

Saint Agnes Cathedral

533 South Jefferson Avenue
Springfield, Missouri 65806



Synthesis of the Parish Synod Consultation Session

Parish Name: St. Agnes Cathedral

Parish City: Springfield, MO.

How many consultation sessions were held at the parish? 2

On what date (s) was the session held: April 24 morning and May 16 evening

About how many participants attended? 45 & 10

How were invitations issued: Facebook, website, bulletin, pulpit, newsletter

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? Young adults with school age children, even with child care provided.

SYNOD SESSION #1 INPUT

1. Cathedral is presented well for the Church Season. The flowers, colors, liturgies all enhance our worship. Different devotion available: Eucharistic Adoration, Novena. Live-streaming the liturgies for the homebound from the parish to feel connected to their parish, the availability of Penance in the parish.
2. To draw in more people to the ministries of Lector Eucharistic Ministers, greeters.
 - There is a disconnect in our parish due to two cultures (Vietnamese and America). Laity needs to be involved in decisions. Too many people, "let Father make the decisions."
 - No power or authority for the laity to change church direction.
 - Many times the laity feels trapped with no voice in church direction, how to change this?
 - Strengthening the sacramental life of the church
3. Through our liturgies which are enhanced with our different music styles. The homilies are pertinent to our life situations. The ability for continued knowledge/education in our faith, through different classes.
Through RCIA the walking with people searching to come into the church. We have a scouting program, American Heritage Girls, St. Anne's Group, St. Martha's Group, Women of Faith, PCCW, a youth program all of which help individuals to grow in our faith.
4. How do we get more people involved in our different ministries and activities? How to excite people? Do we demonstrate forgiveness, we are to be a forgiving church. Ability to spend time with Father in group discussions over relevant topics, especially parents.
To support a person/bishop/priest who represents the church in the public eye!
5. Well of Life/partnering with Grace Methodist/inviting fallen away Catholics/St. Vincent de Paul/inviting non-catholics to celebrations.
6. Lack of the ability to explain Catholic Faith/how to defend and explain Catholic Faith/be good stewards at the same time not being taken advantage of/Parishes should work more together not to be seen in competition.
7. Catholic school personnel need to live their faith in all our Catholic institutions. We need to be a more welcoming church/fear of speaking out – that you will be put in charge/ that the Synodal Consultation be ongoing – once a year/there is a difference between rural and city parishes with devotions and participation due to so many activities not church related. .
8. Those watching the Mass are not a part of the community and are not receiving the Eucharist
 - The need to put Vietnamese and American communities together
 - The fear of the Covid-19 – still staying a part
 - The need for Parish Organizations to work together.
9. How to focus on what we have in common versus differences (parish to parish), (denomination to denomination).
 - Different groups within the church (Latin & English) accept one another