

ROSARY FOR A SYNODAL CHURCH

Tuesdays in October at 12 pm ET/9 am PT/6 pm Rome



Opening Song: *Stone by Stone* by Claire Hitchins
<https://catholicartistconnection.com/art-synodality/stone-by-stone>

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.

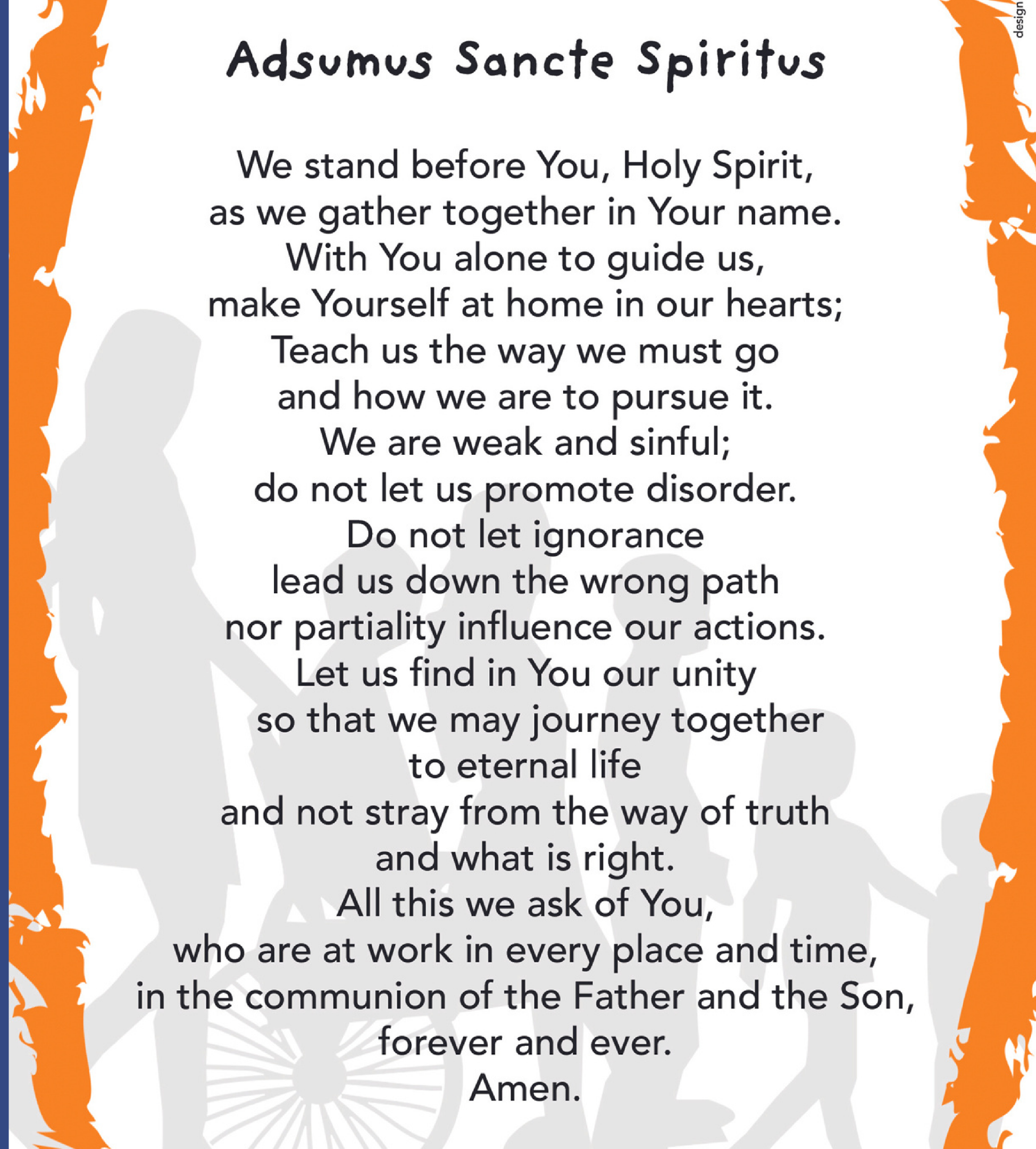
We are weak and sinful;
do not let us promote disorder.

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.



Second Mystery for a Synodal Church: Jesus heals the paralytic lowered through the roof

Mark 2:1-12

When Jesus returned to Capernaum after some days, it became known that he was at home. Many gathered together so that there was no longer room for them, not even around the door, and he preached the word to them. They came bringing to him a paralytic carried by four men. Unable to get near Jesus because of the crowd, they opened up the roof above him. After they had broken through, they let down the mat on which the paralytic was lying. When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, "Child, your sins are forgiven." Now some of the scribes were sitting there asking themselves, "Why does this man speak that way? He is blaspheming. Who but God alone can forgive sins?"



Paralyzed Man, James Tissot

Jesus immediately knew in his mind what they were thinking to themselves, so he said, “Why are you thinking such things in your hearts? Which is easier, to say to the paralytic, ‘Your sins are forgiven,’ or to say, ‘Rise, pick up your mat and walk’? But that you may know that the Son of Man has authority to forgive sins on earth”— he said to the paralytic, “I say to you, rise, pick up your mat, and go home.” He rose, picked up his mat at once, and went away in the sight of everyone. They were all astounded and glorified God, saying, “We have never seen anything like this.”



Paralyzed Man, James Tissot

Reflection:

The friends of the paralyzed man were not held back by fear of others' reactions. They were not preoccupied with the reaction of a householder angry about his torn roof, or of a famous teacher affronted by an invasive approach. Difficulty level didn't stop them, either; they were not deterred by how much they would have to strain their backs and their arms lifting and lowering the full weight of their friend. And because of their fearlessness, they committed an action so bold that it earned Jesus's appreciation. (The Gospels frequently represent Jesus as being thrilled by those whose actions and speech are uninhibited, natural, and fresh.)

A synodal church will reach Jesus by going "through the roof" with creative pastoral engagement and bold new approaches. A synodal church also isn't put off by the strenuous task of deeply listening to those who disagree with us. This church walks together; like the friends of the paralyzed man, it knows that it is not possible to reach Jesus alone.

The man in need of healing is forgiven because of a bold collective lift. What about us? Let us imagine that as we engage in this creative synodal journey "through the roof," Jesus will meet us with something we never expected: the frustration, heaviness, negativity, and hopelessness some of us have experienced in the church will be seen by him, fully forgiven, washed away, and Jesus will tell our Church to rise—pick up our mat—and walk.



Paralyzed Man, James Tissot

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.

Our Lady of the Rosary by Alisha Monnin





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

This litany was developed by the Knock Shrine in Ireland, in response to Pope Francis' call for us to consecrate the synodal path to Mary,



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 estás
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 estás

Aunque parezcan tus pasos
Inútil caminar
Tu vas haciendo caminos
Otros los seguirán

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

