

2022 Synod Gathering

Date: January 29, 2022	Location: St. Patrick's Parish, Brownsville, MN 55919	
Focus Area Communion	Do I feel like I belong in this parish community? Why or why not?	
	Main Points Made During the Session:	Examples Provided for Each Point:
Main Points	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * I do feel I am participating * Feels like the Church I grew up in * Parish extremely welcoming * Feels like a family * Still struggling with understanding the Mass and things that we take for granted as practices * Initially did not feel like I belonged, then converted to a Catholic and now feel welcomed * By participating can feel accepted and able to get to know others * Feel accepted and people have reached out and involved me * Seems like the same people are always involved, would like to see more people participating in Mass and events * Seeing others participating encourages others to join in * People recognize you and reach out * Tight knit group of people who reach out and are concerned for one another 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Roll Sunday * Mass – everyone welcomes you * Generations of Faith * Fundraising activities bring us together
List of Directions, Actions, Key Elements of a Future Church	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Bringing all parishioners to the same level of understanding of the Church – their ways, rituals, following * Address ways to meet people where they are in their beliefs and life challenges. * encourage a wider perspective on ways to welcome without prejudice 	
Recording of Session Complete		

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Date: January 29, 2022	Location: St. Patrick's Parish, Brownsville, MN 55919	
Focus Area Communion	How is it possible for me to have fruitful dialogue and collaboration with those of differing perspectives?	
	Main Points Made During the Session:	Examples Provided for Each Point:
Main Points	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Never had a dialogue with a non-Catholic * Feel the need to respond or defend if person is attacking the Church * Have had friend ask about Saints * As a youth, prior to Vatican II, thought my Church was the only one to get to heaven * Become a better listener * Call on the Holy Spirit to guide my words/thoughts * Grown more comfortable in talking religion or "heavy issues" with people of other faiths 	*
List of Directions, Actions, Key Elements of a Future Church	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * More accepting of others faith/beliefs * Strive to listen and accept while stating thoughts in a calm manner 	
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Date: January 29, 2022	Location: St. Patrick's Parish, Brownsville, MN 55919	
Focus Area Communion	What does the Eucharist mean to me? How can I, or help others, come to a deeper understanding of the Eucharist?	
	Main Points Made During the Session:	Examples Provided for Each Point:
Main Points	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Gain from listening * Hard to convince others that we believe * Body and Blood of Christ * Raising of the Host moves me * Faith * Eucharist is the "food for the journey of life" * Moment with God, which gives me strength * Highlight of Mass -- Miss the blood of Christ during COVID * As I age, the challenge is to revisit my original beliefs * Necessary to explain to our Protestant friends * Very personal and should be inclusive * Can be taken for granted * Personal relationship * Culmination of my day, my goal, and my golden carrot * Appreciate the opportunity to explain the Eucharist to others, especially those that want to know more 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Lead by example * Learned from parent(s), grandparent(s) * Invite others to Mass * Steubenville provided an amazing experience (group adoration)
List of Directions, Actions, Key Elements of a Future Church	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Tolerant of others beliefs * Eucharist needs to be inclusive not exclusive * Inclusiveness if very important and can be controversial 	
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Date: January 29, 2022	Location: St. Patrick's Parish, Brownsville, MN 55919	
Focus Area Participation	How do we as a Church listen well, and where do we fall short in hearing the voices of all who live in this area?	
	Main Points Made During the Session:	Examples Provided for Each Point:
Main Points	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Priest are servants to the Parish * Some Priests are set in ways and dictate instead of listen or be open to ideas * Deacon provides servant ways, listening, and as Shepherd * Seminaries are producing conservative Priests * Everyone is hurting and sermon is important * Understanding the Mass – teaching the meanings of practices * “We are the Church” we need to listen and be a part of the Church * We listen well when we agree * This Parish comes together in times of crisis * Ability to talk and find common ground * Promote unity with those from other denominations * Communion to “shut ins” is an important way to keep us as one 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Synod gives us the opportunity to be heard * Donations to the Food Shelf help us to remember to help others * Generations of Faith * Roll Sunday
List of Directions, Actions, Key Elements of a Future Church	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * The importance of reverence in going to Church * Work to help the community as a whole and find common ground * Find ways to hear the voices of those who have left the Church 	
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Date: January 29, 2022	Location: St. Patrick's Parish, Brownsville, MN 55919	
Focus Area Participation	What hinders me as a baptized Christian from being an active, missionary disciple?	
	Main Points Made During the Session:	Examples Provided for Each Point:
Main Points	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Time - I think I don't have enough * Apprehension, insecurity, fear, answering why * Need to be asked to help * Think that it requires a real commitment * As I age, feel may be a role model now * Lack the proper dialogue * Not able to share what I believe * Share faith vs. sharing facts * Hard to spread the word to others and voice how God is in your everyday life 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Be present, let God do the work * When asked to pray: pray then, don't just say yes and not do * Lead by example
List of Directions, Actions, Key Elements of a Future Church	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Bible study to share understanding and beliefs * Finds way to involve and include other 	
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Date: January 29, 2022	Location: St. Patrick's Parish, Brownsville, MN 55919	
Focus Area Participation	Do our decision-making methods allow us to listen to the People of God and the Holy Spirit? Are these methods employed with transparency?	
	Main Points Made During the Session:	Examples Provided for Each Point:
Main Points	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Wish more parishioners would step forward to take on responsibilities * The Church needs to make changes on Policy and trends – need to be more with societal changes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Catholics not allowed to have a wedding ceremony outside of the Church building. Other faiths allow, why not Catholics? * Mass is said at Irish Fest – outdoors, in a tent. Diocese celebrated Mass at a Civic Center, but can't have a wedding other than Church?
List of Directions, Actions, Key Elements of a Future Church	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Look for ways to listen to the people and find opportunities to adapt the Canon Law to present day * Church needs to look at outdated or exclusive ways and find a way to include all those who want to belong 	
Recording of Session Complete		

