

## INTRODUCTION

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The Synod on Synodality marks a pivotal moment in the Church's ongoing journey of renewal, emphasizing the need for deep listening, shared discernment, and co-responsibility among all the faithful. Rooted in the Church's tradition yet responsive to contemporary realities, synodality calls for a more participatory, inclusive, and dialogical way of being Church. It challenges communities to move beyond hierarchical decision-making toward a more communal and Spirit-led process of walking together. This HAPAG issue explores the many dimensions of synodality—its theological foundations, practical expressions, and implications for the future of the Church.

Emmanuel S. de Guzman and Agnes M. Brazal critically examine *Damdaming Katoliko sa Teolohiya* in light of *Ad Theologiam Promovendam*, offering insights into the intersection of theological reflection and synodal processes. Jessica Joy Candelario expands this discourse by delving into *Pakikinig sa Pahiwatig*, emphasizing the importance of deep listening in a synodal Church. Similarly, Rebecca Cacho and Jose Eric Lacsá explore how synodality extends into cyberspace, fostering a Church that listens beyond physical and cultural borders.

Estela P. Padilla raises thought-provoking questions on the post-synodal spirit, challenging readers to consider whether change is imminent in ecclesial structures and practices. Dorothy P. Javier-Martinez and Auria U. Arabit, SdP, contribute to the growing discourse on artificial intelligence, examining its role in synodality toward active listening and healing divisions that wound authentic communion. Edwin Bello Odulio introduces a future-oriented

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perspective on conversations in the Spirit, proposing the normativity of the future as a guiding principle for synodal engagement. Finally, Jeff Clyde G. Corpuz offers a contextual reimagining of *Bayanihan* as a model of synodality within the Philippine Catholic Church, grounding synodal praxis in communal solidarity.

These contributions underscore synodality's dynamic and evolving nature as a lived reality in the Church. Whether through theological frameworks, digital engagements, or socio-cultural reflections, the authors demonstrate that synodality is not a static concept but an ongoing process of shared reflection, deep listening, and communal participation. This issue invites readers to consider how synodality can shape ecclesial structures and how faith communities can effectively respond to contemporary challenges.

This volume is a meaningful contribution to ongoing theological reflections on synodality. These works can inspire further dialogue, foster new perspectives, and encourage a more inclusive and participatory ecclesial life. In the spirit of a genuinely synodal Church, the articles open possibilities toward deeper engagements in our shared faith journey. We hope it will strengthen our bonds in mission and communion.

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