



PARISH PRE SYNOD EVENT

a. Prayer: (20 Min.)

- Invoking the Holy Spirit (*Hymn*)
- Word of God (*Luke 24: 13-32*)
- Reflecting on the Word of God
- Silent Meditation
- Prayer for the Synod

b. Presidential Address by Parish Priest: (10 Min.)

The Parish Priest welcomes the gathering and explains the dynamics of the Parish Pre Synod. He also can share on the Process of the Parish Consultation Phase.

c. Step One: Profile of the Parish (15 Min.)

One of the Synod Core Committee Member reads the Parish Profile Page of the Working Document which contains the names of the groups consulted, the method of consultation and uniqueness of the parish. The gather assembly approves it. *This forms the First Page of the Parish Pre Synod Report.*

d. Step Two: Consultation Experience & Strong Testimonies (15 Min.) Another Synod Core Committee Member reads the moving stories, strong testimonies and consultation experiences. The gather assembly edits and approves it. *(This forms the Second page of the Parish Pre Synod Report.*

e. **Step Three: Current Realities - Synthesis of the Issues (30 Min.)**

Pages of Synthesis of Issues that are done in the Working Document are to be read for the benefit of all. Here it is only read and no discussion takes place. (*This forms the Third, Four, Fifth and Sixth page of the parish pre synod report*).

f. **Step Four: Discernment Phase (2 to 3 Hours)**

The group is broken into 5 sub-groups and each group is given a thematic subject which has questions/points raised at the village level for discernment among themselves. The drafting team members are split in the various sub groups. Each Point on the subject is discussed in the sub group with the help of seven questions given below:

1. How can we ensure that the best practices are continued?
2. What is the challenge before us with a particular question which is defined as a problem area? What needs to be done at the parish level to find answers to this particular open question? How do we prioritize this challenge?
3. What changes are needed in our culture, our attitudes and pastoral practices to find a solution to a particular question? Is this aspect due to loss of trust in some things in the church? What is the challenge for changing things in the Church?
4. What is the way forward to better governance and authority?
5. Is this an area where we need healing and conversion in our church? Is this an area which is an obstacle to personal and communal reconciliation?
6. What steps are needed to make missionary outreach more effective?
7. How do we make the Church accessible and inclusive to all? Where exactly is the kingdom of God?

The Synthesis of all groups is shared to the full house. (*The sharing forms the seventh and eighth Page of the Parish Pre Synod Report*).

g. **Step Five: Post Discernment (2 Hours)**

The path forward (Proposals for the Journey Together) is read out to the entire group and additional inputs from the whole group

noted. Best Practises, New Paths, Dreams Expressed are discussed and prioritized. (*This discussion is the Ninth Page of the Parish Pre Synod Report*).

h. Step Six: Review of the Process (30 Min.)

The fruits of the Synodal Process are found in this step. Ways of continuing the process are discussed. Participants share the feeling that the Holy Spirit brought to the process. Key learning's are identified. (*This discussion forms the tenth page of the pre synod report*).

i. Step Seven: Concluding Prayer (15 Minutes)

The end of Session is done with meditation conclusion with a small prayer with blessing from the priest.

(Special Note: if Parish Pre synod is a 2 day session then Steps One to Four will be on the First Day and Steps Five to Seven will be on Day Two.)