

Archdiocesan Synod Results Summary for Nativity

The Nativity Synod team would like to summarize for you the results obtained from the 70 parishioners who attended the small groups at Nativity in the Fall of 2021. We would particularly like to thank those who participated. Please see nativitystpaul.org/synod for more information.

Data Gathering Process

From the regional *Prayer and Listening Sessions* early in the Synod, Archbishop Hebda and the Synod team discerned three key *Focus Areas* and eleven *Topics* within them. These are shown on the charts on the next three pages.

In the *Synod Small Group* process, the archdiocesan Synod team provided sets of *Ideas*, or ways to address the *Topics*. Participants discussed and “voted” for the *Ideas* that “Worked for Me” if it had helped them in their lives of faith, and “Parish Priority” if they thought Nativity should invest more in that *Idea* going forward.

In addition, participants were asked to offer their “Best Idea” for how to address each *Topic*. The Total “votes” on the charts is the sum of “Worked for Me”, “Parish Priority” and “Best Idea” votes.

In the *Summary of Nativity Synod Results* on the following pages, the first column identifies the *Focus Areas*, *Topics* and their corresponding *Ideas* that received the most votes. Each *Idea* is color-coded in the bar charts so you can see that a particular *Idea* was often deemed applicable to more than one *Topic*.

Summary of Results

- As you can see from the charts, key themes across the *Focus Areas* are intentional **Formation/Discipleship** programs (mentioned in 9 of 11 *Topics*, 8 of those highly ranked), and **Small Groups/Mentoring** (9 mentions, 7 of those highly ranked).
- **Retreats/Events** of encounter (4 mentions, 3 highly ranked) were of particular importance to our youth and young adults. Visible opportunities and personal invitations for **Ministry/Service** and **Leadership** were also important to them.
- **Prayer/Adoration** (6 mentions) and **Sacraments** (5 mentions) were ranked highly, particularly regarding formation in how to pray, in the meaning of the Mass and how to participate fully in it.
- **Hospitality** at Mass, growing our ability for **Evangelization/Testimony** and the discernment and use of **Charisms** were seen as key gaps in and potential enablers for other aspects of parish life at Nativity.