2022 Synod Gathering

Date: January 29, 2022	Location: St. Patrick's Parish, Brownsville, MN 55919	
Focus Area Mission	What areas of Christ's mission are we neglecting?	
	Main Points Made During the Session:	Examples Provided for Each Point:
Main Points	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Miss 'Shaking hands' during Mass – due to COVID unable to do. * The marginalized * The Sick, shut ins * Our back yard needs attention: "neighborism" * Learning our Faith 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Taking the host to shut ins * Soup Supper – bringing soup during Lent to shut ins
List of Directions, Actions, Key Elements of a Future Church	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Turn to one another and greet them without shaking hands. Gives a sense of peace and welcoming * Find ways to do small things every day in every way 	
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Date: January 29, 2022	Location: St. Patrick's Parish, Brownsville, MN 55919	
Focus Area Mission	What steps can be taken to grow closer to our fellow non-Catholic Christians?	
	Main Points Made During the Session:	Examples Provided for Each Point:
Main Points	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Invite our neighboring Church's (Zion Evang.) to events * Get to know your neighbors of all beliefs * Acceptance * Be engaging with everyone – draw towards the recluse or shy, those that seem angry or lonely * Show love and concern 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Generations of Faith
List of Directions, Actions, Key Elements of a Future Church	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Inclusive not exclusive outreach * Find opportunities to share the faith with the entire community 	
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Date: January 29, 2022	Location: St. Patrick's Parish, Brownsville, MN 55919	
Focus Area Mission	How do prayer and liturgical celebrations actually inspire and guide our common life and mission in our community?	
	Main Points Made During the Session:	Examples Provided for Each Point:
Main Points	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Some days nothing makes sense except the rite * Missed family funerals – unable to share in your grief and let go * Mass may be the one opportunity for elderly to socialize * Some families will not come back to Church after COVID * Missed Eucharist during COVID * Impressed by Priest and Deacon saying Mass even for a few people * Times for rejoicing * Homily is important to make everyday things/challenges enrich our faith * Bring people of all faiths together - more acceptance * Songs can lead to action and service to others - inspiration * Going to Mass every Sunday and setting an example of how important it is * Reconciliation helps to think about actions and help to remind for future * Reading helps to find guidance * Youth Liturgy is important and helps them enjoy Church * Reflection of Mass after attending – let the Holy Spirit guide you 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Having Generations of Faith, even if only 5 people would show up! * Children's Liturgy during sermon
List of Directions, Actions, Key Elements of a Future Church	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Visit other faiths to help dispel myths * Allowance of receiving the Eucharist after divorce. Turns people away when rules are not reflective of where people are in their lives 	
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Date: January 29, 2022	Location: St. Patrick's Parish, Brownsville, MN 55919	
Focus Area In Conclusion	How can we foster an approach to participation and leadership that is modeled on communion, participation and mission?	
	Main Points Made During the Session:	Examples Provided for Each Point:
Main Points	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Tell the group "I'm going to worship my God" * Important to be present, immersed, connected * Sit with someone you don't know, get to know them * Share your supper with someone who is alone or home bound * Invite someone to Mass or an event * Engage with youth or the elderly * Take time to get to know another parishioner * Baptisms, Funerals, Weddings all events to show love and support * On small positive comment can benefit someone's day * We are all God's people with different ideas * Get involved 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Mass * Roll Sunday * Generations of Faith
List of Directions, Actions, Key Elements of a Future Church	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Find ways to bring people together to worship * Greet people – turn around and acknowledge others 	
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Focus Area In Conclusion	What signs have you seen in our community that we are fostering a life of "walking together," listening to one another, participating in mission, and engaging in dialogue – all while paying attention to the movements of the Holy Spirit?	
	Main Points Made During the Session:	Examples Provided for Each Point:
Main Points	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * St. Patrick's finds ways to invite Zion Evang to the Parish for events or lends a hand when they need it * Parish has a sense of community * Parishioners thinking outside the box * A sense of humility in our Parish * To be a true community in its true meaning 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Pork Dinner at Zion * Generations of Faith speakers * Fall Work Day * Adopt a Garden * Youth as servers * Prayer Chain * Soup Supper during Lent * Synod Gathering
List of Directions, Actions, Key Elements of a Future Church	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Work at ways to draw people back to the Parish * Continue to find new ways to engage our parishioners and other neighboring churches 	
Recording of Session Complete		