



Adsumus Sancte Spiritus

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.

First Mystery for a Synodal Church: Jesus receives the adoration of the Magi

Matthew 2:1-12

When Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, in the days of King Herod, behold, magi from the east arrived in Jerusalem, saying, "Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was greatly troubled, and all Jerusalem with him.

Assembling all the chief priests and the scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They said to him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for thus it has been written through the prophet:

'And you, Bethlehem, land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; since from you shall come a ruler, who is to shepherd my people Israel.'"



Then Herod called the magi secretly and ascertained from them the time of the star's appearance. He sent them to Bethlehem and said, "Go and search diligently for the child. When you have found him, bring me word, that I too may go and do him homage." After their audience with the king they set out. And behold, the star that they had seen at its rising preceded them, until it came and stopped over the place where the child was. They were overjoyed at seeing the star, and on entering the house they saw the child with Mary his mother. They prostrated themselves and did him homage. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed for their country by another way.

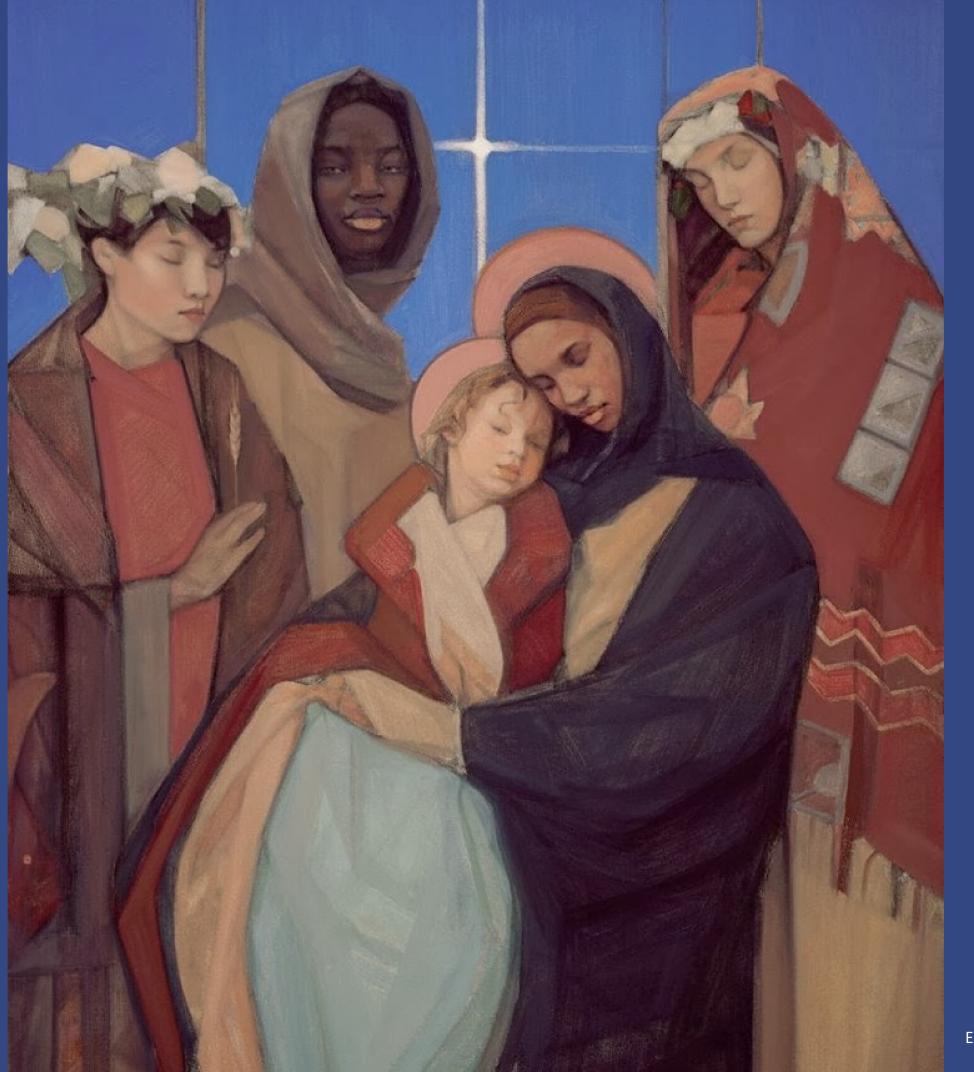


Reflection:

On September 30, during an ecumenical prayer vigil with the Synod's delegates, Francis preached upon one unexpected spiritual disposition which he recommended for the practice of synodality: silence. Silence, says Francis, "makes fraternal communications possible." In silence "the Holy Spirit draws together points of view." To be synodal, says Francis, is to listen to the Spirit together and to adore God made man together. Who are exemplars of this, in the Pope's opinion? The Magi, who adore Jesus.

As we prepare for the opening of the Synod on October 4, let us ask the Magi to pray for participants in the Synod, that they may cultivate listening and interior silence. Let us ask the Magi to pray that the Synod will listen to the people of God. For we know that there are those among us to whom the truth has been revealed "through a star," as it were—through revelation from God—who are not bishops, priests, religious, or even, perhaps, regular Mass attendees, yet are bearers of God's self-revelation. The Magi cradled Jesus and adored him. May the Church allow herself to be nurtured by the Magi of our day: those seekers who start from outside our ecclesial boundaries yet bear true revelation of the mystery of God.

