



The Synod at Saint Mark

What is the Synod and who is it for? Pope Francis has called the global Church to conduct an extensive connection and intentional "listening tour" on the parish level and beyond, to get direct feedback and hear from the people who make up the church communities.

The goal of the Synod is to discern how we are "living the faith" and how, we as a Church, are achieving this together. The synod is not about garnering opinions, not just a survey, but a matter of listening to the Holy Spirit.

Ultimately, it is the hope that the Lord may come more deeply in our hearts and our lives so that our existence may be transformed by it.

How Can You Be a Part of the Synod?

This is the first time in history that everyone has been directly asked to engage in an exercise of listening at the level of parishes and dioceses.

Your viewpoint is vital. All St. Mark parishioners can participate in two ways: Survey and Listening Sessions. All we ask is that you have an open heart, an open mind, and approach the process with prayer, humility and honesty.

1. Parish Survey March 13 & 20

We will send the survey in our weekly emailed newsletter and publish it in the bulletin. The Survey Monkey tool will be used to administer the survey.

2. Listening Sessions: March 19, April 4, April 5 and April 10

Listening sessions are in-person discussions that will take place in the Family Center. You may participate in one or all of the listening sessions. The format will start with a short introductory talk and then we will break into table groups of 6-8 people with a moderator and a note-taker. Each night will have a different focus question. While your responses will be recorded, your name and answers will be kept confidential.

Friday, March 29, 10 am-Noon: What are the most significant signs of the Lord in your Life?

Monday, April 4, 10 am-Noon: What are the biggest challenges or questions you face in responding to the Lord's call?

Tuesday, April 5, 6:30-8:30 pm: What steps is the Holy Spirit suggesting to you and your community to respond to the Christian Vocation?

Sunday, April 10, 2-4 pm: A blend of all three of the above questions.

Can you help? We are looking for people to help facilitate table discussions and record the answers. Please contact Paul.Laskowski@stmarknc.org or 704-948-0231, ext 121.

*We stand before You, Holy Spirit,
as we gather together in Your name.*

*With You alone to guide us,
make Yourself at home in our hearts;
Teach us the way we must go
and how we are to pursue it.*

*We are weak and sinful;
do not let us promote disorder.*

*Do not let ignorance lead us down the
wrong path nor partiality influence
our actions.*

*Let us find in You our unity
so that we may journey together to
eternal life and not stray from the way
of truth and what is right.*

*All this we ask of You,
who are at work in every place and
time, in the communion of the Father
and the Son, forever and ever.*

Amen.



Info: stmarknc.org/synod