. Synodality is not merely a process or an event, but a lived experience of journeying together as the People of God, attentive to the voice of the Holy Spirit and to one another. In a world marked by division and individualism, the Church is invited to become a living witness of unity, where every member—men and women, laity, consecrated persons, ordained ministers and candidates for ordained ministry has a role in discerning God’s will.



ENCOUNTERING

Opening Hymn

We Are Gathering Together Unto Him

We are gathering together
unto Him
We are gathering together
unto Him
Unto Him shall the gathering
of the people be
We are gathering together
unto Him

We are praying together
unto Him
We are praying together
unto Him
Unto Him shall the praying
of the people be
We are praying together
unto Him

Opening Prayer

Dearest Lord, we come to You today and we surrender our hearts to You. Help us to listen, collaborate and cooperate with You and with others. Inspire us and use us as instruments of Your love.

All this we ask through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Pastoral Pathway

Saint Peter Chrysologus reminds us that, "If you do not close your ear to others, you open God's ear to yourself."

This insight resonates deeply with the call of Pope Francis for the Church to live synodality—not as a concept, but as a way of life. A synodal Church begins by listening: listening to God, and listening to one another with humility and openness. This requires us to move beyond self-righteousness and personal agendas, creating space within our hearts for true communal discernment.

To live synodality is to recognise that the Holy Spirit speaks through every member of the Body of Christ. In practising communal discernment, we journey together, seeking not individual preferences but the will of God for the good of all. This calls us to build a genuine culture of listening and collaboration, where dialogue is marked by respect, patience, and trust.

Each of us, gifted uniquely by God, is invited to contribute to the life of the Church. When we offer our gifts in service, we become instruments of God's love and mercy, strengthening the community and fostering unity. In this shared journey, our actions are not isolated, but part of a greater mission—to build up the Church as a living sign of communion, participation, and mission in the world.

SCRIPTURE

Ephesians 4: 11-12

The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ.

Pause for a moment of prayerful silence to reflect on the above Scripture text and identify your gifts and talents.

DIALOGUING

(Conversation in the Spirit)

Form small groups of 4 to 6 persons. Follow the three rounds of sharing. Keep one minute of silence between each sharing.

Round 1 – "I" Perspective *(Come prepared from time of silence. All are invited to share but only once for less than two minutes. No commenting on the sharing of others)*

In what ways, am I prompted by the Holy Spirit to use my gifts and talents for the good of the Church and the wider community?

(Thank each person after their sharing and observe 1 minute of silence before the next person continues)

Round 2 – "You and I" Perspective *(Now participants are invited to respond to the sharing of another. Each person shares once, responding to something they heard another member share)*

After hearing others:

- What resonated most with you? What is challenging for you? What inspired you?

(Thank each person after their sharing and observe 1 minute of silence before the next person continues)

Round 3 – "We" Perspective *(Now the facilitator or leader invites all to come to a common consensus or agreement on what was shared)*

What is the Holy Spirit saying to us about living synodality through the use of our gifts and talents?

(Thank each person after their sharing and observe 1 minute of silence before the next person continues)