	AFRICAN WOMEN THEOLOGIAN CONFERENCE - HUC AMDG CAMPUS OPENING ASSEMBLY Moderator - Rev. Dr. Stephen Eyeowa, SJ MC - Betty Too /Lilian Itenya Venue: HIPSIR
Arrival	Tuesday ,02 September, 2025
17:30 – 17:40 pm	Opening Prayer/HUC Anthem Sr. Dr. Mary Nzilani Wambua, SMMG (HoD, Practical Theology)
17:40 – 17:55 pm	Welcoming Remarks Rev. Dr. Marcel Uwineza, SJ (HUC Principal)
17:55 – 18:10 pm	Opening Remarks Mrs. Margaret Muhoro (Chair, HUC Governing Council)
18:10 - 18:20pm	Sr. Mumbi Kigutha, CPPS (President of Friends in Solidarity; Director of Watawa wa Taa)
18:20 – 18:45 pm	Keynote Speech Dr. Philomena Mwaura, Ph.D (Kenyatta University, Kenya)
18:45 – 18:55 pm	Orientation by the Steering Committee Sr. Dr. Jacinta Opondo, FSSA (Chair, Steering Committee)
19:00 pm	Social/Dinner

# DAY 1

## **WEDNESDAY, 03 SEPTEMBER, 2025**

Moderator - Rev. Dr. George Macharia, SJ

Venue: JST

09:00 - 10:15 am

## **Morning Session**

1st Session:

Thematic Area: Psycho-theology and Synodality

and Symodality

Dr. Hadebe Nontando, Ph.D (University of Free State, South

Africa)

**Topic:** Synodality, male-only leadership and the rise of women's political leadership in Africa: A challenge to African Catholic

Women Theologians (20 Mins).

Sr. Gisela Rfanyu Shey, MA

**Topic:** Counselling as a path to healing in a synodal church:

An African Perspective (20 Mins)

Ms. Suki W. Nyadawa, MA (KCA University - Kenya)

**Topic:** Reimagining leadership interpolated by poor governance: addressing sexual and gender-based violence in institutions of

higher learning in Kenya (20 Mins).

10:100 - 10:15am

\*\*\*Interactive Session\*\*\*

10:15 - 10:30 am

Break:

10:30 - 11:10 am

**Keynote Speech** 

Prof. Teresa Okure, SHCJ, Ph.D.

Topic: Discovering and Rooting the Vitality of Women in the

Scriptures: The Need for New Reading Eyes

11:15 -11:40am \*\*\*Interactive Session\*\*\* 11:40 - 12:15 **Book Launch** Sr. Jacinta Opondo, FSSA (Chair, Steering Committee) Paulines Publication 12:25 Noon College Mass: Celebrant: Archbishop Phillip Anyolo The Archdiocese of Nairobi Lunch break 13:00 - 15:30pm Afternoon Session 2nd Session: Thematic Area: Ministry and Synodality 15:30 - 18:30pm Prof. Mary Getui, Ph.D (The Catholic University of Eastern Africa (CUEA)) **Topic:** Discerning leadership in the model of motherhood (20 Mins.) Sr. Dr. Ajayi Maria Natalia Ayodeji, IHM, Ph.D. (Catholic Institute of West Africa (CIWA) - Port Harcourt, Rivers State, Nigeria) Topic: Consecrated women of light, watawa wa taa's leadership style: women turning Challenges into opportunities in ministry and society (20 Mins) Sr. Dr. Mercy Shumbamhini, CJ, Ph.D (Part-time lecturer: Arrupe Jesuit University, Zimbabwe) Topic: Recognising the importance of safety for all in the church: a holistic approach (20 Mins). Short Break 17:00 - 17:15pm \*\*\*Interactive Session\*\*\* 17:15 - 18:15pm Recap 18:15 - 18:30pm

# DAY 2

### **THURSDAY, 04 SEPTEMBER, 2025**

Moderator -- Rev. Dr. Norbert Litoing, SJ

Venue: HIPSIR

## **Morning Session**

Thematic area: Church Norms and Synodality

09:00 – 09:30 am **Keynote Speech** 

Prof. Myriam Wijlens (University of Erfurt – Germany)

**Topic:** Using and Creating Canonical Windows of Opportunities for Women Participating in Leadership and Governance

To Women's articipating in Leadership and Gover

09:30 – 10:00 am

\*\*\*Interactive Session\*\*\*

10:00 - 10:30 am

Tea Break

10:30 - 12:55 am

1st Session:

#### Sr. Dr. Sabine Ursule Ngueme, CFMY, Ph.D

**Topic:** Le chapitre général comme lieu synodal: la participation des religieux à la prise de décisions majeures de l'institut religieux (20 Mins)

#### Sr. Ann Kirera Kinya, SMI,

**Topic:** Reclaiming Pastoral Identity from Secular Professional Attitudes: A Synodal Invitation to Women Religious Formation Today (20 Mins).