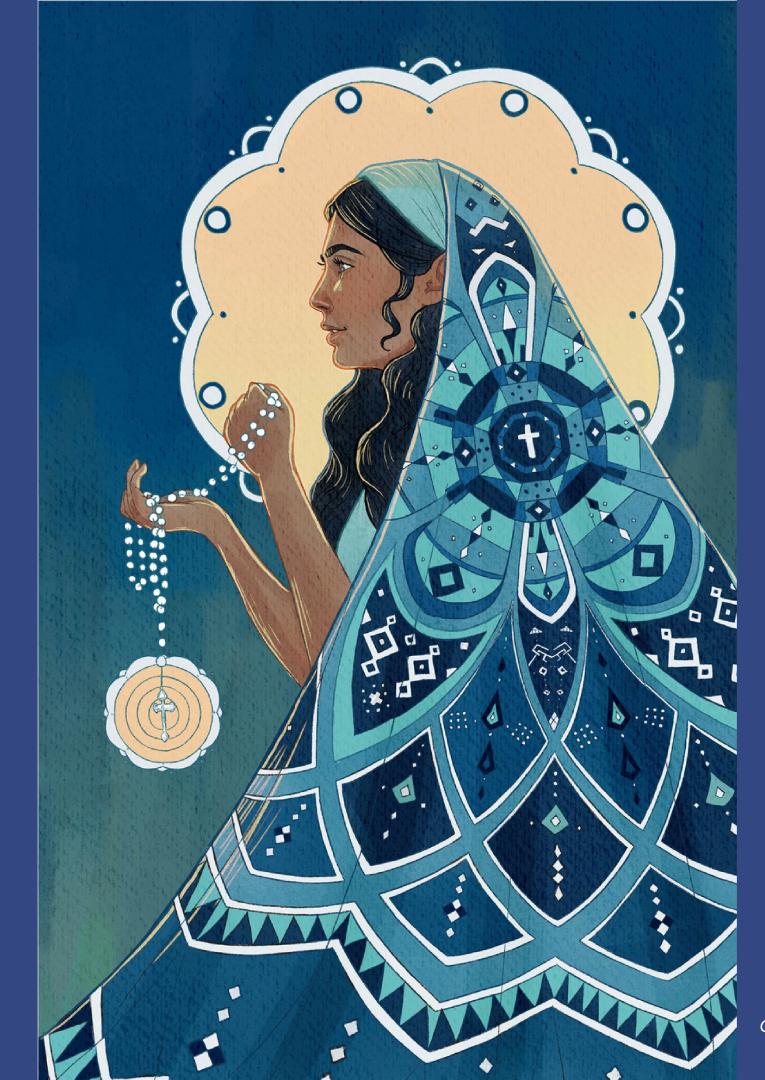
Let us, too, cultivate profound silence as we pray for and engage with the Synod. As we read news updates online, let us strongly resist celebrating and bemoaning reports based on knee-jerk reactions, but rather, bring the fruits of the Synod to prayerful silence. Finally, let us follow the Magi in adoring Jesus. With Francis we pray that "the heavenly light guide us to our one Lord and to the unity for which he prayed."



Epiphany by Janet McKenzie.

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.





Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou amongst women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen. (X10)

Glory Be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end.

LITANY

Holy Mary Mother of God

Walk with us on our synodal journey

Mother of the Church
Walk with us and pray for us

Mother of the disciples of Jesus Walk with us and pray for us

Mother of the lost and the lonely Walk with us and pray for us

Mother of the confused and hesitant Walk with us and pray for us

Mother of those who are searching and questioning

Walk with us and pray for us

Mother of those who are on the margins Walk with us and pray for us

Mother who gives us direction and points the way ahead

Walk with us and pray for us



Santa María del Camino by Rev. Fernando Aritzti, SJ In which Mary clears the path of rocks to make a way for migrants seeking refuge

Woman of silence and reflection Help us to listen to the Spirit

Woman of service and action **Help us to listen to the Spirit**

Woman who sets out in mission **Help us to listen to the Spirit**

Woman who directs us towards your Son Help us to listen to the Spirit

You journeyed from Nazareth to Bethlehem **Be with us on our pilgrim way**

You journeyed on the refugee road into Egypt

Be with us on our pilgrim way

You journeyed as a pilgrim to Jerusalem **Be with us on our pilgrim way**

You accompanied your Son Jesus on the road to Calvary

Be with us on our pilgrim way

You walked with the disciples as they shared the Good News

Be with us on our pilgrim way

Holy Mary,
Mother of God
and Mother of the Church.
Guide our steps along the right path.
Direct us towards your Son and
help us to follow Him faithfully.

Our Lady of the Way **Pray for us**

Our Lady of the Way Stay with us

Our Lady of the Way Walk with us



Mientras recorres la vida Tu nunca solo est6s Contigo por el camino Santa Maria, va

Ven con nosotros al caminar Santa Maria, ven Ven con nosotros al caminar Santa Maria, ven

Aunque te digan algunos Que nada puede cambiar Lucha por un mundo nuevo Lucha por la verdad

Si por el mundo los hombres Sin conocerse van No niegues nunca tu mano Al quien contigo est6

Aunque parezcan tus pasos Inutil caminar Tu vas hacienda caminos Otros los seguir6n

Santa Maria del Camino

song by Juan A. Espinosa

Suggested recording by Veronica Sanfilippo https://youtu.be/1XvGo6viUdE?feature=shared



Santa Maria del Camino, painting by Fr. Fernando Aritzti, SJ, 1988 original painting at Dolores Mission Church, Los Angeles

As you go through life
You are never alone
With you along the way
Santa Maria goes

Come with us as we walk Santa Maria, come Come with us as we walk Santa Maria, come

Even if some tell you
That nothing can change
Struggle for a new world
Fight for the truth

If in the world people
walk without knowing one
another
Never hold back your hand
From the person who is with you

Even though your steps
may seem useless
If you make the way
Others will follow

