

<b>What were your expectations and / or hopes for the Synod small group process?</b>	<b>Were your expectations and/or hopes met? If not, what was missing?</b>	<b>What did you find valuable about the Synod Small Group process?</b>	<b>Were there any themes or topics not covered in the process you would've liked to have been addressed?</b>	<b>Any other comments?</b>
<p>I was hoping for a series of spiritually uplifting, exciting conversations about our experiences in the Catholic Church.</p>	<p>I found the videotaped teachings a bit stilted and not terribly inspirational. They seemed rather dry, actually. The setting of the teachings in the cathedral was distracting to me with sightseers milling about in the background. I thought the testimonials were more engaging and hopeful.</p>	<p>The opportunity to hear other parishioners' opinions about their experiences with the liturgy and parish activities. Learning about various young adult enrichment and outreach efforts by the church. Things have improved in that regard since I was growing up or even in my son's youth.</p>	<p>I felt there should have been more discussion about the negative effects of the Church's sexual abuse crisis and other failures of church hierarchy. There is a strong adherence to traditional attitudes in the face of changing societal needs.</p>	<p>I was surprised by the restrictive options for feedback, providing a list of ideas to choose from rather than open-ended questions. It felt very "scripted." It was difficult to respond in the format provided. I'm not sure why, but I was a bit put off by the fast-paced delivery of the teachings. The speakers were obviously reading from a script and it didn't feel authentic in the delivery. There really wasn't much time to ponder and absorb what they were saying. I felt they were trying to fit a lot of ideas in too short an amount of time.</p>
<p>A change in how we share the love of God! Not so much focus on the Catholic ways but that Jesus is real and living the Love of God!</p>	<p>Yes, it was an excellent way of building community and teaching us the truths of our Father.</p>	<p>Faith sharing with like-minded people. New relationships! Great leadership! Very well presented and I am grateful.</p>	<p>--</p>	<p>--</p>
<p>I thought we would get to have serious discussions as to what is pulling people from the church and how to recreate a more welcoming church.</p>	<p>They were not met. This synod was way too scripted by the Archdiocese. I felt so much was missing.</p>	<p>I found it valuable to witness long time Catholics struggle with how to help our church and faith.</p>	<p>Divorce Church priest abuse Racial justice Social justice issues Give young people something to grab on to as a reason to be a faithful Catholic Growing the church</p>	<p>I felt there was a missed opportunity to grow the church and way too much "guidance" from the Archdiocese!</p>

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<p>I had both hoped and expected that serious concerns for our future as an Archdiocese would be bravely, openly, and honestly discussed.</p>	<p>In spite of the direction of the video teachings which were blatantly slanted, my small group did discuss more crucial issues respectfully. So what was missing? Content that lent itself to intelligent discussion.</p>	<p>I greatly respected and appreciated the ideas and sharing in my small group partners. I'd like to add that I feel the Archdiocese underestimates the intelligence and critical thinking of its members.</p>	<p>In the Archdiocese where George Floyd was murdered, I feel racism and how we are to respond as Baptized Catholics should have been a topic. The priest shortage which is adversely affecting our Archdiocese is another. How to live out the practice of justice which is referred to as "constitutive" by the USCCB. God's love for ALL.</p>	<p>The church in Germany's synod discussed who holds power in the church; sexual morals; role of priests and place of women in the church—all of which are weighty issues. Our topics were weak given the life of the church in these times.</p> <p>Two concerns:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Mary Magdalene was yet again identified as a prostitute.</li> <li>2. Why did Bp. Cozzens' family confess missing Mass because of a mistake and not an intention? This was NOT a sin. (Very poor understanding of sin.)</li> </ol> <p>There was heavy emphasis on Catholic schools in a time when the majority of Catholic children are educated in public schools. Faith formation should have been highlighted.</p> <p>There was also a heavy push for Confession and sinfulness—very 50's—and I was there so I know that posturing well.</p> <p>The video on liturgy—priests' backs to the community? LATIN MASS?</p> <p>Women's heads covered? Nuns in traditional habits? A preference came through whether intended or not.</p>

