

## **Preparing the Report from your Listening and Discernment Session**

From the start of the Christmas Season through February 2022, parishes around the Diocese of St. Petersburg will host "nights of discernment" as part of the diocesan phase of the synodal process that will culminate in October 2023 in Rome.

The diocesan Synod Team will provide an outline, recommended discussion questions, and other materials in support of these events. The nights of discernment will include lectio divina, small group discussions, and a large group discussion in which consensus is sought regarding what the Holy Spirit is speaking in the hearts of the faithful.

Pastors who host and oversee these events are asked to ensure that each small group discussion and the large group discussion have assigned to them a facilitator and a recorder. The diocesan Synod Team is available to help organize, promote, and staff nights of discernment.

After the event, the hosting pastor, or a participant delegated by him, is asked to provide a summary of what was shared in the small and large group discussions. Any supporting materials, such as notes of recorders, pictures, video, works of art, stories, or testimonies, may be included.

Summaries should reflect the diversity of views and opinions expressed, both positive and negative, including also views expressed by a minority of participants.

Summaries should include an estimate of the number of participants, describe efforts undertaken to promote participation, and indicate participation from any group whose participation was unexpected or otherwise noteworthy.

Summaries should note: any particular fruits that come from the event, points of interest or strong resonance, surprises, and opinions regarding the Church's need for healing or conversion in her spiritual life, culture, attitudes, structures, pastoral practices, relationships, or missionary outreach.

Summaries from deanery- and parish-level events are ideally 2-3 pages in length, and may include additional supporting materials. For more information, please see Appendix D of the Vademecum for the Synod on Synodality (attached).

Please send summaries to the diocesan Synod Team at the following email address: [Journey@dosp.org](mailto:Journey@dosp.org)