



PARISH CONSULTATION WITH SMALL GROUPS

Session Overview ~ The 6 Sessions & 12 Topics

Wednesday - 9/29/21 – 7-9pm (Zoom)

1. Focus Area #1: Forming missionary disciples who know Jesus' love and respond to his call
 - Session 1
 - o Topic A: The heart of the Gospel – the “Kerygma”
 - What resources and experiences facilitate the personal encounter with Christ that is the heart of missionary discipleship? What are concrete ways that our Church can credibly proclaim the core message of our faith (the “kerygma”) in ways that lead to real conversion?
 - o Topic B: Forming missionary disciples
 - How can we offer meaningful life-long formation for discipleship? What are useful resources and experiences for learning how to pray, especially with sacred Scripture? What retreat experiences have borne fruit? How can we encourage faith-sharing in small groups? How can we encourage mentoring in the life of virtue and accompaniment at difficult moments?

Wednesday – 10/6/21 – 7-9pm (Zoom)

- Session 2
 - o Topic A: Life-long discipleship
 - How can we promote a deepening in our understanding of the content of our faith? How can we more effectively meet the need for adult faith formation?
 - o Topic B: Universal call to holiness
 - How do we deepen our understanding of the family as the domestic Church and our appreciation of marriage as a path for life-long sanctification? How can the Church better accompany couples in living out their vocation throughout their marriage? How can we be more responsive to the spiritual needs of those who are single, separated or divorced, or widowed?

Wednesday – 10/13/21 (7-9pm Zoom) AND Saturday – 11/6/21 (10am-12pm (Zoom))

2. Focus Area #2: Forming parishes that are in the service of evangelization

• Session 3

o Topic A: Welcoming parishes

- What can we do to make parishes more welcoming and accessible? Are there those who feel excluded from parish life? How can we address them? What have we learned from livestreaming parish events to build inclusion?

o Topic B: Collaboration in parish ministry

- How can we promote a greater sense of ownership of parish activities? How do we call forth the gifts that God has given us to strengthen our parishes? How should parishioners be involved in setting a vision for the parish? How does a parish regularly assess its performance? How can a community provide for continuity when clergy and staff regularly change?

Wednesday – 10/20/21 (7-9pm Zoom) AND Saturday – 11/13/21 (10am-12pm (Zoom))

• Session 4

o Topic A: Liturgy and the Sunday experience

- What needs to happen for Sunday liturgies to meet more completely spiritual needs and send us forth for service? How should we address the needs of multicultural, multilingual communities at Mass? Are there ways to create an Archdiocesan liturgical identity so that we feel at home in any one of our parishes? What would be important components of that identity?

o Topic B: Sharing the Gospel in word and deed

- How can parishes be instruments of Christ's healing? How do we transform parishes to be attentive to the needs of others and to engage in the work of justice and racial equality?

Wednesday – 10/27/21 - 7-9pm (Zoom)

3. Focus Area #3: Forming youth and young adults in and for a church that is always young

• Session 5

o Topic A: Parents as primary educators (birth – adult)

- How can we better assist parents in forming children as disciples who know and love Jesus and his Church?

o Topic B: Helping the young encounter Jesus (birth – grade 6)

- How can Catholic schools and religious education programs more effectively facilitate a relationship with Jesus? Do our sacramental preparation programs open young hearts to God's grace and call?

Wednesday – 11/3/21 – 7-9pm (Zoom)

- Session 6
 - o Topic A: Youth ministry (grades 6-12)
 - How do we give pre-teens a personal encounter with Jesus that fosters spiritual growth? How about teenagers? How should we teach them to pray or help them grow in virtue?
 - o Topic B: Young adult ministry (ages 18-35)
 - What should be the role of peer ministry and young adult leadership in this apostolate? Is there a need for more regionalized approach? What are avenues for developing young leadership and opening Church structures to the insights of young adults? How can we better use social media to nourish young adults?

SESSION MEETINGS SCHEDULE RECAP

Session 1: Wed. – 9/29/21 – 7-9pm (Zoom)

Session 2: Wed. – 10/6/21 – 7-9pm (Zoom)

Session 3: Wed. – 10/13/21 (7-9pm Zoom) **AND** Sat. – 11/6/21 (10am-12pm (Zoom)

Session 4: Wed. – 10/20/21 (7-9pm Zoom) **AND** Sat. – 11/13/21 (10am-12pm (Zoom)

Session 5: Wed. – 10/27/21 - 7-9pm (Zoom)

Session 6: Wednesday – 11/3/21 – 7-9pm (Zoom)