

FABC PAPERS PERIODIC INDEX

Papers 176-200 (2022-2026)

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Contents

I.	INTRODUCTION	2
II.	NARRATIVE SYNOPSIS	4
III.	SUBJECTS INDEX TO FABC PAPERS	
	Numbers 176-200	29
IV.	PERSONS INDEX TO FABC PAPERS	
	Numbers 176-200	34

I. INTRODUCTION

The publication of this FABC paper coincides with a significant anniversary in the world-wide Church: the centennial of World Mission Day (WMD). For the past 100 years (1927-2026), the popes of this century have been gifting the Church with an annual mission message, containing profound insights, practical wisdom, and spiritual inspiration.

What the popes have done for the universal Church, the FABC has done for the Asian local Churches since FABC's 1970 founding. Six popes have guided the Church in the 56 years of FABC's history. Let us look at some pivotal mission insights from these popes; one will quickly see the close connections between the papal messages and the profound theology of the FABC.

Pope Saint Paul VI (1963-1978) made a remarkable contribution to the Church by guiding the final three sessions of the Second Vatican Council (1963-1965). Undoubtedly, Paul VI's greatest mission contribution was his 1975 apostolic exhortation *Evangelii Nuntiandi* (Evangelization in the Modern World). The document affirms that "evangelizing all people constitutes the essential mission of the Church" (EN 14) and that "evangelizing means bringing the Good News into all strata of humanity" (EN 18). This insight is clearly echoed in the first FABC Plenary Assembly in 1974 on the theme: *Evangelization in Modern Day Asia*. **Pope John Paul I** (1978) served for only 33 days; he did not issue any WMD messages.

Pope Saint John Paul II (1978-2005), the third longest-serving pope in Church history, made several pastoral visits to Asia. His 1990 mission encyclical *Redemptoris Missio* (On the Permanent Validity of the Church's Missionary Mandate) starkly proclaims that "*Mission is an issue of faith*" (RM 11); Asia's bishops would wholeheartedly affirm that without faith mission is impossible. **Pope Benedict XVI** (2005-2013) emphasized the role of the laity in mission, Christian charity, and global ecclesial communion.

Pope Francis (2013-2025) issued 14 WMD messages; however, his 2013 apostolic exhortation *Evangelii Gaudium* (The Joy of the Gospel) marvelously elaborated his profound mission insights. He asserted that “missionary outreach is *paradigmatic for all the Church’s activity*” (#15) and that all Christians must endeavor to become “missionary disciples” (#40, 50, 119-121, 173). **Pope Leo XIV** (2025-) will certainly provide the Church with numerous insights emerging from his experience as a missionary priest and bishop in Peru.

Finally, it is this author’s dream that this index will enable you to deeply explore recent FABC insights and connect them with the wider Church’s missionary wisdom. **JHK**

II. NARRATIVE SYNOPSIS

***FABC Papers 176: FABC Papers Editorial Staff (compiler).
Synthesis Reports, Synod of Bishops 2021-2023 [2022].***

CONTENTS: This lengthy paper contains the “synthesis reports” of five Asian bishops organizations focused on the Synod of Bishops: 2021-2023. The papers seek to present the milestones, turning points, and spiritual dimensions of the synodal journey; they emphasize the themes of communion, participation and mission.

The five jurisdictions found here are: Catholic Bishops’ Conference of Bangladesh (CBCB), Catholic Bishops’ Conference of Central Asia (CECAC), Conference of Catholic Bishops of India (CCBI), and the Syro-Malabar Church and the Syro-Malankara Catholic Major Archiepiscopal Church.

Bangladesh has a population of about 162 million; about 60% of Catholics come from more than 34 tribal ethnic groups. The Catholic Church in Central Asia covers Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, and Turkmenistan. The Catholic Church in India has over twenty million faithful. The Syro-Malabar Catholic Church has 4.6 million members. The Syro-Malankara Catholic Church has actively engaged in the synodal process, following the leadership of its bishops.

SUBJECTS: Asia, Bangladesh, Basic Ecclesial Communities, Catechetics, Communion, Ecology, Ecumenism, Eucharist, Evangelization, Family Ministries, Fundamentalism, Health Care, Holy Spirit, India, Lay Ministries, Local Church, Migrants, Mission, Ongoing Formation, Orthodox, Parish Pastoral Council, Participation, Synodality, Tribal Ethnic Groups, Youth.

PERSONS: Alencherry, G., Devasahayam, Saint, D’Souza, D., Fernandez, F., Neelankavil, T., Pope Francis, Rani Maria, Sister, Swamy, S., Vaniyapurackal, S.

***FABC Papers 177: FABC Papers Editorial Staff (compiler).
Synthesis Reports, Synod of Bishops 2021-2023 [2022].***

CONTENTS: This paper contains reports from: [1] Konferensi Waligereja Indonesia (KWI), [2] Catholic Bishops' Conference of Japan (CBCJ), [3] Catholic Bishops' Conference of Korea (CBCK), and [4] Catholic Bishops' Conference of Laos-Cambodia (CELAC).

The Church in Indonesia has 37 dioceses spread over many islands, various ethnic groups, and contextual situations; it believes that diversity is a wealth for the community. There are 16 dioceses in Japan; all were adversely affected by the global Covid-19 pandemic. The Japanese report follows a ten-point pattern; the report emphasizes "prayer and unity." Also, here one finds significant insights of what it means to evangelize as a minority.

The population of Korea is about 53 million of which 11.3% are Catholics (nearly 6 million). The Catholic population in Korea is aging – a clear pastoral challenge. The Catholic Church in Laos is largely composed of ethnic groups. In Cambodia, the Church seeks to become more localized and inculturated.

SUBJECTS: Basic Community, Cambodia, Catholic Education, Clericalism, Collaboration, Covid-19, Dialogue, Discernment, Ecumenism, Eucharist, *Fratelli Tutti*, Indonesia, Interfaith Marriage, Japan, Korea, Laos, *Laudato Si*, Leadership, LGBTQ Persons, Local Church, Minority, Mission, Participation, Scripture, Synodality.

PERSONS: Cosme, B., Figaredo, E., Hyun-jin, S., Mangkhanekhoun, L., Pope Francis, Schmitthaesler, O., Suon, H.

***FABC Papers 178: FABC Papers Editorial Staff (compiler).
Synthesis Reports, Synod of Bishops 2021-2023 [2022].***

CONTENTS: This document has four episcopal conferences reports: [1] Malaysia-Singapore-Brunei (CBCMSB), [2] Myanmar (CBCM), [3] Pakistan (PCBC), and [4] Philippines (CBCP).

The CBCMSB is unique since it consists of three countries under one conference. Each diocese launched its synodality assembly in October 2021, seeking to incorporate its great diversity of peoples. The country of Myanmar is composed of 135 ethnic groups; the Church is a small minority, but “aims at bridge-building in the midst of a plurality of cultural, ethnic and religious traditions.”

The local Church in Pakistan enthusiastically engaged in the synodal process, asserting “the Holy Spirit invites us to journey together, speak together, dream together and listen to each other.” It also promotes “a participatory Church advocated by Vatican II.” The Philippines report notes that the synodal consultations “were an experience of Easter”; the encounters “became an experience of new life.” There was a clear “meeting of hearts and minds.”

SUBJECTS: Basic Ecclesial Communities, Brunei, Buddhism, Co-responsibility, Dialogue, Diversity, Drugs, Ecumenism, Emmaus Journey, Evangelization, Harmony, Holy Spirit, Inculturation, Islam, Malaysia, Mission, Myanmar, Pakistan, Pandemic, Philippines, RCIA, Singapore, Social Media, Unity.

PERSONS: Arshad, J., Goh, W., Pope Francis, Virgin Mary.

