**From Nick Wagner, TeamRCIA founder**

TeamRCIA (teamrcia.com) is encouraging all those involved in initiation ministry to participate in the Synod, whose goal is conversion. Since the initiatory journey is also one of “journeying together” to draw more closely to Christ, through the Church, the relationship between the two processes is obvious. So, reprinted with permission are these questions to promote the dialogue the Synod imagines. Thank you Nick, for your generous gift.

**Eight ways to imagine our best church**

The preparatory document lists eight areas in which we might imagine our best church. Some of these may be helpful in your listening process with your catechumenate community:

1. How has the Holy Spirit journeyed with us in the past and how do we imagine that the Spirit is guiding us today to be witnesses of God’s love?
2. How can we be a more participative and inclusive church? Most especially, how can we include those who are on the margins so that they can teach us more about what it means to be an ideal church?
3. How can we get better at recognizing and honoring the amazing wealth of gifts that the Spirit has given us to make the world a better place?
4. How can we, as members of the baptismal priesthood or seekers who wish to join the baptismal priesthood, take on our rightful responsibility to proclaim the gospel and build a more beautiful world?
5. How can we, as members of the baptismal priesthood or seekers who wish to join the baptismal priesthood, examine how responsibility and power are lived in the church and bring to light distorted practices that are not rooted in the gospel?
6. How can we, as a church, become a more credible and reliable partner in paths of social dialogue, healing, reconciliation, inclusion and participation, the reconstruction of democracy, the promotion of social friendship?
7. How can we build stronger ties with members of other Christian communities, other faith traditions, and other social and civil groups?
8. How can we make sure that the fruits of this listening process actually make a difference in our catechumenate community? And in our parish? And in our diocese? (see [Synod Preparatory Document](https://www.synod.va/en/news/preparatory-document.html))

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