

OPENING OF THE XVI SYNOD OF BISHOPS IN THE ARCHDIOCESE OF PHILADELPHIA  
This Synod of Bishops will take place in three phases, the Diocesan Phase, the Continental Phase and the Universal Phase, from October 2021 through October 2023. The theme of the Synod, *For a synodal Church: communion, participation and mission*, anticipates serious reflection and action to deepen an understanding of the role of all the members of the Church, journeying together with Christ as our Head, in living the Gospel in our time.



## OPENING MASS FOR THE DIOCESAN PHASE OF THE SYNOD

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2021 AT 6:30 PM

CATHEDRAL BASILICA OF SAINTS PETER AND PAUL  
AND SHRINE OF SAINT KATHARINE DREXEL  
18<sup>TH</sup> Street and the Benjamin Franklin Parkway, Philadelphia  
*Limited parking is available.*

Archbishop Nelson Pérez, Celebrant and Homilist  
*All priests are welcome to concelebrate.*  
*Please vest in the archdiocesan vestment in the Cathedral Chapel.*

ADORATION OF THE MOST BLESSED SACRAMENT  
AND THE SACRAMENT OF PENANCE AND RECONCILIATION  
IN THE CATHEDRAL BASILICA  
5:00 PM TO 6:00 PM

This Celebration of Holy Mass is intended to manifest the participation of all the members of our Local Church in the fullest possible way. Pastors, please invite representatives of all parts of your parish. Religious Superiors, please invite members from all apostolates. School Administrators, please invite faculty, staff and students. Archdiocesan agencies and organization, please invite leaders and members.

*The Opening Mass is followed by a period of consultation within the local Church on the Synod theme which concludes in April 2022. More information will be forthcoming.*