

Synthesis of the Parish Synod Consultation Session

Parish Name: St. Joseph

Parish City: Advance, MO

How many consultation sessions were held at the parish: 1

On What date was the session held? March 24, 2022

How many participants attended? 4

How were invitations issued? Listed in the bulletin and Father Glenn announced during mass.

How did you invite and connect with those at risk of being excluded or those on the peripheries? Universal invite was utilized for all.

Were there any groups of people who participation was especially noteworthy and why? The individuals who participated were attentive and committed to providing input. They were very open and displayed candor with the information they provided.

Were there specific groups of people who did not participate and why (if known) did they not participate? Younger members of the church may not have participated due to their busy schedules (child care, etc...)

Through the consultation session, what were some of the positive descriptions of how the Church is journeying with people to “**grow in holiness**”? Eucharistic Adoration to deepen our relationship. Prayer Groups that pray for parish members along with needs of the local community. Allows parish members to have roles in Mass (lector, Eucharistic Ministers, Ushers, Gifts, Server.

What were some of the challenges, disappointment, or frustrations conveyed, in describing how the Church journeys together to “**grow in holiness**”? How to better welcome visitors and reaching out to them to make them feel welcome. Schedule activities with other churches like summer Bible study activities. Possibly advertise upcoming RCIA classes to the community and also have parish members participate in RCIA classes to learn more about the faith. Pre-Catechumen classes to help other’s gain understanding of the Church.

What were some of the positive descriptions of how the Church is “**forming intentional disciples**”? Lenten study groups along with bible study groups. Having Greeters, Ushers, Gift Bearers. Eucharistic Adoration to deepen our relationship. Incorporating our youth into various roles during mass. Our Church is helping to create a stronger desire to learn more about our faith through the solid traditions of the church. Visit parish members that are confined to their home or nursing home.

What were some of the challenges, disappointments, or frustrations conveyed, in describing how the Church journeys together to “**form intentional disciples**”? Recently, CoVid has helped create challenges with attendance. Individual challenges with actions of another within the church. People’s changing views of how they no longer believe what the church is teaching (example: confession). Actions of some Catholic’s are not considered to be appropriate role model behaviors. How can the Church help individuals hold themselves accountable without pushing them away?

What were some of the positive descriptions of how the Church is responding to the commission of “**being sent forth to witness**”? Knights of Columbus Fish Fry & Coat Donation for children, Birthright, Blood Drive, SEMO Food Bank - possibly working the other churches, and Blessing Boxes. PCCW connects with local nursing homes and also plans actives that generate proceeds to donate to local organizations that take care of the needy. Taking the Eucharist to the home bound. Continue to pray for the conversion of parishioners who have left the church. Praying the Rosary at Nursing Homes/Assisted Living and Homebound parishioners

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**”? Sharing more written literature and/or pamphlets with the community in the spirit of educating them about the church beliefs when we are hosting church events (fish fry, yard sales, & church meals).

During the overall consultation process the attitudes of all participants were very positive and they displayed an openness to share their opinions. We didn't encounter any strong feelings of disagreement by anyone in attendance. The process was a good experience for everyone and you could sense that everyone is extremely proud of their parish and of being Catholic. We hope to build on ideas discussed and pray the Holy Spirit leads our efforts.

Regards,

Vance Read