***FABC Papers 179: FABC Papers Editorial Staff (compiler).
Synthesis Reports, Synod of Bishops 2021-2023 [2022].***

CONTENTS: The synodal reports of three bishops' conferences are contained in this paper: [1] Chinese Regional Bishops' Conference (CRBC), [2] Catholic Bishops' Conference of Thailand (CBCT), and [3] Catholic Bishops' Conference of Timor-Leste (CET).

The Chinese Regional Bishops' Conference is the episcopal conference of Taiwan; it is composed of seven dioceses on the island, all led by native bishops. The Church sincerely desires a "revitalization," seeking to become "a synodal Church in Taiwan."

The synodal process in the eleven dioceses of Thailand (a mere 0.58% of 69 million) evoked wide involvement. The Thai Church praised the many missionaries who evangelized through visiting, immersing, and sharing life with the local peoples.

The Catholic Church of Timor-Leste now has over 500 years of existence; evangelization began in 1515. Today the majority of the Timorese people are Catholic Christians, divided into three dioceses. The local Church seeks to emphasize formation of its pastoral agents on all levels.

SUBJECTS: Basic Ecclesial Communities, China, Confucianism, Co-responsibility, Dialogue, Ecumenism, Ethnic Minorities, FABC, Formation, Hong Kong, Immigration, Laity, Liturgy, Macau, Mission, Missionary Disciples, National Evangelization Congress, Synodality, Taiwan, Taoism, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Youth.

NAMES: Bellarmine, R., Pope Francis.

FABC Papers 180: Orlando Quevedo (author). FABC: The Church in Asia – Evangelization, Vision, Future Directions [2022].

CONTENTS: In this fine paper, Cardinal Orlando Quevedo provides a holistic overview of the Federation of Asian Bishops' Conferences. Two sentences describe the scope of the presentation. "The general objective of this paper is to provide the Guide Document [for the fiftieth FABC anniversary: 1970-2020] with historical grounding, as seen in various assemblies from 1970 up to the Plenary Assembly in Colombo in 2016." "It will assist new Asian Bishops to know what the Asian Bishops before them have said about the Church in Asia and its mission of Integral Salvation or Integral Liberation."

Quevedo achieves these objectives most admirably in this sixty-page booklet. For each FABC assembly Quevedo supplies an overview introduction, a presentation of pivotal themes, and a conclusion. If one desired further details, the seven-volume series of *For All the Peoples of Asia* provides complete documents; the *FABC Papers* contain indexes in papers 100, 125, 150, and 183, spanning years 1970-2023.

SUBJECTS: Basic Ecclesial Communities, Charisms, Collegiality, Culture, Dialogue, Discernment, Discipleship, Ecology, Eucharist, Evangelization, Family, Health Care, Inculturation, Interfaith Relations, Laity, Local Church, Ministries, Mission, Poor, Prayer, Spirituality, Triple Dialogue, Women, Youth.

PERSONS: Arevalo, C., Leon-Dufour, X., Pope Benedict XVI, Pope Francis, Pope John Paul II, Pope Paul VI, Power, D., Quevedo, O., Roche, A., Rosales, G., Tagle, L.A.

FABC Papers 181: Lazzaro You Heung-Sik (author). Which Church? What Kind of Priest? What Kind of Formation? [2022].

CONTENTS: This brief paper presents “Reflections on Priestly Formation in an Epochal Change” by the Prefect of the Roman Dicastery for the Clergy. The material is organized around three themes: (a) a single book: the Gospel; (b) only one law: the commandment of mutual love; and (c) one master: the person of Jesus. Cardinal You Heung-Sik, a South Korean, notes that “these three pathways have left a deep imprint in my life forever....”

The cardinal believes it is “necessary to ask ourselves what kind of priestly formation could be suitably adequate today, in our time that Pope Francis characterizes as a ‘change of age or epoch’”? When many pressures face the clergy, “what can we do to help priests become joyful and happy”? Priestly formation must address both initial and ongoing formation. A continuing task is to make every priest “feel welcomed and listened to, accompanied and supported along the path of his life.”

SUBJECTS: Clericalism, Communion, Conversion, Ecclesiology, Epochal Change, Eucharist, *Evangelii Gaudium*, *Evangelii Nuntiandi*, Family, Formation, *Gaudete et Exsultate*, Gospel, Holiness, Holy Spirit, Martyrdom, Mission, Mystery, *Pastores Dabo Vobis*, *Praedicate Evangelium*, Priesthood, Scripture, Seminary, Solidarity, Synodality, Vatican II.

PERSONS: Kim, A., Kim, S., Nguyen Van Thuan, F., Pope Francis, Pope John Paul II, Pope Paul VI, You Heung-Sik, L.

FABC Papers 182: Pablito A. Baybado, Jr. (editor). *Consultation Meeting on Antiquum Ministerium (Final Statement and Proceedings)* [2023].

CONTENTS: *Antiquum Ministerium* (AM) is the Latin title of the May 10, 2021 document from Pope Francis which formally establishes the ministry of catechist; this “ancient ministry” has existed in the Church since the first century. Six times the Greek verb *katecheo* appears in the New Testament (twice in each book: Luke, Acts, and Galatians).

This *FABC Paper* presents the results of an online consultation meeting held on June 8-10, 2022 which brought together 106 delegates from nine Asian countries; the purpose of the gathering was to examine AM. Participants shared their experiences—all focused on rendering the catechetical ministry more effective. Many insights emerged from an April-May 2022 survey conducted in fourteen Asian countries and episcopal conferences. All should frequently recall the encouraging words of Pope Francis: “Nor can we forget the countless lay men and women who directly took part in the spread of the Gospel through catechetical instruction” (AM 3).

SUBJECTS: *Antiquum Ministerium*, Catechesis, Catechetical Commissions, Catechetical Institutes, Charisms, Co-responsibility, Curriculum, Dialogue, Evangelization, Faith Formation, Holy Spirit, Installation—Formal, Leadership, Liturgy, Ministry, Mission, Pastoral Needs, Pastoral Spiral Approach, RCIA, Sacraments, Scripture, Spirituality, Teaching Methodology, Vocation, Volunteers.

PERSONS: Baybado, P., Beng-Kim, J., Bo, C., Bunjamin, A., Chi-shing, J., Chung, C., de Santo, F., Gonzalves, D., Juei Yen, S., Labuntog, M., LaRousse, W., Pope Francis, Pope John Paul II, Redonia, M., Selvaraju, S., Seng, S., Trocio-Bagaipo, J., Van Hai, P.

FABC Papers 183: James H. Kroeger (author). FABC Papers Periodic Index: Papers 151-175 (2017-2022) [2023].

CONTENTS: Continuing the service of indexing the published *FABC Papers* (see numbers 100, 125, and 150), this presentation covers the FABC materials issued from 2017-2022. The total pages in *FABC Papers 151-175* exceeds 1,400. These brief statistics highlight the usefulness of the periodic indexes.

One notes that the FABC has now passed its fiftieth anniversary since its foundation in 1970 when Saint Pope Paul VI met with 180 Asian bishops in Manila. It is also asserted that the FABC is “Asia’s Continuing Vatican II,” an event that began over sixty years ago and extended through four years (1962-1965). In many important ways, the Church in Asia reflects the “renewed ecclesiology” of the Council.

The periodic indexes to the *FABC Papers* serve as a “golden key” unlocking the marvelous FABC treasures. Materials cover three categories: CONTENTS gives a synopsis of the material; SUBJECTS lists the key themes; PERSONS provides the names of various contributors.

SUBJECTS: *Amoris Laetitia*, Bangladesh, Buddhism, Catholic Schools, Climate Change, Dialogue, Eco-Spirituality, Ecumenism, Eucharist, FABC@50 Conference, Family, Hinduism, Islam, Japan, *Laudato Si*, Migrants, Missionary Discipleship, Myanmar, *Nostra Aetate*, Plenary Assembly XI, Salvation, Seminaries, Statistics of Asian Local Churches, Synodality, Thailand.

