

# Pope Francis wants to hear from the whole Church, and that includes YOU!



## syn·o·dal syn·o·dal·ity

As a pilgrim people who form the Church, we walk together . . . with our individual unique experiences, to listen to and hear from each other . . . prayerfully reflect and discern how God's Holy Spirit speaks to us and guides us in this so that we may be strengthened as a family of faith and move together toward the ultimate goal of eternal salvation with God.

Our Lady of Victory's participation and contribution to this wonderful invitation from Pope Francis will begin with 4 gatherings, currently being planned for January, 2022.

Again, this is only a beginning, for the call to syn·o·dal·ity continues as a way of being the Church Jesus Christ intended.

Currently, as our beginning, 4 gatherings have been planned for the month of January, 2022. This will be comprised of 30 individuals each, and include as diverse a sampling of our parish community as can be assembled . . . all ages, sexes, vocational statuses, whether active members or not. **POPE FRANCIS wants to hear from the WHOLE Church (as do we).** More information and news will be coming out on this in the near future.

*(Please, see the reverse side)*

To ensure a diverse group of participants for this beginning, individuals invited to participate initially will receive a communication from the Pastoral Staff and our current Parish Coordinators (Mark and Mary Beth Van Winkle). IF ANYONE WISHES TO BE INCLUDED IN THIS BEGINNING PHASE, PLEASE, CONTACT EITHER FR. MIKE, LINDA HEROLD, JOANNE PASKO OR MARK OR MARY BETH VANWINKLE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

The gatherings (days, dates, times) are\*:

Saturday, January 8, 2022 – 11:00 AM

Thursday, January 13, 2022 – 7:00 PM

Tuesday, January 18, 2022 – 7:00 PM

Sunday, January 23, 2022 = 2:00 PM

and are planned to last approximately an hour and a half.

*\*All gatherings will be held in Finnerty Hall.*

All gatherings will begin and end with prayer, a brief explanation of what Pope Francis is inviting us to, and some simple guidance for the time together. In each gathering, everyone has a voice so there will be opportunities to listen and be heard, again, in a prayerful and respectful context.

**SOME possible questions to begin reflecting upon are:**

- What is one of your favorite memories of the Catholic Church? How can we share in that joy more often?
- Describe a moment when you felt less than welcome by the Parish/Church. What can we do better?
- Whose voices are currently not being heard?
- What are some practical steps, that the Parish/Church can take to walk with you on your life's journey?
- Attentive to the voice of God's Holy Spirit, what do you think would make our Parish/Church better/richer? What can each of us do individually or collectively to accomplish this?
- Synodality calls us to be energetic and joyful disciples of our faith . . . through attentive and respectful listening, offering insights on how to advance the mission of Jesus Christ (our mission) in our parish, community, diocese and the world and helping one another recognize their faith and insights count/matter/make a difference and impact on others.

You are invited to go to: <https://vimeo.com/634659074>, and watch and listen to Bishop Malesic's Homily of October 17<sup>th</sup>, the Diocesan Opening Mass for the Synod.

Together, let us pray for the Holy Spirit to guide us as we begin this important journey in our Church!