



**Statement by Archbishop Salvatore J. Cordileone  
in support of Denver Archbishop Samuel J. Aquila's letter critiquing  
the German bishops' 'Synodal Path'**

May 26, 2021

“We are all in Archbishop Aquila’s debt for such an extraordinary, reasoned, and theologically rich response to the German bishops’ ‘Synodal Path,’ which proposes a radical transformation to the Gospel of Jesus Christ and the Church he left us. It reminds me of the forthright way St. Paul spoke to the Corinthians, Galatians, Thessalonians and others.

“The ‘Fundamental Text’ of the German bishops describes a Church that will be grounded not in Christ’s eternal Truth, but instead preeminently conditioned by the world and ‘comfortably accepted by it as one respectable institution among others,’ as Archbishop Aquila writes.

“Please join me in praying for the universal Church and the bishops in Germany, that they step back from this radical rupture and reaffirm the Petrine ministry and the authority of the bishops as the successors of the Apostles, which is grounded only in the teachings of Jesus Christ, not in our own opinions.

“Archbishop Aquila reminds us of the words of Pope Francis, ‘The Successor of Peter, yesterday, today and tomorrow, is always called to strengthen his brothers and sisters in the priceless treasure of that faith which God has given as a light for humanity’s path.’

“Yes. Let us remember above all our first love, Christ crucified.”

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Archbishop Aquila’s letter can be found here: <https://denvercatholic.org/archbishop-aquila-responds-to-germanys-synodal-path-that-could-impact-the-universal-church/>