PERSONS: Deepika Singh, Francis of Assisi, Gonsalves, J., Kroeger, J., LaRousse, W., Lazatin, P., Padilla, E., Pope Benedict XVI, Pope Francis, Pope John XXIII, Pope John Paul II, Pope Paul VI, Tirimanna, V. 300+ names are found in the “persons” index.

FABC Papers 184: Robin Seelan (author). Encountering the Emerging Trends and Contexts of South Asia [2023].

CONTENTS: This paper of modest length was presented at the SEDOS 2023 South Asia Workshop on the theme: “To Be Bridge-Builders and Bridges: Instruments of Dialogue and Reconciliation in Asia.” The presentation is structured around four contexts: (1) the socio-political world; (2) the religious world; (3) the Catholic world; and (4) the dialogue world. The writer provides an introduction, a conclusion, and 25 bibliographical references.

The author asserts that his purpose in presenting these four contexts is to know how to dialogue well “for better effectiveness and greater fruitfulness.” To achieve these goals “dialogue needs to be reinvented.” This demands a knowledge and “genuine acceptance of the present realities.” These reflections are set in the context of “the peoples of South Asia (Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal, Maldives, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka).”

Issues demanding focused attention are: ecumenism, interreligious dialogue, human development, violence, shallow spirituality, and government repression.

SUBJECTS: Bridge-builders, Buddhism, Climate Change, Creativity, Dalits, Development, Dialogue, Diversity, Governance, Hinduism, Hopelessness, Human Rights, Islam, Isolation, Local Church, Polarization, Poor, Reconciliation, Renewal, Silencing, Spirituality, Statistics, Symbols – Religious, Tokenism, Violence.

PERSONS: Adiyath, Y., Al-Eryani, A., Al-Khawas, A., Biller, H., Brandmuller, W., Burke, R., Cortina, A., El-Yayeb, S., Foucault, M., Franco, F., Fricker, M., Hassan, T., Hitler, A., Kingshuk, N., Mugabe, R., Nocella, A., Pinochet, A., Pope Francis, Sarah, R., Scioli, A., Seelan, R., Welby, J., Zen, J. 25 authors are in the bibliography.

FABC Papers 185: Pope Francis (Addresses, Homily). Hoping Together: Apostolic Journey of His Holiness Pope Francis to Mongolia [2023].

CONTENTS: This document, edited by the FABC Central Secretariat, contains one homily and six addresses by Pope Francis during his 2023 visit to Mongolia. He met with various bodies, such as civil authorities, the religious, ecumenical groups, charity workers, and the wider public in general. Pope Francis said that he came as “a pilgrim of friendship ... with a joyful heart and the desire to find myself enriched in your presence.”

The Pope noted that “the motto chosen for this journey – *Hoping Together* – expresses quite well the innate potential of the journey we are making together in a spirit of mutual respect and cooperation in pursuit of the common good.” Francis told the Mongolian people: “You are in my heart, and in my heart you will remain.” An informative appendix provides some statistical data about the situation of the Catholic Church in Mongolia (e.g. population, religious/clergy, educational centers).

SUBJECTS: Adoration, Apostolate, Buddhism, Catechists, Communion, Compassion, Ecosystems, Ecumenism, Environment, *Evangelii Gaudium*, Evangelization, Gobi Desert, Harmony, Health Care, House of Mercy, Human Development, Interiority, Kharakorum, Mission, Mongolia, Proselytism, Silk Road, Steppes, Volunteerism.

PERSONS: Alungoo, Augustine, Francis of Assisi, Gandhi, Genghis Khan, Guyug, Holy Spirit, Jesus Christ, John of Montecorvino, John of Pian del Carpine, Kierkegaard, S., Kim Seong-hyeon, S., Marengo, G., Padilla, W., Pope Francis, Pope Innocent IV, Rufina, Salvia, Sanjaajav, P., Teilhard de Chardin, Teresa of Calcutta, Virgin Mary, William of Rulrup.

***FABC Papers 186: FABC Papers Editorial Staff (compiler).
The Asian Response to Deepening Aspects of the Synthesis Report
of the Synod, October 2023 [2024].***

CONTENTS: This document seeks to capture the experiences of five Churches in Asia to the Synthesis Report emerging from the 2023 XVI Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops. In their responses to the Synthesis Report, the local Churches evaluated their life and ministries and also explored new pathways that would embrace the spirit of walking together.

Catholics in Japan are only 0.034% of the population; the Church faces serious challenges like low birth-rate and an aging population. The Church in Korea seeks missionary renewal in the Spirit and to serve the marginalized (disabled, sick, elderly, refugees, and migrants). The Diocese of Hong Kong actively promotes synodality for all its clergy, religious, and laity. The Diocese of Macau highlighted four areas of concern: inclusive dialogue, spiritual formation, sensitivity to ethnic/cultural communities, and interaction with the wider Macau society. The Chinese Regional Bishops' Conference, representing Taiwan, emphasized the urgent need to deepen faith appreciation in both understanding and practice.

SUBJECTS: Basic Ecclesial Communities, Catechetical Formation, Charity, Clericalism, Ecumenism, Environment, Episcopal Conferences, Evangelization, Faithful, Focolare Movement, Holiness, Hong Kong, Interreligious Dialogue, Japan, Korea, Language Diversity, Liturgy, Macau, Migrants, Mission, Parish Pastoral Council, Prayer, Sacraments of Initiation, Synodality, Taiwan, Vatican II, Vulnerable People, Women, Youth.

PERSONS: Bellarmine, R., Chan, O., Chow, S., Chung Soo-Taick, P., Ha, J., Holy Spirit, Jesus Christ, Ricci, M., Xavier, F.

***FABC Papers 187: FABC Papers Editorial Staff (compiler).
The Asian Response to Deepening Aspects of the Synthesis Report
of the Synod, October 2023 [2024].***

CONTENTS: Continuing the documentation from local Churches across Asia to the Synthesis Report of the 2023 Synod, this paper presents material from Bangladesh, India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Nepal, and the Syro-Malabar Church. In Bangladesh the Synod document was quickly translated into Bengali and disseminated widely. Although the Catholic Church in Bangladesh is a minority (less than one percent of the population), it is vibrant and strong. The Latin Church in India actively seeks to foster understanding and implementation of synodality among clergy, religious, and lay people.

The report from the Church in Pakistan highlighted various themes: co-responsibility, missionary commitment, small Christian communities, and laity empowerment. Sri Lanka focused its response on practical synodality, formation, and structures for participation. The small Church in Nepal (8,500 Catholics in a population of 33 million) noted the importance of faith formation, liturgy, evangelization, ecology, and dialogue. The Syro-Malabar Church addressed issues of a permanent diaconate, people in poverty, Christian unity, women, and mission.

SUBJECTS: Bangladesh, Basic Christian Communities, Biblical Formation, Christian Unity, Clergy, Dialogue, Ecology, Human Dignity, India, Indigenous Peoples, Laity, Lay Leadership, Liturgy, Migrants, Mission, Nepal, Pakistan, Peace Promotion, Poverty, Reconciliation, Religious, Social Teaching, Sri Lanka, Synodality, Syro-Malabar Church.

PERSONS: Aniyankunju, P., Anthony, J., Chalakkal, S., Holy Spirit, Jesus Christ, Joseph, K., Pope Francis, Saint Paul, Tirimanna, V., Vazhappilly, F., Virgin Mary, Wickremasinghe, D.

