

カトリック福岡司教区
DIOCESE OF FUKUOKA



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福岡司教館
〒810-0028 福岡市中央区浄水通 6-28
BISHOP'S HOUSE
6-28 JOSUIDORI, CHUO-KU,
FUKUOKA, 810-0028, JAPAN
TEL.092-522-5139 FAX.092-523-2152

Fukuoka, May 9, 2023

DAY OF PRAYER FOR THE SYNOD – MAY 28

Dear brothers and sisters:

Peace be with you.

The month of May is traditionally the month dedicated to Mary. I am sure that in every parish, family, and religious community the prayer to Mary is practiced this month. It is a tradition that feeds our faith.

The synodal path that began two years ago, having completed the first three phases (diocesan, national and continental), has entered its universal phase. Next October, representatives of the bishops from all over the world will meet in Rome in a synodal assembly together with some priests, representatives of the consecrated life and of the laity, men and women. Assuming the result of the synodal path carried out up to now, they will discuss the features that should characterize the church today and its mission in today's world. The result of this meeting will once again be submitted for consultation at the various levels of the ecclesial organization. In October 2024, a new meeting of the synodal assembly in Rome will present the results of the synodal path to the Pope, so that he can offer the whole church the guidelines that should guide her life and her missionary action in the future.

Pope Francis has asked that on May 31, in all the Marian sanctuaries of the world, the intercession of Mary be implored on the synodal path that is being carried out. We are invited to ask Mary, who accompanied the journey of the first Christian community, to also accompany the synodal journey of the church in the 21st century.

In the diocese of Fukuoka, we want to respond faithfully to this call from the Pope. Since May 31 (Wednesday) is a working day, it will be difficult for most of the faithful in this diocese to meet. For this reason, we are going to fulfill the desire of the Pope in

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the Masses on Sunday, May 28. In each parish and in each religious community where the Eucharist is celebrated, we will recite together the prayer for the Synod, and we will ask for Mary's intercession on the synodal path by reciting the "Hail Mary" prayer three times. May Our Lady help us in our effort to create a church that is strongly united, a church in which everyone actively participates and assumes responsibility for the mission as their own.

I am attaching the prayer for the Synod so that you can recite it together on Sunday, the 28th.

Imploring the blessing of the Lord on each one of you and your families,

Josep M. Abella

Bishop of the Diocese of Fukuoka



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.