



International Ecumenical Conference  
“Listening to the East” – Synodality in the Syriac Orthodox and  
Church of the East Traditions

Pontifical University St. Thomas Aquinas, Rome, Nov. 23 – 24, 2022

**PROGRAM**

*(as of Nov 3, 2022)*

*Listeners/Drafting Committee: Prof. Dr Souraya BECHEALANY, Fr. Frans BOUWEN MAfr.,  
Dr Joachim JAKOB, Manuel KUHN, Astrid WIMMER*

**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 2022**

*Opening Session*

**GREETING ADDRESSES AND GENERAL INTRODUCTION**

*Moderator: Fr. Prof. Dr Hyacinthe DESTIVELLE OP*

18:00 *Welcome Addresses and Greetings*

Rector Prof. Dr Thomas Joseph WHITE OP, Angelicum

Cardinal Mario GRECH, General Secretary of the Synod of Bishops

Cardinal Kurt KOCH, President of the Dicastery for Promoting Christian Unity

Ambassador ret. Dr Alfons M. KLOSS, President of PRO ORIENTE Foundation

*Keynote Speech:*

The Theology of Synodality in the Church of the East

Catholicos Patriarch Mar AWA III.

19:30 Reception

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 2022

*First Session*

UNDERSTANDINGS AND PRACTICES OF SYNODALITY IN THE SYRIAC ORTHODOX AND CHURCH OF THE EAST  
TRADITIONS

*Moderator: Prof. Dr Dietmar W. WINKLER*

- 09:00 Morning Prayer
- 09:15 Keynotes and Discussion: Understandings and Practices of Synodality  
- in the Syrian Orthodox Church Mor Polycarpus AYDIN  
- in the Church of the East Mar Paulus BENJAMIN
- 10:30 Coffee Break
- 11:00 Experiences of Synodality –  
Four parallel working groups with inputs from both traditions on:
- Youth Inputs: Mr. Hadi Adnan JABBOUR and Mr. Yousif Ibraiel Oishalm AMRW  
Moderation: Fr. Dr Philip NELPURAPARAMPIL
  - Laity Inputs: Dr Martina ARAS and Mr. Peter Azzo  
Moderation: Dr Ephrem ISHAC
  - Women Input: Ms. Salaam SOMI and Dr Nisha M. THOMAS  
Moderation: Dr Viola RAHEB
  - Monastic life/Clergy Inputs: Fr. Dr Charbel RIZK and Mr. Oughin AZIZYAN  
Moderation: Fr. Dr Saliba ER
- 12:00 Plenary: Reports from the working groups
- 13:00 Lunch

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*Second Session*

EXPRESSIONS OF SYNODALITY IN ECUMENICAL CONTEXTS

*Moderator: Prof. Dr Pablo ARGÁRATE*

- 15:30 Keynotes and Discussion: Synodality in Regional Ecumenical Networks  
Prof. Dr Souraya BECHEALANY  
Ms. Ruth MATHEN
- 16:45 Coffee Break
- 17:15 Lessons learned for the Catholic Church:  
spiritual, canonical, theological, and pastoral perspectives  
Reflections from the Catholic Listeners
- 18:30 Concluding Session
- 19:00 Evening Prayer
- 19:30 Dinner

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- End of the Conference -