***FABC Papers 188: FABC Papers Editorial Staff (compiler).
The Asian Response to Deepening Aspects of the Synthesis Report
of the Synod, October 2023 [2024].***

CONTENTS: This installment of the *FABC Papers* documents the responses of six local Churches across Asia to the October 2023 Synod on Synodality, covering the countries of Indonesia, Cambodia, Malaysia, Singapore, Brunei, and Myanmar. The Indonesian report noted the importance of a “sense of belonging” and “participation” that focuses on Church structures, synodal formation, young people, and inclusive basic Christian communities. The Cambodian report identified four alliances necessary to achieve a genuine synodal Church: Catholic Church Community, Cambodian Citizenry, All Humanity, and All Creation.

There is one episcopal conference (CBCMSB) that incorporates Malaysia, Singapore, and Brunei. The Church in Malaysia desires to promote the synodal process on all diocesan and parish levels as well as among cultural communities and the youth. The Archdiocese of Singapore is holding numerous “Heart to Heart” dialogues to promote synodality. The Apostolic Vicariate in Brunei Darussalam views synodality as a means to make the Church more missionary. The Catholic Church in Myanmar has chosen to focus on people in poverty, synodal formation, and mission in a digital age.

SUBJECTS: Basic Christian Communities, Brunei, Cambodia, Creation, Cultural Communities, Digital Environment, Education, Formation, Indonesia, Islam, Malaysia, Ministries, Mission, Myanmar, Parish Pastoral Council, Participation, Poverty, Refugees, Religious, Singapore, Spirituality, Synodality, Vocation, Young.

PERSONS: Abraham, Goh, W., Holy Spirit, Jesus Christ, Moses, Noah, Ponchaud, F., Pope Francis, Sim, C., Vincent de Paul, Virgin Mary.

***FABC Papers 189: FABC Papers Editorial Staff (compiler).
The Asian Response to Deepening Aspects of the Synthesis Report
of the Synod, October 2023 [2024].***

CONTENTS: This is the fourth FABC Paper documenting the results of the Asian local Churches reflecting on the 2023 Synod on Synodality; this material covers the Philippines, Thailand, Timor Leste, and Vietnam. The Philippine report centered on “discipleship journeys ... into Easter” of 84% of all 86 dioceses in the country. Pivotal themes that emerged through this synodal process were: mission, structures of participation, poverty, digital evangelization, local Church, leadership, indigenous peoples, and basic ecclesial communities. The Gospel narrative of the Samaritan woman seeking living water served as the framework for reflection and discussion.

The Church in Thailand desires to become “a Synodal Church in Mission.” All Christians are urged to become “active participants” and “missionary disciples according to their unique vocations and gifts.” The Timorese Episcopal Conference comprises three dioceses (Dili, Baucau, and Maliana) with great cultural diversity. Various pastoral areas need strengthening: formation, evangelization, conscience deepening, social justice, and ecological awareness. The Vietnamese Church report emphasized synodal discernment, mission, outreach to ethnic peoples, lay ministries, and family life.

SUBJECTS: Artificial Intelligence, Basic Ecclesial Communities, Catholicity, Conscience, Dialogue, Discipleship, Ecology, Evangelization, Family Life, Formation, Indigenous Peoples, LGBTQ Persons, Living Water, Local Church, Ministries, Mission, Parish, Participation, Philippines, Poverty, Social Justice, Synodality, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Vietnam, Vocation, Youth.

PERSONS: Grech, M., Jesus Christ, Kovitvanich, F., Saint Lawrence, Virgin Mary.

***FABC Papers 190: FABC Papers Editorial Staff (compiler).
The Asian Response to Deepening Aspects of the Synthesis Report
of the Synod, October 2023 [2024].***

CONTENTS: Continuing its documentation of the responses by Asia's local Churches to the report of the 2023 Synod, this paper presents material from the Catholic Bishops' Conference of Central Asia that covers eight countries: Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan. The document also reports on the first regional meeting on evangelization held by the Central Asian Bishops' Conference. Rather than presenting one synthesized thematic document, reports from some individual Churches are found in this document.

The diocese of Almaty discussed lay formation, social media, and parish life. The Karaganda diocese focused on mission as both gift and duty. The Apostolic Prefecture of Mongolia explored how synodality can be practically implemented in various Church communities. The young Catholic Church in Tajikistan began about forty years ago with faithful of mostly German nationality in a country with a 97% Muslim population; the report explored various forms of ministry. The first regional meeting of the Central Asian Bishops' Conference focused on contemporary challenges to evangelization, especially in a Muslim context.

SUBJECTS: Afghanistan, Almaty, Asia, Azerbaijan, Catholic Institutions, Communication, *Evangelii Gaudium*, Evangelization, Formation, Islam, Karaganda, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Laity, Local Church, Martyrs, Ministry, Minority Community, Mission, Mongolia, Parish, Pastoral Leadership, Sacraments, Scripture, Social Media, Synodality, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan.

PERSONS: Coda, P., Corcoran, A., Del Oro, A., Dzurenda, V., Lopez, P., Marengo, G., Zinkovsky, V.

FABC Papers 191: Estela Padilla (editor). The Asian Face of Synodality [2024].

CONTENTS: This rich and multifaceted document comes from the FABC Office for Theological Concerns; it comprehensively presents the “Asian Face of Synodality.” Following a brief introduction and contextualization, the paper unfolds in six sections. Part One presents the biblical foundations for the synodal journey based on the Emmaus story (Luke 24:13-35). Part Two contextualizes synodality in the Asian reality of Church and Society. The third part of this presentation treats synodality from both a biblical and Asian perspective; the text includes profound reflections on the multifaceted image of “taking off shoes” – so biblical and Asian.

Part Four explores “synodal consciousness” in the history and tradition of the Church, drawing much from the 2018 International Theological Commission document on Synodality. The fifth section reflects upon “Synodal Conversion” and its application in an Asian setting. The final section of this marvelously comprehensive document explores engaging in mission with renewed synodal consciousness.

SUBJECTS: Basic Ecclesial Communities, Bible, Bridge-builders, Consciousness, Culture, Dialogue, Discipleship, Emmaus Journey, Hope, International Theological Commission, Journeying, Peace-building, Poverty, Religions, Removing Shoes, Resurrection, Sacramentality, Shepherds, Solidarity, Statistics, Synodality, Tradition, Women.

PERSONS: Adjaye, D., Bertuccio, C., Billiones, M., Chambon, M., Chawkan, J., Chennatu, R., Crowley, S., Hamada, J., Han Ming-Taeg, P., King, P., Kollamparampil, T., Ling, P., Marengo, G., Matthias, G., Nguyen, T., Padilla, E., Pope Francis, Pope John XXIII, Pope John Paul II, Pope Paul VI, Shu-Chin Hu, T., Siu-Mui Lee, E., Sunarko, A., Supan, L., Vaz, J., Yap, Fu Lan.

***FABC Papers 192: FABC Central Secretariat (editor).
Apostolic Journey of His Holiness Francis in Indonesia, Papua
New Guinea, Timor-Leste, and Singapore [2024].***

CONTENTS: From September 2-13, 2024, Pope Francis made an arduous trip of 25,000 miles (32,000 kilometers) to four countries located in Southeast Asia and Oceania: Indonesia, Papua New Guinea, Timor-Leste, and Singapore. Since becoming head of the world's estimated 1.4 billion Roman Catholics in 2013, this twelve-day pastoral visit was the longest of Francis' 45 overseas trips, both in terms of its duration and distance covered.

Eight recurrent themes emerged in the pope's twenty-one speeches and homilies throughout the entire apostolic journey: (1) Always value your history and culture for its richness and human values; (2) Continuously foster interreligious dialogue and reconciliation to strengthen community; (3) Express care for the poor in concrete actions; (4) Young people: "Take risks, go out! Do not be afraid"; (5) Address climate change and preserve the environment; (6) Frequently reflect on God's closeness and compassion; (7) Propagate the Church's message of social justice; (8) Live as genuine people of faith amidst all of life's challenges.

