

SOUTHERN CONE

Chile discusses "synodality, women and leadership"

07/04/2024 | ROBERTO URBINA AVENDAÑO

The conference, organized by the Egidio Viganó Theological Institute, was held at the Catholic University Silva Henríquez.



The conference on 'Synodality, women and leadership', organized by the Egidio Viganó Theological Institute, of the Catholic University Silva Henríquez, in Santiago, included presentations by Dr. Klara-Antonia Csiszar, of the Private Catholic University of Linz, Austria; Katharina Karl, Vice-Dean of the Faculty of Theology of the Catholic University of Eichstätt-Ingolstadt, Germany; and Carolina Bacher Martínez, researcher of the Egidio Viganó Institute.

Making God's Love tangible

The speakers discussed the convergences and divergences in the synodal process in Germany and the emerging themes for the Synodal Assembly 2023.

The theologian Csiszar, of Romanian origin and current dean of the Faculty of Theology of the Catholic Private University of Linz (Austria), expressed a vital question: "How can we make God's love tangible, above all in the existential wounds of human beings? And she affirmed that "the question is no longer whether women have a place in pastoral councils, but how to reconfigure leadership and authority in the Church in such a way that it does not exclude women". And she concluded: "the key is that all leadership be lived in co-responsibility".

Csiszar was invited by Pope Francis to participate as a theological expert in the Ecclesial Assembly of the Synod on Synodality. Interviewed by Silva Henriquez

University Communications, she confessed: "I have spent years researching what it means to be a missionary Church today. What do we understand by mission since Vatican Council II and what do we learn from Pope Francis about this understanding of mission. We can see that, under the current pontificate, women – and not only those who are active in the Church – are getting more attention. They are becoming more and more visible as protagonists in the life of the Church in many areas."

She added that "we still have much to learn about how we can be a church in which women feel equally comfortable as men, in which they are allowed to help shape the church and in which their voice is heard."

Healthy tension in divergences

Regarding his participation in the Synodal Assembly, she noted that "the issues to be considered clearly indicate divergences. In these divergences, however, we find a healthy tension between different ways of thinking about the Church and its future in different contexts. The greatest divergences are seen in questions such as what we think about the role of women in the church or the question of the willingness to become a welcoming church for all."

She continues, "on issues where divergences remain too great, we must consciously pay attention to three levels of reciprocity: a) reciprocity between the global, the regional and the local; b) then reciprocity between theology, canon law and practice; c) and, last but not least, reciprocity between some, many and all. This reciprocity generates a very valuable dynamic of synodality and can help us rediscover the very power of catholicity. Ecclesial catholicity demands from us polyphonic skills".

Csizar closed her remarks by saying that "my wish is that men in leadership positions in our church listen to women, learn to appreciate and respect them. May less and less women experience suffering, but experience that they are equal and precious creatures of God. I would like churches and societies to realize that they are missing out on something if women do not have a voice or are not included in various decisions. there is always hope!"

Quelle: https://www.vidanuevadigital.com/2024/04/07/chile-sinodalidad-mujeres-y-liderazgos/?fbclid=IwAR3siEf8ROGpiB3WJtsfbxL9muN0OPzFWFM95YvQ4i3nLu5YOWQgjAXh3o_aem_ATXQXHqHLStcFIdqzRPc8AmV76lh_jXgSn3fPwX86HjOJsJ78MbjWVgFV0UI3Wyxjg_AfQDNQlsgt_Mh8OQRIG

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