

Sending of Delegates to Diocesan Synod

Leader: Hear the words of the Apostle Paul to the Church in Corinth: “The cup of blessing that we bless, is it not a sharing in the blood of Christ? The bread that we break, is it not a sharing in the body of Christ? Because there is one bread, we, being many, are one body, for we all share in the one bread.”

Sisters and Brothers in Christ, this week, from Wednesday evening until Saturday afternoon, representatives from congregations across the Diocese of Algoma will assemble in Synod. Together they will exercise the ministry of prayer, discernment, and governance entrusted to them by the people of this Diocese. We pray that all who gather, especially the delegates from this parish, will be so directed and strengthened by the Holy Spirit that the church in Algoma will emerge from this Synod with a renewed conviction that Jesus Christ is Lord of all, confident that God’s purpose and promises will prevail.

I call forward [*names of clerical and lay delegates from the congregation*].

When the delegates have come forward, the Leader invites the members of the congregation to stand/remain standing in prayer, and may invite them to extend their hands toward the delegates in a gesture of blessing.

Then the Leader prays,

God our hope, by the Holy Spirit
you presided at the Council of Apostles
to guide them in all knowledge and truth,
and to inspire the whole company of disciples
to share faithfully in your mission to the world.
Be present with these your servants
as they take their place in Diocesan Synod
with representatives from across Algoma.
In deliberation and debate,
fill them with your wisdom and peace.
In the face of the challenges and opportunities
before your church,
spark their imagination and give them courage.
In moments of decision,
prompt and empower them to seek only your glory,
so your church may live as one body
for the sake of the world you love.
We ask this through the One made known
in the breaking of the bread, Jesus Christ the Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
now and for ever.

People: **Amen.**

Leader: *N.N.*, may you go with God as you travel to and from Synod, and may you know God’s blessing as you serve.