SUBJECTS: Catechists, Climate Change, Compassion, Culture, Dialogue, Disabilities, Environment, Faith, Fraternity, Indonesia, Islam, Mission, Papua New Guinea, Poor, Reconciliation, Religious, Singapore, Social Justice, Timor-Leste, Youth.

PERSONS: De Amaral, B., De Lubac, H., Father Maxi, Lee Kuan Yew, Martins, F., Pires, T., Pope Francis, Pope John Paul II, Ramos-Horta, J., Saint Lawrence, Silaban, F., Silvano, Sister Rina, Szymborska, W., Teresa of Calcutta, Virgin Mary, Xavier, F.

FABC Papers 193: FABC Central Secretariat (editor). Workshop for Rectors of Major Seminaries (Follow-up of FABC 50 Bangkok Document) [2025].

CONTENTS: This *FABC Paper* documents the insights that emerged from the 2025 workshop for rectors of Asian Major Seminaries. Two significant addresses were presented. Bishop Allwyn D'Silva traced the 50-year FABC journey that began in Manila in 1970, identifying pivotal milestones and insights for the Church in Asia. Bishop Pablo David highlighted the convergences between the Bangkok Document of FABC 50 and the final document of the synod on synodality.

This gathering of Asian seminary rectors issued a significant letter to all Asian rectors. It emphasized various themes: from foreign expressions to inculturated proclamation, from basic ecclesial communities to basic human communities, from dialogue to synodality, from proclamation to storytelling, and from the beaten path to new pastoral priorities. The document, signed by all thirty-three rectors, noted: "We invite you, therefore to journey together to craft culturally sensible and effective ways of forming missionary disciples who are 'in love' with the Master and shepherds 'with the smell of their sheep'."

SUBJECTS: Asian Bishops, Basic Human Communities, Catechists, Creation, Culture, Dialogue, Discernment, Diversity, FABC History, Holy Spirit, Indigenous Peoples, Interculturality, Jubilee Year, Justice, Magi, Migrants, Mission, Pastoral Challenges, Peace, Poor, Rectors, Religious, Seminaries, Synodality, Triple Dialogue.

PERSONS: Ayo, E., Barrett, N., David, P., Devadass, C., D'Silva, A., Ferrão, F., Gonsalves, J., Gracias, O., Jesus Christ, Moolachira, J., Pope Francis, Pope Paul VI, Sayer, J., Tagle, L., Virgin Mary.

FABC Papers 194: Joseph Sayer (author). Praedicate Evangelium - Development Process, Hermeneutics, and Significance for the Church [2025].

CONTENTS: The Constitution *Praedicate Evangelium* emerged from reflection by Pope Francis and the Council of Cardinals extending from 2013 to 2022. *Preach the Gospel*, promulgated on March 19, 2022 and taking effect on June 5, 2022 (Pentecost Sunday), addresses the functioning and renewal of the Roman Curia. An updated document was deemed necessary due to changed ecclesial and geopolitical conditions since John Paul II published *Pastor Bonus* in 1988.

This presentation unfolds around four major categories, although the full document has eleven sections. The Preamble unfolds basic principles and general norms, treating such topics as preaching the Gospel, missionary conversion, the Synodal Church, and bishops' conferences. The next section focuses on "Principles for the Service of the Curia," addressing decentralization, spirituality, and Catholicity. The "General Norms" section addresses the paradigm shift in relationships with bishops' conferences and their various functions. The final part deals with "Consultations and Implementation."

SUBJECTS: Baptism, Bishops' Conferences, Catholicity, Clericalism, College of Bishops, Communion, Conversion, Council of Cardinals, Decentralization, Discipleship, Evangelization, Gospel Preaching, Hermeneutics, Latin America, Liberation Theology, Mercy, Mission, *Pastor Bonus*, People of God, *Praedicate Evangelium*, *Redemptoris Missio*, *Sensus Fidelium*, Spirituality, Suffering, Synod of Bishops, Synodality, Term Limits, Vatican II.

PERSONS: Bergoglio, J., Biesinger, A., Cherubini, I., Erhardt, U., Errazuriz, F., Farrell, K., Gillen, E., Gutierrez, G., Hilberath, B., Holy Spirit, Jesus Christ, Maradiaga, O.R., Pope Francis, Pope John Paul II, Pope Paul VI, Pope Pius XII.

***FABC Papers 195: FABC Central Secretariat (compiler).
Jubilee of Synodal Teams and Participatory Bodies [2025].***

CONTENTS: This paper presents a report on the Jubilee of Synodal Teams and Participatory Bodies in Rome from October 24-26, 2025. One of the highlights of the gathering was a session with Pope Leo XIV; it was structured around seven geographical areas of the world and their episcopal bodies: Africa (SECAM), Oceania (FCBCO), North America (USCCB/CCCCB), Eastern Catholic Patriarchs (ICC), Latin America and Caribbean (CELAM), Europe (CCEE), and Asia (FABC). Each report concluded with a question for the Holy Father.

This paper includes the full responses of the Pope; they are significant for gaining an understanding and appreciation of Leo XIV's perspectives on synodality. The seven questions explored a wide-ranging variety of topics: subsidiarity, uniformity, family, peacebuilding, role of episcopal conferences, ecology, authority, fear, seminaries, communion, pastoral councils, education, hope, prayer, reconciliation, conversion, women, prejudice, interreligious relations, and culture. Another section of this paper includes the FABC Synodal Report, entitled "Synodality in Asia: Impact and Challenges – A Panoramic Presentation." The paper notes that the synod on synodality has had a "particularly profound" impact in Asia "due to the region's unique ecclesial and societal contexts."

SUBJECTS: Bishops' Conferences, Communion, Culture, Fraternity, Hospitality, Jubilee Year, Lay Movements, Ministry, Minority, Mission, Popes, *Praedicate Evangelium*, Prayer, Synodal Teams, Synodality, Unity. Check "contents" for additional items.

PERSONS: Csiszar, H., Devadass, C., Faubert, A., Jesus Christ, Junior, R., Khairallah, M., Meyer, N., Pope Francis, Pope Leo XIV, Sela, S.

FABC Papers 196: FABC Secretariat (editor). *Synodal Assembly on the Mission of the Christian Family in Asia* [2026].

CONTENTS: This paper includes four sections. First, the welcome and orientation talk by Bishop Emmanuel Rozario of Bangladesh notes that this assembly is an opportunity “to practice the Conversation in the Spirit” to serve “the Family, the Youth, the Women, [and] the Animation of BECs in Asia.” The second item by Redemptorist Vimal Tirimanna explores *Familiaris Consortio* and *Amoris Laetitia* examining “Controversial Issues, Theological Developments and Pastoral Prospects.”

Thirdly, Filipino Cardinal Pablo David, employing his extensive scriptural expertise, presents an in-depth paper entitled “The Family and the Word of God, a Biblical-Theological Reflection.” The final presentation by Father Tirimanna provides an overview of the BECs in the Bangkok Document, showing their contribution to “a new way of being Church in Asia” that began in the early 1970s in Mindanao, Philippines.

SUBJECTS: *Amoris Laetitia*, AsIPA (Asian Integral Pastoral Approach), *Bangkok 50 Document*, Basic Ecclesial Communities, Charisms, *Christus Vivit*, Conversion, Covenant, Disarmament, Domestic Church, Eucharist, Evangelization, *Familiaris Consortio*, Family, Field Hospital, Homosexuality, Magisterium, Marriage, Memory, Mercy, Mission, Moral Principles, Office of Laity and Family, Signs of the Times, Synodality.

PERSONS: Antonelli, E., Buttiglioni, R., Chrysostom, J., Coday, D., Cozzoli, M., David, P., Dell’Oro, R., Grootaers, J., Jesus Christ, Levine, A-J., Peters, E., Pope Benedict XVI, Pope Francis, Pope John XXIII, Pope John Paul II, Pope Leo XIV, Rausch, T., Rozario, E., Saint Joseph, Selling, J., Tirimanna, V., Virgin Mary, Waters, B.