## Sr. Dr. Jacinta Auma Opondo, FSSA, J.C.D

(Hekima University College - Kenya

Topic: Canon Law: "Sine Qua Non" for Synodal Cohesion

Towards Truth, Justice and Mercy (20 Mins)

#### Afternoon Session

2<sup>nd</sup> Session

15:00 – 17:00pm

Thematic area: Church and Synodality

Prof. Lisa Sowle Cahill Ph.D (Boston College - USA)
Topic: "Synodality Demands Solidarity: Women and Men as
Full Ecclesial Partners" (20 Mins)

Sr. Dr. Anne Arabome, SSS, Ph.D. (Sophia Institute for Theological Studies and Spiritual Formation - Namibia)

Topic: Synodal Leadership: Women at the Forefront of Ecclesial Renewal (20 Mins)

Sr. Dr. Florence Adetoun Oso, EHJ, Ph.D

(Ss. Peter & Paul Major Seminary, Ibadan - Nigeria) **Topic:** Making synodality the evangelical path in the service of God's kingdom: reimagine and revitalise the consecrated women's way of life (20 Mins).

16:00 - 16:30

Health break

16:30 - 17:00

\*\*\*Interactive Session\*\*\*

DAY 3	FRIDAY, 05 SEPTEMBER, 2025 Moderator – Sr. Mumbi Kigutha Venue: HIPSIR
	Morning Session
09.00 – 9.30 am	Keynote Speech
	Sr. Prof. Josee Ngalula, SSA, Ph.D. (Catholic University of Congo (UCC)) Topic: Ecclesiological Responsibility of African Women in the Wake of the Synod on Synodality (30 Mins.)
09:30 – 10:00am	***Interactive Session***
10:00 – 10:30m	Health Break
10:30 – 12:55	1st Session:
	Thematic area: : Bible and Synodality
	Sr. Prof. Caroline Mbonu, HHCJ, Ph.D (University of Port Harcourt) Topic: Flying with Both Wings: A Theology of Women for a Synodal African Church (20 Mins.)
	Sr. Onu Juliana Uchenna, Doctoral Student (Katholieke Universiteit Leuven)  Topic: Wisdom's wealth: feminine imagery and the economy of virtue in Ben Sira (20 Mins.)
	Sr. Kanza Anastasie, OSB, Doctoral Student (Catholic University of Eastern Africa, Nairobi, Kenya)  Topic: "A woman does not build a village": A contextual exegesis of Luke 10:38-42 (20 Mins.)
	Rev. Prof. Paul Béré, SJ, Ph.D (Pontifical Biblical Institute of the Pontifical Gregorian University) Title: "Out of Three: Two Events, Two Voices, Two Hopes" (30 Mins)

Short break

\*\*\*Interactive Session\*\*\*

12:00 - 12:15

12:15 - 12:55

15:00 - 18:00 pm

### 2nd Session

## Thematic area: Mission and Synodality

Sr. Dr. Maria Cimperman, RSCJ, Ph.D (UISG, CTU - Rome)
Topic: For Mission: Synodality Calling Forth Renewal and Revitalisation in Consecrated Life for the Church and
World (20 Mins)

# Prof. Susan Abraham Ph.D

(Pacific School of Religion) (20 Mins)

#### Dr. Nora Nonterah Ph.D

(Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST)) (20 Mins)

**Topic:** The Intersection of Synodality, Governance, Gender, and SDG4

16:00 - 16:30pm

16:30 - 17:00pm

17:00 - 17:20pm

### **Health Break**

\*\*\*Interactive Session\*\*\*

#### Recap

	CLOSING ASSEMBLY SATURDAY, 06 SEPTEMBER 2025 Moderator – Betty Too / Lilian Itenya Venue: JST
09:00 – 09:10am	Opening Prayer Fr. Sebastine Adigwe, SJ (HUC Chaplain)
09:10 – 09:20am	Closing Remarks Sr. Jacinta Opondo, FSSA (Chair, Steering Committee)
09:20 – 09:30am	Steering Committee George Macharia, SJ
09:30 – 9:45am	Short Break
10:00 – 11:00am	Holy Mass Celebrant: Bishop Rodrigo Meija, SJ
11:00 – 12:00	Lunch
12:00 – 18:00pm	Networking
18:30 –	Social/Dinner
	Sunday, 07 September, 2025 Departure