



Catholic Diocese of Ndola

MEMO

To: Vicars Forane, All Priests, Religious Men & Women, Diocesan Institutions, Members of Staff (Pastoral Offices) and All the Lay Faithful of Catholic Diocese of Ndola

From: Director – Pastoral Programmes

Cc: Bishop's Office
Diocesan Senior Management
CEO – Radio Icengelo

Date: Monday, 9th May 2022

Subject: Diocesan Pre-Synod for the Celebration of the Assembly of Bishops in Synod (Closing Session of the Celebration of the Diocesan Phase of the Synod)

This serves to inform and invite you to the **Closing Session** of a very important activity of the Church in which we have participated through discussions of the preparations of the **16th Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops** to take place in **October 2023**. The preparations of this Synod, which are aimed at promoting a new style of living out the **Communion, Participation, and Mission** of the Church, were divided into different Phases.

The **First Phase, the Diocesan Phase (October 2021 – April 2022)**, which was rescheduled due to other challenges among them the Covid-19 situation in our country, will now come to an end in the Diocese with the celebration of the **Diocesan Pre-Synod Session**. This will act as a closing session of the Diocese Phase and will involve presentation of reports from various representatives of all the faithful who were involved in the discussions on given topics in parishes, lay movements, schools and universities, religious congregations and other groups among many. The aim of these discussions at Diocesan level of the Synod was to **integrate the Synodal Process into the life of the local Church** in creative ways that promote deepened communion, fuller participation, and a more fruitful mission of the Church.

Thus, the Diocesan Pre-Synod Closing Session with Mass will take place as follows:

Date: Saturday, 21st May 2022

Time: 09:00hrs

Venue: Cathedral of Christ the King, Ndola & later in the Pastoral Offices' Conference Hall)

Celebrant: Rt. Rev. Dr. Benjamin Phiri, JCD (Bishop of Ndola)



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The following People will attend the Diocesan Pre-Synod Closing Session:

- The Diocesan Contact Team on the Synod of Bishops (8 members)
- 6 people from **each Deanery** (those who were part of the Deanery Contact Team)
- Special Groups:
 - o Youths (2 Representatives)
 - o Catholic Women's Organization (2 Representatives)
 - o Catholic Men's Organization (2 Representatives)
 - o Hearing Impaired (2 Representatives)
 - o Physically challenged (2 Representatives)
 - o Holy childhood (2 Representatives) accompanied by 2 Animators
 - o Religious Women (2 Representatives)
 - o Religious Men (2 Representatives)
 - o Priests (2 Representatives)

Total number of Participants expected: 90 - 100 people.

The manner in which the Diocesan Pre-Synod Closing Session will be celebrated will be as follows:

- Presentation of the written Report by the Representatives of the above Groupings
- Brief explanation of their Synodal experience
- Where they were holding the discussions in their respective groupings
- What things were shared
- What challenges were faced and above all
- What they learnt from the whole process?

The following is the flow of events on the actual Day:

09:00hrs	Arrival of all the Selected Representatives at the Cathedral, Ndola
09:30hrs	Celebration of the Closing Mass in the Cathedral
11:00hrs	Session in the Conference Hall of the Pastoral Offices
12:30hrs	Reactions to the Presentations and Way forward / Diocesan Synthesis Formulation
13:30hrs	Lunch
14:30hrs	Close and Disperse

All Deans are kindly reminded to ensure that their Deanery Co-ordinating Teams will be in attendance with their respective Deanery Reports. Kindly take note of this important notification.

Wishing you God's blessings in your ministry!

Fraternally Yours in Christ,

Fr. Matthew Mumba, ofm conv.