FABC Papers 197: Felix Machado (author). Synod on Synodality and Ecumenism: Ecclesial Unity for Effective Witness in Asia [2026].

CONTENTS: This paper, written by Archbishop Felix Machado, Chairman of the OEIA-FABC (Office of Ecumenical and Interreligious Affairs of the FABC) which promotes ecumenical and interfaith dialogue, unfolds in two sections: (1) a presentation of the historical and theological foundations of this two-fold dialogue, and (2) the key elements of “discerning spirits” in common. From 2000-2008 Machado served in the Pontifical Council for Interreligious Dialogue in Rome; then for over 18 years (2008-2024) he was bishop of two dioceses in India (Nashik and Vasai).

The current “synodal journey” began in 1965 when Pope Paul VI formally established the Synod of Bishops; its first gathering (1974) focused on evangelization, leading to *Evangelii Nuntiandi*. Subsequent sections treat the synod’s evolution, ecumenical perspectives, theological foundations, Holy Spirit, Asian impact, as well as key elements of the common discernment process.

SUBJECTS: Asia, Baptism, Charisms, Christian Conference of Asia, Conversion, Decentralization, Dialogue, Discernment, Ecumenism, Eucharist, *Evangelii Gaudium*, *Evangelii Nuntiandi*, Evangelization, International Theological Commission, Muslims, Paradigms, Spirituality, Synergy, Synod of Bishops, Synodality, Unity, *Ut Unum Sint*, Vatican II, World Council of Churches, World Evangelical Alliance.

PERSONS: Cyprian of Carthage, Grech, M., Holy Spirit, Ignatius of Loyola, Jesus Christ, Kasper, W., Kessler, D., Kinnamon, M., Machado, F., Mar Awa III, Nerses the Gracious, Patriarch Bartholomew, Pope Francis, Pope Leo XIV, Pope Paul VI, Saint Paul, Shenouda III, Sosa, A., Tawadros III, Temple, W., Visser’t Hooft, W.

FABC Papers 198: Multiple Authors. XII FABC Plenary Assembly: The Call to Synodal Conversion and the Mission to be Bridges and Bridge-builders in Asia [2026].

CONTENTS: The Federation of Asian Bishops' Conferences (FABC), founded in 1970 when Pope Paul VI visited Asia, has reached a key milestone as it celebrated its Twelfth Plenary Assembly in 2026. This current paper contains pivotal documents from various sessions of the assembly; it also presents the final message of this plenary assembly.

In addition to several individual messages, multiple group messages were received from episcopal bodies across the globe (Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America, Oceania, United States, etc.). The last document presented in this paper is the Final Message of the XII Plenary Assembly; its title captures well the ongoing missionary task of Asia's local Churches: "The Call to Synodal Conversion and the Mission to be Bridges and Bridge-builders in Asia."

SUBJECTS: Artificial Intelligence, Bangkok Document, Bridges, CCA (Asia-Ecumenical), CCEE (Europe), CECP (Eastern Catholics), CELAM (Latin America), Collegiality, Conversion, Covid-19, Dialogue, Elderly, FABC (Asia-Catholic), FCBCO (Oceania), Indonesia, Laity, *Magnifica Humanitas*, Mission, Plenary Assembly XII, SECAM (Africa), Solidarity, Synodality, Tunnel of Friendship, USCCB/SCAPA (United States), Youth.

PERSONS: Ambongo, F., Aranha, G., Bedros XXI, R., Bersabal, R., Bunjamin, A., Coakley, P., David, P., De Souza, C., Devadass, C., Fernandez, E., Ferrão, F., Gracias, O., Grech, M., Grusãs, G., Kikhuci, T., Machado, F., Moon, J., Parcon, D., Pope Francis, Pope Leo XIV, Pope Paul VI, Spengler, J., Suharto, I., Tagle, L.A., Umar, N.

FABC Papers 199: Mario Grech and Giacomo Costa (authors). *Pathways for the Implementation of the Synod* [2026].

CONTENTS: Cardinal Mario Grech, Secretary General of the Synod of Bishops in Rome, made an insightful presentation with the title: “The Importance of the Local Church following the Synod.” He noted that his secretariat is releasing a document to assist local Churches in the preparation, celebration, and implementation of the synodal process. He emphasized the pivotal role of local Churches in the overall endeavor; they are key “bridge-builders” in this initiative, facilitating Church growth centered in communion and mission.

Secondly, Giacomo Costa, Consultor of the General Secretariat of the Synod, began his presentation on pathways for synodal implementation by recalling that Pope Leo XIV asked local Church leaders around the world to help them “grow in an ever more evangelical style.” In short, this demands an “ecclesial conversion” and asking “what concrete features of a missionary synodal Church are emerging in our community”? Costa believes that the synodal process will instill in local Churches “a culture of revisiting experience, discernment, and evaluation” enabling them to grow together as “a communion at the service of mission.”

SUBJECTS: Bridges, Communion, Conversation, Conversion, Creativity, Discernment, Episcopal Conferences, *Evangelii Gaudium*, Harmony, Interreligious Dialogue, Local Church, Magisterium, Memory, Mission, Missionary Presence, Pastoral Council, People of God, Reciprocity, Relationships, Renewal, Sacrament, Synod of Bishops, Synodality, Thanksgiving, Vatican II.

PERSONS: Costa, G., Grech, M., Guardini, R., Moses, Pope Francis, Pope Leo XIV.

FABC Papers 200: James H. Kroeger (author). FABC Papers Periodic Index: Papers 176-200 (2022-2026) [2026].

This document continues the service of indexing the rich material found in the numerous *FABC Papers*, now numbering well over 200 items when one counts all the papers and sub-papers. Interestingly, the first FABC paper was published in 1976; thus, this year marks the golden anniversary (1976-2026) of this enriching endeavor. This is truly a cause for rejoicing!

This current paper is the fifth “index” item (see previous papers/numbers 100, 125, 150, and 183). This presentation covers the FABC materials issued from 2022-2026. The total pages in *FABC Papers 176-200* exceeds 1,200. This data and brief statistics highlight the usefulness of the periodic indexes.

The purpose of these indexes of the *FABC Papers* is to serve as a “master key” unlocking the marvelous FABC treasures, including FABC plenary assemblies, theological papers, papal visits and addresses, various pastoral resources, and numerous other documents. Hopefully, these indexes prevent the FABC resources from getting lost with the passage of time; in addition, they enable researchers to access the profound wisdom of Asia’s local Churches in the post-Vatican II era. It is often validly said that the FABC is “Asia’s Continuing Vatican II.”

The structure of the indexes follows a common pattern, covering three categories: CONTENTS gives a synopsis of the material; SUBJECTS lists the key themes; PERSONS provides the names of various contributors. Friends, a warm welcome to the marvelous FABC world!

