



## **Engaging Synodality: A Call to Higher Education and Theological Ethicists**

**Leadership:** [Maria Cimperman](#), RSCJ (USA), [Kevin Ahern](#) (USA), [Stephanie Ann Puen](#) (Philippines) and [Victor Carmona](#) (USA).

**Languages:** English, with desire for broad inclusion depending on interest and use of existing technologies. (English and Spanish are possible)

**Purpose:** The purpose of this table is to determine interest and generate further involvement/strategic ways to contribute as theological ethicists to Pope Francis' global consultation toward a synod on synodality and becoming a synodal church ([see Synod on Synodality.](#)) We begin as a listening-learning group. Participants will share current involvement with/interest in the synodal process. Attention will also be paid to how theological ethicists can contribute to the synodal process and how we might listen to the voices of others, particularly those outside of the academy. Discussion will move to how theological ethicists' might further respond to the call to synodality in our locations, through our writing, presentations and through our institutions.

**Reporting methodology:** The VT secretary (Initially one of the convening committee) will take notes of the meeting and distribute them to the group members for review before they are finalized. The notes will be shared with the global CTEWC planning committee. A brief report will be sent for inclusion in the *First* every 3-4 months.

**Call for members:** This table aims to bring together 15-25 scholars from around the world into dialogue and solidarity. The desire is that members will represent geographic and cultural balances.

### INVITATION:

How can Catholic ethicists and the broader church contribute toward a synodal church? We invite all who are interested in finding ways to contribute to Pope Francis' Synod on Synodality and the call for becoming a more synodal church to join us.

Initial Goals:

- To create a space to share how CTEWC members have been involved in Synodality,
- To listen to the hopes and expectations on synodality from groups at the margins,
- To share our experiences as ethicists with the synodal process.

**Duration and meeting frequency:** For 12 months, we will communicate through an email list-serve and a WhatsApp group message as needed between Zoom meetings, which will take place every 4-6 weeks. During our first virtual gathering we will establish a calendar of Zoom meeting times/frequency.

As part of this process, we will identify representatives from groups outside the academy for occasional consultation and listening, including lay leaders, bishops, and leaders of religious

congregations. We believe it is fundamental for scholars speaking about synodality to model listening in their own spaces.

**Contact:** Please email Maria Cimperman ([mcimperman@ctu.edu](mailto:mcimperman@ctu.edu)) or Kevin Ahern ([kevin.ahern@manhattan.edu](mailto:kevin.ahern@manhattan.edu)) with your interest or question by April 28, 2022. If possible, please also fill out the [Google information form](#).

A first meeting will be scheduled for May 2022.