

SYNTHESIS OF THE PARISH SYNOD CONSULTATION SESSION

PARISH NAME: Sacred Heart & Christ the King PARISH CITY: Salem and Bunker

1. How many consultation sessions were held at the parishes? Five
2. On what date(s) was the session held? Feb 9, March 13 Bunker, March 26,27 Salem, May 2 and 10
3. About how many participants attended? Total of 110
4. How were invitations issued? **Through bulletin, announcements, and phone calls.**
5. 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?
All the people who used to come for weekend services participated and few others were informed and invited but neither they show up nor give any reasons for their non-participation.
6. Through the consultation session, what were some of the positive descriptions of how the Church is journeying with people to “grow in holiness”?
**We have teaching sermons, participation in the Holy Eucharist, Advent and Lenten penance services, weekday morning and evening prayers, faith study, posting Saint of the Day on Facebook, being active in parish activities, observing sacramental and prayer life of members, reading by lectors, Catholic Men’s Conference, DCCW Conference, Madonna House members share their faith, increased participation in choir, penance with visiting priests, support/children and teens with Camp Renewal, Totus Tuum, Steubenville, support with providing baked goods for fish Frys and chicken dinners.
Recital of the rosary before Sunday Mass. Adoration is held the first Friday of each month.**
7. What were some of the challenges, disappointments, or frustrations conveyed, in describing how the Church journeys together to “grow in holiness”?
Get to know the parish family members, difficulty in getting along with the people of different ideas, Finding more people to volunteer their time and talent for the parish,
8. What were some of the positive descriptions of how the Church is “forming intentional disciples”?
Community Christmas parade, Altar & Rosary and Knight of Columbus donations to pregnancy center (including an ultrasound machine), Grace Harbor homeless young adults. Spanish Mass is offered once per month with a dinner following and all in parish are welcome. Scripture meditation is offered once per week. Weekday Mass, along with vespers, is offered 3 days at Sacred Heart and on Thursday at Christ the King.
9. What were some of the challenges, disappointments, or frustrations conveyed, in describing how the Church journeys together to “form intentional disciples”?
Become more welcoming. Invite family members who do not attend. Share experiences of our faith life with others. Encourage people to share our faith. Need to be more positive when around people in the community (who attend parish activities, for example). Be friendly first to bring others into our church. Do not be negative when others are helping.

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

Submitting news from our parish in the Salem News Paper to inform the community about the corporal works of mercy we do. Inviting members of other faiths to participate in Vacation Bible classes.

11. 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”?

Parishioners finding time.

12. During the overall consultation process, what dispositions, attitudes, or feeling 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?

We conducted the listening session immediately after the weekend Holy Masses. And all people who were in the church participated, and people were happy about this listening session. What was surprising was most people were willing to share their ideas.

13. 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?

Talked about the need to grow relationships with all parish members.

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

These type of listening sessions are good to make an awareness of our faith life and spiritual life.