III. SUBJECTS INDEX TO FABC PAPERS Numbers 176-200

- Adoration 185
- Afghanistan 190
- Almaty 190
- Amoris Laetitia* 183, 196
- Antiquum Ministerium* 182
- Apostolate 185
- Artificial Intelligence 189, 198
- Asia 176, 190, 197
- Asian Bishops 193
- AsIPA (Asian Integral Pastoral Approach) 196
- Azerbaijan 190
- Bangkok 50 Document* 196, 198
- Bangladesh 176, 183
- Baptism 194, 197
- Basic Community 177
- Basic Ecclesial Communities 176, 178, 179, 180, 186, 187, 188, 189, 191, 196
- Basic Human Communities 193
- Bible 191
- Bishops' Conferences 194, 195
- Bridge-builders 184, 191
- Bridges 198, 199
- Brunei 178, 188
- Buddhism 178, 183, 184, 185
- Cambodia 177, 188
- Catechesis 182
- Catechetical Commissions 182
- Catechetical Formation 186
- Catechetical Institutes 182
- Catechists 176, 185, 192, 193
- Catholic Education 177
- Catholic Institutions 190
- Catholic Schools 183
- Catholicity 189, 194
- CCA (Asia-Ecumenical) 197, 198
- CCEE (Europe) 198
- CECP (Eastern Catholics) 198
- CELAM (Latin America) 198
- Charisms 180, 182, 196, 197
- Charity 186
- China 179
- Christian Conference of Asia 197
- Christus Vivit* 196
- Clericalism 177, 181, 186, 194
- Climate Change 183, 184, 192
- Collaboration 177
- College of Bishops 194
- Collegiality 180, 198
- Communication 190
- Communion 176, 181, 185, 194, 195, 199
- Compassion 185, 192
- Conscience 189

Consciousness 191
 Confucianism 179
 Conversation 199
 Conversion 181, 194, 196,
 197, 198, 199
 Co-responsibility 178, 179,
 182
 Council of Cardinals 194
 Covenant 196
 Covid-19 177, 198
 Creation 188, 193
 Creativity 184, 199
 Cultural Communities 188
 Culture 180, 191, 192, 193,
 195
 Curriculum 182
 Dalits 184
 Decentralization 194, 197
 Development 184
 Dialogue 177, 178, 179, 180,
 182, 183, 184, 189, 191,
 192, 193, 197, 198
 Digital Environment 188
 Disabilities 192
 Disarmament 196
 Discernment 177, 180, 193,
 197, 199
 Discipleship 180, 189, 191,
 194
 Diversity 178, 184, 193
 Domestic Church 196
 Drugs 178
 Ecclesiology 181
 Ecology 176, 180, 189
 Eco-Spirituality 183
 Ecosystems 185

Ecumenism 176, 177, 178,
 179, 183, 185, 186, 197
 Education 188
 Elderly 198
 Emmaus Journey 178, 191
 Environment 185, 186, 192
 Episcopal Conferences 186,
 199
 Epochal Change 181
 Ethnic Minorities 179
 Eucharist 176, 177, 180, 181,
 183, 196, 197
Evangelii Gaudium 181, 185,
 190, 197, 199
Evangelii Nuntiandi 181, 197
 Evangelization 176, 178, 180,
 182, 185, 186, 189, 190,
 194, 196, 197
 FABC 179
 FABC (Asia-Catholic) 198
 FABC History 193
 FABC@50 Conference 183
 Faith 192
 Faith Formation 182
 Faithful 186
Familiaris Consortio 196
 Family 180, 181, 183, 196
 Family Life 189
 Family Ministries 176
 FCBCO (Oceania) 198
 Field Hospital 196
 Focolare Movement 186
 Formation 179, 181, 188, 189,
 190
Fratelli Tutti 177
 Fraternity 192, 195

Fundamentalism 176
Gaudete et Exsultate 181
 Gobi Desert 185
 Gospel 181
 Gospel Preaching 194
 Governance 184
 Harmony 178, 185, 199
 Health Care 176, 180, 185
 Hermeneutics 194
 Hinduism 183, 184
 Holiness 181, 186
 Holy Spirit 176, 178, 181,
 182, 193
 Homosexuality 196
 Hong Kong 179, 186
 Hope 191
 Hopelessness 184
 Hospitality 195
 House of Mercy 185
 Human Development 185
 Human Rights 184
 Immigration 179
 Inculturation 178, 180
 India 176
 Indigenous Peoples 189, 193
 Indonesia 177, 188, 192, 198
 Installation – Formal 182
 Interculturality 193
 Interfaith Marriage 177
 Interfaith Relations 180
 Interiority 185
 International Theological
 Commission 191, 197
 Interreligious Dialogue 186,
 199
 Islam 178, 183, 184, 188, 190,
 192
 Isolation 184
 Japan 177, 183, 186
 Journeying 191
 Jubilee Year 193, 195
 Justice 193
 Karaganda 190
 Kazakhstan 190
 Kharakorum 185
 Korea 177, 186
 Kyrgyzstan 190
 Laity 179, 180, 190, 198
 Language Diversity 186
 Laos 177
 Latin America 194
Laudato Si 177, 183
 Lay Ministries 176
 Lay Movements 195
 Leadership 177, 182
 LGBTQ Persons 177, 189
 Liberation Theology 194
 Liturgy 179, 182, 186
 Living Water 189
 Local Church 176, 177, 180,
 184, 189, 190, 199
 Macau 179, 186
 Magi 193
 Magisterium 196, 199
Magnifica Humanitas 198
 Malaysia 178, 188
 Martyrdom 181
 Martyrs 190
 Marriage 196
 Memory 196, 199
 Mercy 194, 196

Migrants 176, 183, 186, 193
 Ministries 180, 188, 189
 Ministry 182, 190, 195
 Minority 177, 195
 Minority Community 190
 Mission 176, 177, 178, 179,
 180, 181, 182, 185, 186,
 188, 189, 190, 192, 193,
 194, 195, 196, 198, 199
 Missionary Disciples 179
 Missionary Discipleship 183
 Missionary Presence 199
 Mongolia 185, 190
 Moral Principles 196
 Muslims 197
 Myanmar 178, 183, 188
 Mystery 181
 National Evangelization
 Congress 179
Nostra Aetate 183
 Office of Laity and Family
 196
 Ongoing Formation 176
 Orthodox 176
 Pakistan 178
 Pandemic 178
 Papua New Guinea 192
 Paradigms 197
 Parish 189, 190
 Parish Pastoral Council 176,
 186, 188
 Participation 176, 177, 188,
 189
Pastor Bonus 194
 Pastoral Challenges 193
 Pastoral Council 199

Pastoral Leadership 190
 Pastoral Needs 182
 Pastoral Spiral Approach
 182
Pastores Dabo Vobis 181
 Peace 193
 Peace-building 191
 People of God 194, 199
 Philippines 178, 189
 Plenary Assembly XI/XII
 183, 198, 199
 Polarization 184
 Poor 180, 184, 192, 193
 Popes 195
 Poverty 188, 189, 191
Praedicate Evangelium 181,
 194, 195
 Prayer 180, 186, 195
 Priesthood 181
 Proselytism 185
 RCIA 178, 182
 Reciprocity 199
 Reconciliation 184, 192
 Rectors 193
Redemptoris Missio 194
 Refugees 188
 Relationships 199
 Religions 191
 Religious 188, 192, 193
 Removing Shoes 191
 Renewal 184, 199
 Resurrection 191
 Sacrament 199
 Sacramentality 191
 Sacraments 182, 190
 Sacraments of Initiation 186

Salvation 183
 Scripture 177, 181, 182, 190
 SECAM (Africa) 198
 Seminaries 183, 193
 Seminary 181
Sensus Fidelium 194
 Shepherds 191
 Signs of the Times 196
 Silencing 184
 Silk Road 185
 Singapore 178, 188, 192
 Social Justice 189, 192
 Social Media 178, 190
 Solidarity 181, 191, 198
 Spirituality 180, 182, 184,
 188, 194, 197
 Statistics 184, 191
 Statistics of Asian Local
 Churches 183
 Steppes 185
 Suffering 194
 Symbols – Religious 184
 Synergy 197
 Synod of Bishops 194, 197,
 199
 Synodal Teams 195
 Synodality 176, 177, 179, 181,
 183, 186, 188, 189, 190,
 191, 193, 194, 195, 196,
 197, 198, 199
 Taiwan 179, 186
 Tajikistan 190
 Taoism 179
 Teaching Methodology 182
 Term Limits 194
 Thailand 179, 183, 189
 Thanksgiving 199
 Timor-Leste 179, 189, 192
 Tokenism 184
 Tradition 191
 Tribal Ethnic Groups 176
 Triple Dialogue 180, 193
 Tunnel of Friendship 198
 Turkmenistan 190
 Unity 178, 195, 197
 USCCB/SCAPA (United
 States) 198
Ut Unum Sint 197
 Uzbekistan 190
 Vatican II 181, 186, 194, 197,
 199
 Vietnam 189
 Violence 184
 Vocation 182, 188, 189
 Volunteerism 185
 Volunteers 182
 Vulnerable People 186
 Women 180, 186, 191
 World Council of Churches
 197
 World Evangelical Alliance
 197
 Young 188
 Youth 176, 179, 180, 186, 189,
 192, 198

