**Synod Summary of Results**

* Synod Process
  + In total, 9 sessions were held: 5 general sessions, 1 Spanish session, 1 session held during teen faith groups, 1 virtual session, 1 staff session
  + Around 400 participants total
* What we will do with information received
  + **Grow in Faith**:
    - Continue to teach about, encourage, and provide opportunities to know Christ and foster a personal relationship
    - Create opportunities for hospitality to foster faith sharing
  + **Foster Service** opportunities to the boarder community
    - Coordinate volunteer/service opportunities, improve communication regarding such opportunities
  + **Welcome** members into the faith community:
    - Develop strategies to reach out the those who are disengaged
    - Create a Young Adult Ministry
    - Revamp existing ministries and develop collaboration across them
  + **Celebrate** 
    - Host whole parish events – bringing ministries together in hosting

***Summary of the responses to the four topics of reflection***

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| **The Fundamental Question** | |
| A synodal Church, in announcing the Gospel, “journeys together.” How is this “journeying together” happening today in our parish/community?   How is the Holy Spirit inviting our parish/community to grow in “journeying together?” | * Retreats * Volunteer opportunities * Ministries * Sense of community * Helping us build a closer relationship with God * Eucharist * Universality of the Church * Need to change |

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| **Reflection on Key Theme: Listening & Discernment**  *Listening is a first step that requires an open mind and heart, without prejudice. Discernment in a synodal style, which requires attentiveness to the Holy Spirit through the prayer and sharing of the whole community, depends first on listening* | |
| Listening and Discernment is fostered through | * small faith groups * adult education, catholic social teaching * faith formation perpetual adoration * Ministries including St. Vincent DePaul, Family promise |
| Listening and Discernment can be improved through | * Prioritizing listening without judgement and preconceived notions * Practice, guidance in prayerful listening, need to model listening in children * Including and informing parish members in decision-making (parish council/suggestion box) * Extended time for personal intentions during mass * Q & A class with a priest would be helpful for teens * *The large size of the parish is a perceived challenge* |
| *While some feel our parish effectively embraces diversity; others feel the church hierarchy caters to their own political agendas and creates an exclusive church (in regard to women, the LGBTQ community, those seeking fertility treatments)* | |

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| **Reflection on Key Theme: Co-Responsibility & Participation**  *Synodality is at the service of the mission of the Church, in which all members are called to participate. All the baptized are co-responsible for the mission of the Church—to proclaim the Gospel and make disciples of Jesus Christ.* | |
| Factors hindering Co- Responsibility and Participation | * Catholics do not feel confident and avoid professing their faith in public * Why invest time in priests, they get moved too often * Classes are outdated – update to reflect the times we live in |
| Ways to improve Co- Responsibility and Participation | * Bringing back young adults – need for aggressive action * Better family support and programs * Emphasize time and talent and volunteering opportunities * Allow church activities to be announced from the Altar * Create a Welcome back program for absent Parishioners |

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| **Reflection on Key Theme: Prayer and Celebration**  *Central to “journeying together” is the communal listening to the Word and the celebration of the Eucharist.* | |
| Prayer and Celebration as shared faith experience | * Mass is the community “journeying together” * The centrality of the Eucharist * Mass as an experience the leaves you feeling fed, time well spent, a better person, challenged to be more spiritual * Fosters a feeling of God as a god of love and forgiveness, that we are called to love all despite differences, accept those who live outside of our understanding of the Catholic church * Opportunity for scripture study, to Engage families’ faith formation, to engage adults in their own faith formation, to discuss mass afterward with family/friends – coffee/donuts |
| How to encourage active participation of all the faithful in prayer/liturgy/sacraments | * Engage more women and children in mass * Importance of music ministry/liturgy experience * Sacraments during mass * “Sign of Peace” song during mass * Return to special “liturgical celebrations” of Transfiguration * Teens enjoy going to mass together * More trainings for liturgical participation * More welcoming; Recognize visitors every week * “name tag” Sundays, donuts and coffee, parish “reset”, whole parish events, Ministry Fair |

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| **Listening to the Holy Spirit**  *Take 5-10 minutes to pray in silence with your small group, after invoking the Holy Spirit again through a “Come Holy Spirit” prayer or impromptu prayer. Then, from your small group sharing,* ***name one insight where you heard the voice of the Holy Spirit today or share one insight that is on your heart after your time of prayer*** | |
| Some felt a call to action | * Called to evangelize and re-engage community, minister to others * Called to engage the young in the church: children, teens, young adults |
| Some felt that there’s still work to be done | * Obligation to leave a legacy that can be carried on by a diverse, accepting church - Call for tradition and change (Vatican III) * Desire to be listened to by church leadership (local and hierarchy) * Felt this was a missed opportunity to discuss real issues – LGBTQ, Women |
| Some recognized the process as beneficial to their faith journey | * Overwhelming sense of gratitude for the experience and to revisit it in the future * Identified where they felt their faith journey is best supported (in small faith groups, Women in Faith, etc) |