



Rome, 12th March 2018

Dear Catholic Action Young Members,

As you very well know, the year 2018 is a very important year for us young people and for all the Church. Pope Francis has announced a Youth Synod, a meeting where the Bishops from all over the world will be speaking about us.

However, this will not only be an occasion for the Synod Fathers to dialogue among themselves. Each one of us, every young person living in Italy and in any other part of the world, will be able to be a protagonist and can participate in this exchange process.

In fact, as the Pontiff said, "all young people have something to say to the Church, to the Bishops and to the Pope!" and can actually do this during the preparatory meetings which will be held in Rome this month.

Three hundred young delegates, coming from all countries in the world will be physically present at this meeting. (We will also be there, with Luisa, representing the International Catholic Action Forum). It will also be possible for all of us, from our own places, to give our important contribution. How?

Through the social media!

Starting from now, up to the 16th March, we can join a Facebook group, (www.facebook.com/groups/pre.synodale), where we can post our message, of not more than 200 words, in answer to the questions which will be published as from Monday. There will be three main themes, each with a specific hashtag:

- 1. young people's challenges and opportunities in today's world.**
#Wholam, #diversity, #future, #Digital Life, #interior life
- 2. faith and vocation, discernment and accompaniment**
#Jesus, #belief, #called, #choices, #guidance
- 3. the educational and pastoral work of the Church**
#Church, #protagonist, #square, #proposals, #verbal expression

Each of these tags has been linked with a scheme for deeper study. These schemes have been published on the site www.synod2018.va and could be a useful tool to help us reflect on these themes before giving our views. We could choose to read these schemes on our own or in groups, maybe during our CA meetings. We could also invite our friends, who do not necessarily form part of our group. Then we can formulate an intervention which we can then post on Facebook. A summary of the messages received will be forwarded to Pope Francis who will then take them with him to the Synod.

If instead, you prefer to express yourself through a video, you could do this by sending your message (maximum one minute) through Whatsapp, on number +39 342 601 5596. Even in this case, you may answer to one or more of the themes, from those indicated above, which you have tackled.

We kindly ask you to let us know how you have decided to participate in this pre-synodal social media exercise by sending us a photo message on our Facebook Page. We would like to publish these so as to share how we, CA young members, are participating in this synodal journey. And we want to be there. We would like to say what we think. We would like to contribute our share in the building of the Church.

Thanks and best wishes for a good pre-Synod journey to all!

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