

We are happy and grateful to have been invited to represent CHARIS, the International Communion Service of the Catholic Charismatic Renewal, at the Continental Assembly of the Synod.

We believe that the Synod has been a great inspiration of the Holy Spirit in the Church and we are happy to live this journey.

CHARIS is not a movement but - in the words of Pope Francis - a "stream of grace", and people from prayer groups or communities have participated in the synodal process in their dioceses all over the world, and have been able to make their contribution in the sensitivity of the Renewal.

Jesus himself gave the image of a Church on the move, as he traveled through the Holy Land proclaiming the Good News, doing good, and being attentive to the wounded and the poor.

We believe that the reception of the Holy Spirit, lived in the experience of the baptism in the Spirit, leads to a personal encounter with Christ, which opens the heart to listening to the Word of God, to listening to others, to what the Holy Spirit can say through each one in order to advance and build the Church. We are pleased with the place given to listening in the synodal process and to docility to the Holy Spirit in resolving tensions.

It is thanks to this listening that the charisma of each member of the Church can be discerned, and that each one can be given his or her place, not all being called to fulfill the same functions, as in the image of the body found in Saint Paul. But each one is at the service of the others, and of the edification of the whole Church in a spirit of charity.