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Cardinal Mario Grech, secretary-general of the synod, delivers his homily during Mass with synod participants at the Altar of the Chair in St. Peter's Basilica at the Vatican Oct. 21. (CNS/Lola Gomez)



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In this episode of "The Francis Effect," NCR senior correspondent Heidi Schlumpf, Daniel Horan and David Dault look at the concluding weeks of the [synod on synodality](#) and explore its possible impacts, and also talk about the role of Catholic voters in the [upcoming elections](#). Then Heidi is in conversation with Michael Canaris, an associate professor at the Institute of Pastoral Studies at Loyola University Chicago. He just returned from Rome after leading a student delegation to engage with the synod.

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