IV. PERSONS INDEX TO FABC PAPERS

Numbers 176-200

Abraham 188
Adiyanath, Y. 184
Adjaye, D. 191
Alencherry, G. 176
Al-Eryani, A. 184
Al-Khawas, A. 184
Alungoo 185
Ambongo F. 198
Aniyankunju, P. 187
Anthony, J. 187
Antonelli, E. 196
Aranha, G. 198
Arevalo, C. 180
Arshad, J. 178
Augustine 185
Ayo, E. 193
Barrett, N. 193
Baybado, P. 182
Bedros XXI, R. 198
Bellarmine, R. 179, 186
Beng-Kim, J. 182
Bergoglio, J. 194
Bersabal, R. 198
Bertuccio, C. 191
Biesinger, A. 194
Biller, H. 184
Billiones, C. 191
Bo, C. 182
Brandmuller, W. 184
Bunjamin, A. 182, 198
Burke, R. 184
Buttiglioni, R. 196
Chalakkal, S. 187
Chambon, M. 191
Chan, O. 186
Chawkan, J. 191
Chennatu, R. 191
Cherubini, I. 194
Chi-shing, J. 182
Chow, S. 186
Chrysostom, J. 196
Chung, C. 182
Chung Soo-Taick, P. 186
Coakley, P. 198
Coda, P. 190
Coday, D. 196
Corcoran, A. 190
Cortina, A. 184
Cosme, B. 177
Costa, G. 199
Cozzoli, M. 196
Crowley, S. 191
Csiszar, H. 195
Cyprian of Carthage 197
David, P. 193, 196, 198
De Amaral, B. 192
Deepika Singh 183
De Lubac, H. 192
de Santo, F. 182
De Souza, C. 198
Del'Oro, A. 190
Dell'Oro, R. 196
Devadass, C. 193, 195, 198
Devasahayam Saint 176

D'Silva, A. 193
 D'Souza, D. 176
 Dzurenda, V. 190
 El-Yayeb, S. 184
 Erhardt, U. 194
 Errazuriz, F. 194
 Farrell, K. 194
 Father Maxi 192
 Faubert, A. 195
 Fernandez, E. 198
 Fernandez, F. 176
 Ferrão, F. 193, 198
 Figaredo, E. 177
 Foucault, M. 184
 Francis of Assisi 183, 185
 Franco, F. 184
 Fricker, M. 184
 Gandhi 185
 Genghis Khan 185
 Gillen, E. 194
 Goh, W. 178, 188
 Gonsalves, J. 183, 193
 Gonzalves, D. 182
 Gracias, O. 193, 198
 Grech, M. 189, 197, 198, 199
 Grootaers, J. 196
 Grusās, G. 198
 Guardini, R. 199
 Gutierrez, G. 194
 Guyug 185
 Ha, J. 186
 Hamada, J. 191
 Han Ming-Taeg, P. 191
 Hassan, T. 184
 Hilberath, B. 194
 Hitler, A. 184
 Holy Spirit 185, 186, 187,
 188, 194, 197
 Hyun-jin, S. 177
 Ignatius of Loyola 197
 Jesus Christ 185, 186, 187,
 188, 189, 194, 195, 196,
 197
 John of Montecorvino 185
 John of Pian del Carpine 185
 Joseph, K. 187
 Juei Yen, S. 182
 Junior, R. 195
 Kasper, W. 197
 Kessler, D. 197
 Khairallah, M. 195
 Kierkegaard, S. 185
 Kikhuci, T. 198
 Kim, A. 181
 Kim, S. 181
 Kim Seong-hyeon, S. 185
 King, P. 191
 Kingshuk, N. 184
 Kinnamon, M. 197
 Kollamparampil, T. 191
 Kovitvanich, F. 189
 Kroeger, J. 183, 200
 Labuntog, M. 182
 LaRousse, W. 182, 183
 Lazatin, P. 183
 Lee Kuan Yew 192
 Leon-Dufour, X. 180
 Levine, A-J. 196
 Ling, P. 191
 Lopez, P. 190
 Machado, F. 197, 198
 Mang-khannekhoun, L. 177

Mar Awa III 197
 Maradiaga, O. R. 194
 Marengo, G. 185, 190, 191
 Martins, F. 192
 Matthias, G. 191
 Meyer, N. 195
 Moolachira, J. 193
 Moon, J. 198
 Moses 188, 199
 Mugabe, R. 184
 Neelankavil, T. 176
 Nerses the Gracious 197
 Nguyen, T. 191
 Nguyen Van Thuan, F. 181
 Noah 188
 Nocella, A. 184
 Padilla, E. 183, 191
 Padilla, W. 185
 Parcon, D. 198
 Patriarch Bartholomew 197
 Peters, E. 196
 Pinochet, A. 184
 Pires, T. 192
 Ponchaud, F. 188
 Pope Benedict XVI 180, 183, 196
 Pope Francis 176, 177, 178, 179, 180, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 187, 188, 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197, 198, 199
 Pope Innocent IV 185
 Pope John XXIII 183, 191, 196
 Pope John Paul II 180, 181, 182, 183, 191, 192, 194, 196
 Pope Leo XIV 195, 196, 197, 198, 199
 Pope Paul VI, 180, 181, 183, 191, 193, 194, 197, 198
 Pope Pius XII 194
 Power, D. 180
 Quevedo, O. 180
 Ramos-Horta, J. 192
 Rani Maria, Sister 176
 Rausch, T. 196
 Redonia, M. 182
 Ricci, M. 186
 Roche, A. 180
 Rosales, G. 180
 Rozario, E. 196
 Rozario, R. 195
 Rufina 185
 Saint Joseph 196
 Saint Lawrence 189, 192
 Saint Paul 187, 197
 Salvia 185
 Sanjaajav, P. 185
 Sarah, R. 184
 Sayer, J. 193
 Schmitthaeusler, O. 177
 Scioli, A. 184
 Seelan, R. 184
 Sela, S. 195
 Selling, J. 196
 Selvaraju, S. 182
 Seng, S. 182
 Shenouda III 197
 Shu-Chin Hu, T. 191

Silaban, F. 192	Trocio-Bagaipo, J. 182
Silvano 192	Umar, N. 198
Sim, C. 188	Van Hai, P. 182
Sister Rina 192	Vaniyapurackal, S. 176
Siu-Mui Lee, E. 191	Vaz, J. 191
Sosa, A. 197	Vazhappilly, F. 187
Spengler, J. 198	Vincent de Paul 188
Suharto, I. 198	Virgin Mary 178, 185, 187,
Sunarko, A. 191	188, 189, 192, 193, 196
Suon, H. 177	Visser't Hooft, W. 197
Supan, L. 191	Waters, B. 196
Swamy, S. 176	Welby, J. 184
Szymborska, W. 192	Wickremasinghe, D. 187
Tagle, L.A. 180, 193, 198	William of Rulrup 185
Tawadros III 197	Yap, Fu Lan, 191
Teilhard de Chardin 185	You Heyng-Sik, L. 181
Temple, W. 197	Xavier, F. 186, 192
Teresa of Calcutta 185, 192	Zen, J. 184
Tirimanna, V. 183, 187, 196	Zinkovsky, V. 190

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