

St. Peter Parish Synod

Update

During 2014 the Archdiocese began the “Ninth General Synod’ by conducting listening sessions throughout the archdiocese. The process was guided by three questions: (1) What are we doing well? (2) What are we doing that could be improved? (3) What are we not doing at all that we should be doing? All of the comments were recorded, and during 2015 a committee was formed to evaluate all of the information gathered and come up with priorities and goals. The work of the committee produced 5 priorities and 21 goals for our archdiocese. From the priorities and goals the theme: “Encountering Jesus, Witnessing with Joy” was chosen because it summarized the synod’s work.

During 2016 the implementation phase began in the local church parishes. The St. Peter Parish Synod is the implementation phase in our parish. The first phase was a parish self-assessment completed by the Pastoral Council and parish staff in August of 2016. Each one of the 21 goals were evaluated using the same three questions that guided the listening sessions. Three areas of urgent need were identified. The following is a list of those needs and the action we have taken so far.

- (1) Identify disengaged groups and design specific outreach for these groups. Action: A new parish census was launched in May, 2017 and is ongoing. The purpose of the census is to provide the parish with one updated data base from which we can identify the needs of our parish.
- (2) Create a parish website and social media platforms. Action: A parish website was launched in April, 2017, www.st-peter-reserve.org, and its development is ongoing. During 2018 E-Catholic will host our website, which will greatly enhance the content of our website. Also a Facebook page was created “St. Peter Catholic Church” in December, 2017.
- (3) Organize the parish work in the area of social justice. Action: A Bereavement Committee was begun, and a Social Justice Committee was formed. The social justice committee, working with the KCs, revived our Giving Tree for 2017.

More updates on the Parish Synod will follow from time to time.