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That there would be open and honest discussion about the Church. While I understand that structure was needed, it seemed overly controlled...we couldn't really share our thoughts.	This was process was way too directed, limited, and seemed focused on answers that did not allow expression of those in attendance. Our group needed at least DOUBLE the time for discussion.	Meeting other Catholics that are as frustrated with the Church as we are! People are leaving in droves and the Church's response seems to be to go backwards to how things were and heavy doctrine. Rules don't help.	Divorce Social Justice Racial Justice Systemic racism White privilege Women's role—expanded Human trafficking Abuse by priests Homily skills for priests Tie scripture to today's world	What would Jesus want? Please get the Church working for its people so the joy of the Lord is present again!
To have a voice in the Church	Yes	Meeting wonderful people	Yes, but not in our control	Do this more regularly
--	--	The videos!! Great prayer and catechesis! Please put them on the Archdiocesan website so we can go back to review them and watch the ones we missed.	--	Maybe repeat the sessions (Just 1 @a time) at a later time—next year or year after? Just for the parish to continue the conversation about ideas for Risen Savior.
Can't say I really had any, but this was a very good, spiritual process. I've definitely grown during this small group.	Yep. 😊	How eye opening it was to hear others struggles.	None that come to mind.	If there is a way to view the videos again, that would be appreciated.
It was good to see 'the church' actually ask us our opinion.	Yes—somehwat—this needs to continue—form groups to get involved!	Getting the group to share their ideas regarding the needs of our faith	Where women fit into our church?	Thanks for asking
To be open and provide honest input and sharing that is prompted by the Holy Spirit	In most cases, having just the "letter" options for our input may not match our conversation.	The teachings were wonderful, and the small discussions I learned as well more about the parish members and their story.	--	--
That there would be change	None	It let me meet people	None	None

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To exchange ideas across all ages about ways to strengthen our parish and youth.	Mostly. I feel a lot of great ideas and discussion was LOST. The feedback forms limited the feedback. Valuable information was lost in space.	The discussion with young people.	--	--
I hope to let the spirit work through me and the group I was in to hopefully solve or help solve problems affecting the Archdiocese.	I am unsure. I think I felt the Spirit work but now I feel it is left to be seen.	I came closer to God through the gained insights and communion with God.	Dunno	Not really
I want changes in our church (Risen Savior). I attended these to be a part of or help start the change process.	I don't know yet...change takes time but I believe God will provide and has a plan.	Meeting with people that are a part of the Church community that I have never met before but have seen at Mass...people with similar passions for the betterment of our Church.	Bringing churches back to the importance of the Mass and <i>all</i> the Sacraments. Bringing churches back to the Catechism and not the water downed version we have in some churches.	--
For information to be discerned For people to make new friends For people to find the desire to continue Small Groups going forward	-The way the small groups were set up there was not much time to get to know each other. -Seemed rushed at times -I wish more people would've participated	-Discussion about relevant church issues -Having a <40 and <20-year-old in my group -Getting a start on knowing a few more people -Learning about what the possibilities are	--	Thank you to all who helped put this process together!!
To come up with specific ideas and actions that we would use to revitalize our church.	I feel very discouraged about how to involve the youth in meaningful faith experiences. We need to provide more resources to individual parishes.	I did enjoy talking with other parishioners and hearing their ideas.	How to address the financial issues of the church. We are still dealing with the issue of sexual abuse. There should be enough resources to go around.	--

