

SYNTHESIS OF THE PARISH SYNOD CONSULTATION SESSION

PARISH NAME: Sacred Heart Mission PARISH CITY: Thayer

How many consultation sessions were held at the parish? 1

On what date(s) was the session held? May 19, 2022

About how many participants attended? 17

How were invitations issued?

People were invited to participate via email, bulletin inserts, bulletin board flyers and personal pulpit requests during Mass.

How did you invite and connect with those at risk of being excluded or those on the peripheries? Were there any groups of people whose participation was especially noteworthy and why?

Were there specific groups of people who did not participate and why (if known) did they not participate?

Unknown

Through the consultation session, what were some of the positive descriptions of how the Church is journeying with people to "grow in holiness"?

The Church is journeying with people to "grow in holiness" through Adoration, saying the rosary before Mass, having retreats, visiting the sick, offering up prayer intercessions, having stations of the cross, witnessing the faithful in their worship, listening to great homilies and social functions that allow for fellowship.

What were some of the challenges, disappointments, or frustrations conveyed, in describing how the Church journeys together to "grow in holiness"?

Due to the fact that this is a very rural area and the age of the population is older, getting to Mass or church events in inclement weather or after dark is challenging.

What were some of the positive descriptions of how the Church is **“forming intentional disciples”**?

The laity is active in ministry areas such as Eucharistic Ministers, Lectors, Ushers and Greeters. Some members have stepped forward to teach the faith to the children to prepare them for First Holy Communion.

What were some of the challenges, disappointments, or frustrations conveyed, in describing how the Church journeys together to **“form intentional disciples”**?

There is only one priest for three churches. It has been challenging to schedule retreats and bible study groups.

What were some of the positive descriptions of how the Church is responding to the commission of: **“being sent forth to witness”**?

The Church participated in two community Christmas Parades, winning prizes in each parade. The parish supports the community food bank and participates in a Christmas program to help needy children (the Mitten Tree).

What were some of the challenges, disappointments, or frustrations conveyed, in describing how the Church is responding to the commission of: **“being sent forth to witness”**?

Covid restrictions made it hard to visit people in Nursing Homes, but it is now possible.

During the overall consultation process, what dispositions, attitudes, or feelings were notable? What tensions or disagreements emerged from the listening process? What was significant, surprising or unexpected during the consultation session? What new perspectives or horizons opened up? What were the fruits that the Holy Spirit brought about through this experience?

There was some concern on how funds raised were used. The parish decided to increase visitation in the area nursing homes and participation in area school projects.

What did participants have to say about areas where the Church or your parish is in need of healing and conversion in its spiritual life, culture, attitudes, structures, pastoral practices, relationships, and missionary outreach?

The parish wanted to create a more welcoming gesture for newcomers such as a welcome basket.

What dreams, desires, and aspirations for the church were expressed by participants?

The parish also wanted more prayer groups and support groups.