

QUESTIONNAIRE

Synod of Bishops
15th Ordinary General Assembly (October 2018)

YOUNG PEOPLE, THE FAITH AND VOCATIONAL DISCERNMENT*

The aim of the questions is to assist the customary ecclesial bodies “by right” to express their understanding of the world of young people and assess their experience of vocational accompaniment, in order to gather information for drafting the work-document or *Instrumentum laboris*.

So as to take into account the various situations on the different continents and regions, three specific questions for Asia and Oceania have been inserted, to generate response from the interested ecclesial bodies.

To facilitate and make tenable this work, the respective bodies are requested to limit their response to approximately... one page each for the questions assessing the situation and one page for the three experiences for the continents and regions. If necessary or desired, other texts can be attached to support or supplement the contents of the responses.

EVALUATING THE SITUATION

a) Young People, the Church and Society

These questions refer both to young people who take part in Church programmes, as well as those who do not take part or have no interest to participate.

1. In what manner does the Church listen to the lived situations of young people?
2. What are the main challenges and most significant opportunities for young people in your country / countries today?
3. What kinds and places of group gatherings of youth, institutionalized or otherwise, have a major success *within* the Church, and why?

* Lifted from http://www.vatican.va/roman_curia/synod/documents/rc_synod_doc_20170113_documento-preparatorio-xv_en.html#QUESTIONS

4. What kinds and places of group gatherings of youth, institutionalized or otherwise, have a major success *outside* the Church, and why?
5. What do young people really ask of the Church in your country / countries today?
6. What possibilities for participation exist in your country / countries for young people to take part in the life of the ecclesial community?
7. How and in what manner is contact made with young people who do not frequent Church surroundings?

b) Pastoral Vocational Programmes for Young People

8. How are families and communities involved in the vocational discernment of young people?
9. How do schools and universities or other educational institutions (civil or ecclesial) contribute to young people's formation in vocational discernment?
10. In what manner are you taking into account the cultural changes resulting from the development of the digital world?
11. How can World Youth Days or other national or international events become a part of ordinary pastoral practice?
12. In what manner is your diocese planning experiences for the pastoral vocational programme for young people?

c) Pastoral Care Workers with Young People

13. How much time and in what manner do clergy and other formators provide guidance?
14. What initiatives and opportunities for formation are in place for those who provide pastoral vocational guidance?
15. What personal guidance is offered in seminaries?

d) Specific Questions According to Geographic Areas

ASIA AND OCEANIA

- a. Why and how do religious gatherings by those who are non-Catholic exercise an attraction on young people?

- b. In what way can the values of a local culture be combined with Christian teaching importance to popular piety?
- c. How is the language used in a young people's world incorporated in the pastoral care of young people, especially in the media, sports and music?

SHARING ACTIVITIES

1. List the main types of pastoral activity in accompaniment and vocational discernment in your present situation.
2. Choose three activities you consider the most interesting and relevant to share with the universal Church, and present it according to the following format (*no more than one page for each experience*).
 - a) *Description*: In a few sentences, roughly describe the activity. Who are the leading characters? How does the activity take place? Where? etc.
 - b) *Analysis*: Evaluate the activity, even in layman's terms, for a better understanding of the important elements: what are the goals? What is the theoretical basis? What are the most interesting insights? How have they developed? etc.
 - c) *Evaluation*: What are the goals? If not achieved, why? Strengths and weaknesses? What are the consequences on the social, cultural and ecclesial levels? Why and in what way important / formative? etc.