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Had no expectations	Enjoyed it mostly. Did not agree with the young students.	Enjoyed discussion with our group.	How to encourage parents not to make sports so important.	--
To be open and want to listen to us to really look at what we as a church need	No—this felt steered toward what the Archdiocese wanted to hear.	The discussion and growing with our Parish—much more of what we can do on a local level than on an Arch-level.	Married priests—they used to be until inheriting property became an issue in the 700-1200's! Reaching out to young people who don't buy into pietistic practices. Not everyone is or needs to be pietistic.	--
Not entirely. It met my expectations as a small group discussion. But I am disheartened to know how little of the discussion will be heard by Hebda.	Discouraged that this won't go anywhere. I don't doubt the sincerity—I just wonder if it falls on deaf ears.	Discussion was on fire. People have a lot to say. But who listens? Can a survey via multiple choice capture it?	--	The video, etc. were too long. Too many people trying to drill home a preconceived message they wanted delivered. We need to be shown how the leaders are real.
Sharing faith ideas Love the chance to share hopes for the Archdiocese	Great chance to meet others and share our faith.	Connecting with others, lots of positive energy—hope and pray this energy keeps moving forward	? Don't think so.	Loved the closing prayer. Thank you for such positive energy and showing the power of change.
To make our Archdiocese know the struggles of our parishes and especially for the youth of our Archdiocese	Action needs to be done for our youth and adoration at Risen Savior/Burnsville	Knowing that Archbishop Hebda cares. He's willing to make changes.	Priests being more involved with our youth.	Thank you, Archbishop Hebda, you are always in my prayers. We also need more grade and high schools south of the river with low tuition so all Catholic families can afford to send their children no matter of their earnings.
Who developed the discussion prompts?	More acceptance/respect for the role women play in our church, including single women	Discussion Getting to know others	More emphasis on social justice	The most successful was the last session on our youth. I had no idea marriage played such a role. (Do you hear my sarcasm?)

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To be able to give meaningful feedback to the Archdiocese to help the Catholic Church to be relevant in today's world.	Yes, curious to see how the results are used for change/improvements. I hope changes/improvements can come to be.	Lots of different people sharing their faith experiences. People of all life situations—single, married, divorced, young, old	--	--
To see where the direction of the Catholic Church is going	Most of the people who participated were in their 50's-70's! We need younger folks' input.	Open discussions	--	--
To understand what is needed to liven up the church	The feedback form was too narrow. More opportunity for input to Archdiocese.	<i>Everybody</i> had time to share.	Acknowledgement of church failures and church triumphs	Suggest that Archdiocese promote larger broad youth events-- for anyone for that matter that enjoys <i>celebration</i> -- with speakers (priests and others) along with music, mass outdoors—celebration at cathedral, etc.
I really enjoyed my experience. Meeting with members of the parish has been a blessing. I will miss these meetings and gatherings.	I would have enjoyed mixing of the small groups to hear from even more members of the community.	Prayer, listening and sharing	--	Thank you. This is truly a great opportunity to think about my faith, my parish, and the Archdiocese.
Listen Give feedback	Yes	I enjoyed the fellowship while hearing other's positions	--	Work with engaging youth
More people participating. I enjoyed and learned from our small group.	More people were missing to sign up. A disappointing number came from our church.	The input of our group.	--	Loved the ending song! Thankful to all staff work, archdiocese and parish. Thankful for Grace, Mark, and Sonia [Risen Savior's small group process managers.]

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I thought it was to be a 'listening session' where the church desired to seek input from the people...on deeper matters of the faith.	With reference to the above—no. The sessions were 'pre-canned' ... 'pre-defined' ...narrow (but important) aspects of the church...but no allowance for delving into deeper faith issues.	The three areas covered were very well prepared. The formation of the process and the materials was <i>very well done</i> .	Looking to discuss church attitudes/teachings on -marriage/divorce -sexual practices -some basic catechism topics	If the church clerical leaders really desire to know what aspects of the faith are bothering us...I hope they will ask...in a less "canned" and more "open" process.
Went in with an open mind	The format was very good	Met other people and shared thoughts in open forum; an eye opener!	A wrap-up session to include all participants; needs to be organized!	--
It was good, some left out of conversation though. Singles, mostly. Gay and lesbian couples.	Mixed couples, singles. Did not have expectations so it let me listen with an open mind.	Some really good ideas, great conversation and just pray this can make a difference and some of these ideas can come forward—lots of prayers will be said!	Homeless—Free meals at church Outreach/singles—how to include them Youth—music/NET/outreach	Sunday school back at church; I love seeing them here. A performance like Kevin [Director of Liturgy and Music] does with adults. This would bring youth together for fun and some prayer time!
I thought it would be more future oriented...liturgy open to all; ie lay ministers—both women and male of all ages. How do parishes with variety of staffs (conservative—liberal) work and deal with one another in our culture?	18-35 too broad... Why was Cozzens the focus and not married opinions and/or heaven forgive...single people? Seemed academic/head trip Needed more on how to live in the scary times—how to meet the challenges	Diverse opinions	Liturgy—married clergy...men and women Sacraments—effect on all two way street	Thank you—good to meet and discuss with folks would not have had the opportunity to meet on a different level Will summary of comments be shared with larger parish community or does it stop here?!
A way to explore ways to revitalize the church and engage young adults in the faith.	What was missing was the need to engage single people (ie., single, older adults) and widows in this process.	The opportunity to meet new parishioners and share ideas and experiences.	The role of single, older adults.	Having "Confirmation mentors", not necessarily relatives. Another way to expose young people to ways of Christian service.

