

HOW DOES SYNODALITY HELP RENEWAL?



After this astounding moment, the two disciples asked each other a poignant question. “They said to each other, “Did not our hearts burn within us while he talked to us on the road, while he opened to us the scriptures” (Luke 24:32)? When Jesus speaks to us through the scriptures, in our prayers, or through others, do not our hearts also burn within us? Bishop da Cunha shared, how he loved the imagery of the ‘burning heart’ and acknowledged the need to have our hearts set on fire. We need a renewed heart now more than ever to turn from the ashes of the pandemic to the glory of God.

We can kindle that fire in our hearts and those of our brothers and sisters when we pay attention to Jesus’ words and acknowledge his true presence in the Eucharist—in the breaking of the bread. By recognizing how our hearts respond and react when Jesus speaks to us in our hearts and lives. Lastly, the Bishop shared, “reignited in faith by this encounter with the Risen Lord, they went and announced all that they had seen and heard. As we too are called to do.”

It is time for us to reset, rekindle, reconnect, restrengthen, revitalize, and renew our Church and our parishes. The synodal process is a time for us to walk together as a listening Church, a time for every Catholic across the world to take responsibility for where the Church is going. The opening liturgy to the synod in our Diocese was the perfect start to our coming together, calling upon the Holy Spirit, and beginning this incredible journey together. May God bless our Diocese, this process, and the fruits that will come from it, and each one of us.



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