

Adsumus, Sancte Spiritus



Prayer of invocation to the Holy Spirit for an ecclesial assembly
of governance or discernment (thus synodal)

Every session of the Second Vatican Council began with the prayer *Adsumus Sancte Spiritus*, the first word of the Latin original meaning, "We stand before You, Holy Spirit," which has been historically used at Councils, Synods and other Church gatherings for hundreds of years, being attributed to Saint Isidore of Seville (c. 560 – 4 April 636). As we are called to embrace this synodal path of the Synod 2021–2023, this prayer invites the Holy Spirit to operate within us so that we may be a community and a people of grace. For the Synod 2021–2023, we propose to use this simplified version, so that any group or liturgical assembly can pray more easily.

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.



Prayer – Missionary Transformation and Synodal Journey

O God, eternal Love,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit, we stand before you;

Through this work of evangelization and the synodal journey,
Pour out your Spirit upon your Church in the Archdiocese of Montreal,
Renewing its life and its presence in the world.

Teach us to discern
your plan of love and joy
for all people,
To participate in it,
To walk together,
To live in communion,
To listen to one another,
Under the guidance of the Holy Spirit
Placing Jesus Christ at the heart of what we do.

May He make us attentive to each and every one,
Eager to reach out to our brothers and sisters,
in the Church, on the margins and in the broader community.

May He grant us to live in ongoing conversion,
To grow in faithfulness,
Towards servanthood and sainthood.
May He help us in discerning new ways to better participate in the mission of your
Son with faith, hope and generosity.

May He touch the hearts of God's people, especially families and those who are single,
May He enable us to hear the joys and sorrows,
May He gather us together to participate in this synodal process;

You, who know our sinfulness, our weaknesses and our discouragements,
Come to our aid because, without You, we can do nothing.

Through the intercession of Our Lady of Ville-Marie,
May we journey forward together in Truth,
And let us be faithful witnesses of God's Love. Amen.

