

PRAYING FOR THE SYNOD ON SYNODALITY – ROME – OCTOBER 2023



Every session of the Second Vatican Council (1962-5) began with the prayer *Adsumus Sancte Spiritus*. This prayer 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).

Archbishop Cushley is encouraging us to pray this prayer at the end of each Sunday Mass throughout the month for the fruitfulness of 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.**

...and please do hold in your heart and pray in your own preferred way for all who are gathered in Rome for the next three weeks for the Synod, and especially for Pope Francis - for whom this is perhaps the centre-piece of his pontificate, as he seeks to renew the church through the Holy Spirit and from the grass roots 'up'.