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<p>Did not have any. Thought there was going to be more about healing after the priest and abuse problems.</p>	<p>Try to participate not anticipate or expect. More time to discuss.</p>	<p>The opportunity to share thoughts and ideas with fellow parishioners.</p>	<p>Even though I can't think of any at this moment, it would be naïve to think that all that matters has been covered. A very strong, deliberate and faceted review of that presented and received may pan out things not thought of in planning.</p>	<p>--</p>
<p>To share ideas for making the Catholic church more welcoming—particularly for young adults</p>	<p>Yes the small group sessions made sharing easier. My only suggestion for improvement would be more time allowed for providing feedback and suggestions other than the letters checked on the forms each week.</p>	<p>Ease in sharing on the individual level</p>	<p>--</p>	<p>I found the time spent on the sessions very worthwhile. I am glad to have participated.</p>
<p>That the church would be less rule orientated and accept each person where they are and show them God's love through contemplation and action.</p>	<p>I will need to wait and see what the Church and priest do. It is way too soon to say.</p>	<p>I found it opening to me! I need to continue to be open to all possibilities! God is at work and I need to continue to be open to ALL God's creation and time!</p>	<p>How the Church will be opening to teach God's love and how to help everyone be open as <i>many</i> writers like Fr. R. Rohr to see God in every part of our <i>now</i>, day and life.</p>	<p>--</p>
<p>I was hoping the Catholic Church would become open to the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. We need to be open to all. I feel the bishops and priest act like the pharisees in Jesus's time. More concerned with rules than love of one another.</p>	<p>We had a great group but did not discuss important issues as race, women involved in the mass, priest abuse, priest marriage, etc.</p>	<p>I feel it was a beginning but there is lots of work to be done. The church has fallen behind the times. I'm envious of the Protestant church that has large, enthusiastic crowds.</p>	<p>Why can't women be priests? We used to have laity do homilies. They did a great job. It was biblical but also they shared personal stories. They had to do their homily before mass to the priest.</p>	<p>Let's keep getting input and improve the church!</p>



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<p>I was unsure about how to enter this experience as far as what my expectations would be. I wanted to believe in the process of becoming a listening church but experience has taught me to be skeptical. My hope was to share my voice, listen to the Synod offering, and learn from other participants.</p>	<p>I felt able to share my voice, listen, and learn but not fully. I felt heard and respected by my group members but the feedback forms were limiting. I don't feel they fully captured the wisdom of the voices of the faithful.</p>	<p>I found great value in hearing from group members and learning from their stories of faith, joy, and struggle.</p>	<p>I felt the sessions were not geared towards listening to the "signs of times" but rather topics the Archdiocese is prepared to respond to. I would've liked to have addressed power dynamics/clericalism and formation for new priests, racism, gender/sexuality, women in the church.</p>	<p>It seemed like the people who put it together were all of a similar theology/faith perspective. That doesn't feel authentic to honoring the diversity among the faithful.</p>
<p>To talk about our shared faith experience and to hear from the Archdiocese.</p>	<p>I really enjoyed our group, but I was not impressed with videos from the synod group.</p>	<p>To talk about the different topics and hear other people's story.</p>	<p>Many: racism, women's role in the church...</p>	<p>I sincerely hope the church looks at comments and works to improve.</p>

Respuestas en español:

