

Pope Francis: Post-Synodal Apostolic Exhortation *Christus Vivit*

Speaking of **dreams and visions**, Pope Francis observes: 'When young and old alike are open to the Holy Spirit, they make a wonderful combination. The old dream dreams, and the young see visions [192]. If young people sink roots in those dreams, they can peer into the future [193].' That is why we need **to take risks together** walking together, young and old. 'Roots are not anchors chaining us' but 'a fixed point from which we can grow and meet new challenges'. [200]

The exhortation concludes with **a wish** from Pope Francis: 'Dear young people, my joyful hope is to see you keep running the race before you, outstripping all those who are slow or fearful. Keep running, attracted by the face of Christ, whom we love so much, whom we adore in the Holy Eucharist and acknowledge in the flesh of our suffering brothers and sisters. The Church needs your momentum, your intuitions, your faith... And when you arrive where we have not yet reached, have the patience to wait for us.' [299]

Pope Francis to Jesuits in the Baltic States, September 2018

What needs to be done today is to accompany the Church in a deep spiritual renewal. I believe the Lord wants a change in the church. I have said many times that a perversion of the Church today is clericalism.

But fifty years ago the Second Vatican Council said this clearly: the Church is the People of God. Read number 12 of *Lumen Gentium*. I know that the Lord wants the Council to make headway in the Church.

Historians tell us that it takes a hundred years for a Council to be applied. We are halfway there. So, if you want to help me, do whatever it takes to move the Council forward in the church. And help me with your prayer. I need so many prayers.

