



November 12, 2013

Dear Brother Bishops,

Last week, we provided you with the attached information which we received in connection with an Extraordinary Synod on the Family which will be held next year.

The Executive Officers of the Conference have reviewed this material and ask you to do your best to respond to the preparatory questionnaire, following wide consultation in your dioceses (the Secretariate of the Synod specifically mentions “deaneries and parishes”). We ask that you complete this process and send your replies to the General Secretary by December 31, 2013 at the latest. Should you wish to do so electronically, please send it to [gensec@cccb.ca](mailto:gensec@cccb.ca).

The Executive will then prepare a synthesis of your replies during the first weeks of January 2014 in order to mail them to the Synod Office before the end of that month. Furthermore, we have also contacted several institutions and individuals who will provide us with additional statistical information which we will also include in our reply to the Synod Office.

We realize that all this must be completed within a very narrow timeline, when many activities are scheduled. Nonetheless, I realize that all of you understand that we have been given a unique opportunity to participate in this important process. One way of simplifying the process is to parcel out the questions according to the competencies and interests of various groups within your diocese. Individuals who contact the CCCB office with their responses to the questionnaire will be invited to send them to their diocesan Bishop so that they can be integrated into your own synthesis. Should you require any additional information, do not hesitate to contact our General Secretary at any time.

I thank you in advance for your assistance.

Sincerely yours in Christ our Lord,

+Paul-André Durocher  
Archbishop of Gatineau and  
President of the Canadian Conference  
of Catholic Bishops