¿Cuáles fueron sus expectativas y/o esperanzas para el proceso de los grupos pequeños del sínodo?	¿Se cumplieron sus expectativas y/o esperanzas? Si no, ¿qué faltó?	¿Qué le pareció valioso sobre el proceso de los grupos pequeños del sínodo?	¿Hubo algún tema o tópico que no se cubrió en el proceso que le hubiera gustado que se abordara?	¿Algún otro comentario?
Mi expectativa era ver más participantes para que fuera más dinámica.	Sí	Podemos aprender de otra persona porque tenemos diferentes puntos de vista.	--	--
Sí, nada más que fuimos un grupo muy pequeño me hubiera gustado que fuéramos en que sea 2 grupos para que compartiera más nuestra fe y hermandad solo fuimos 4 personas.	Faltó que participáramos más como comunidad.	Nos escuchamos unos a otros.	Estuvo todo el proceso muy equipado.	No
Fue una experiencia muy bonita aprendí cosas muy valiosas	Sí	Todo lo que nos enseñaron para amor más a nuestra familia.	--	--
Nuevas experiencias	Sí mucho de lo que no conocía	Me encantó mucho	Todo me encantó	Me encantó mucho. Me voy contenta.
--	Sí	Para mí fue una bendijo y experiencia hermosa	Todo estuvo muy bien yo aprendí mucho	--
Que formen clases de oración bíblicas	Sí	El tiempo de compartir con los grupos y dar opinión sobre diferentes temas	No ninguno, todo fue interesante y aprendí más de lo que no sabía	--
--	Sí	Mucha enseñanza y fortaleció mucho más mi fe	No	Me encantaría que siguieran haciendo esta clase de enseñanza productiva en la fe.
Todo muy bien me gustó mucho por que conocí a personas que saben mucho de Dios y eso me hace sentir muy bien.	Sí que este más tiempo estas pequeñas reuniones	Si porque de esa manera no enseñaron a orar	No todo bien interesante	Solo que sigan estos grupos

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Que realmente escuchen a la comunidad y que no se confunda la obligación con obligar a las personas ir o asistir al templo o para asistir a la comunidad o para poder contemplar o cumplir los sacramentos	Sí	Que la arquidiócesis se interese en las necesidades de la comunidad hispana	No	Que los precios sean accesibles para la comunidad (misas) o sacramentos
Nuestras inquietudes dar a conocerlas	Sí	Saber de los testimonios	--	--
Crear un caminar de los feligreses con nuestros clericós en nuestra iglesia	Es un inicio pero debe ser - ¿?- para crear más y mejoramiento	La preparación muy multimedia de las enseñanzas	--	Definitivamente crear más actividades de formación para jóvenes y adultos...
Escuchar y conocer aprender a amarnos mas	Si siempre la esperanza puesta en Dios	El compartir experiencias	Todos estuvieron buenos	--
Una experiencia hermosa que siempre podemos aprender más de nuestro padre. Dios es amor	Sí con la esperanza que preparen más grupos donde podamos estar con nuestros hijos en la iglesia o escuela de seguir preparándonos es duro y difícil cuando no tenemos familia, para dejar nuestros hijos en casa.	Fantástico la manera de ensena y de escucharnos unos a los otros con respeto	Todo estuvo bien con sed de seguir aprendiendo	Por favor retiros en familia, encuentro en familia
Aprendí a compartir mis pensamientos y a conocer más de Dios la fe y experiencias muy bonitas y con movedoras que se compartieron en cada curso que asistimos fue muy hermoso	Si porque aprendí muchas cosas buenas para mi vida que puedo experimentar en mi vida.	Muy bueno	Como saber sembrar la semilla	Fue una experiencia maravillosa

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Fortalecer mi fe...	No faltó nada	La fe y la esperanza de acercarnos a Dios	No	¡Gracias por todo!
Que se diera la oportunidad de tiempo de los sacerdote y monjas de estar entre la comunidad y reconocer que todos podemos evangelizar...y trabajar juntos.	Nada faltó todo hermoso y cumple con el llamado del Señor...Ojalá nos deje más del Amor de Dios y que hagan más de estos bendecidos grupos.	Que Dios no es cultura ni raza Dios amor infinito; tener la oportunidad de tener más líderes y pastores para llevar la palabra y vivir en la fe.	La educación cristiana a los padres como podemos ayudar a los padres a enseñar nuestros hijos	La Biblia; enseñarles a los <i>niños</i> desde el catecismo como leerla (conocer a Jesús)