



# Conference of Catholic Bishops of India

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To All Archbishops, Bishops, Priests, Deacons, Religious, Catechists and Lay Faithful  
of the Latin Catholic Church in India

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Jesus Christ,

I am pleased to present to you the Final Document of the 36th Plenary Assembly of the Conference of Catholic Bishops of India (CCBI), held from 28 January to 4 February 2025, at the XIM University in the Archdiocese of Cuttack-Bhubaneswar, Odisha. It is titled **Pilgrims of Hope: Discerning the Synodal Path... "For we walk by faith, not by sight" (2 Cor 5:7)**.

The overwhelmingly positive feedback received during the Assembly regarding the Spiritual Conversation Methodology was very encouraging; the methodology was widely appreciated as an enriching and transformative approach to discernment.

The Assembly identified sixteen key themes for reflection and action: Faith Formation and Word of God, Children, Family, Youth, Laity, Basic Ecclesial Communities, Migrants and Refugees, Dalits, Tribals/Adivasis/Indigenous Peoples, Socially Excluded People, Women and Gender Justice, Poverty and Equitable Economy, Digital Technology and Social Media, Ecology and Climate Stewardship, Ecumenism and Interreligious Dialogue, and Peacebuilding. These themes are the fruit of a prayerful reflection, guided by the Holy Spirit, and are closely aligned with the Pastoral Plan: *Journeying Towards a Synodal Church: MISSION 2033*.

I earnestly invite you to engage deeply with these documents, integrating them into the pastoral initiatives of your Dioceses. Together, we have articulated a clear vision and roadmap for fostering a truly Synodal Church. Let us, as Shepherds of the People of God, commit ourselves to animating this process at every level, ensuring that all the members of the Church actively participate in this sacred journey.

May the Holy Spirit continue to guide us in our collective mission, strengthening us as we walk together in faith and hope. And may St. Joseph, Patron of the Church, whose Feast we celebrate today, accompany us as we strive to build a truly Synodal Missionary Church.



*+Filipe Neri Card. Ferrão*

Filipe Neri Cardinal Ferrão

President, C.C.B.I.

Archbishop of Goa and Daman

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