



Parish/Group Report Submission

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Parish/School/Institution/Group: _St. Benedict's_

(please compile all responses under the ten themes. Use additional pages as needed)

1. *Companions on the Journey:*

- Go out and preach to reach others; invite others to Mass(2)
- Encourage college students to go to their school's Neuman Center, helps them stay active in the Faith(2)
- The universal nature of the church is appreciated and attractive
- Handicapped mass recommended
- How do we attract people to church? People don't know why they go to church. They pray but don't understand prayer.
- Providing people with additional support after they join the church. Maybe making joining a group in the church a requirement or homework
- On my mind for many years, since 2002, the revelations about victims in church from abuse and are hurting and do not feel included and don't feel they can participate
- Has been an effort locally to help victims - we had the Fr. Murphy scandal - but we still haven't seen all of the Alaskan victims.
- Jr. High Nights(8)
- If we want to be benefitted by the parish we need to help it.
- Don't assume everyone feels like they belong
- Maybe our parish is not as welcoming as it could be, say hello to the stranger, hospitality(2)
- Priest helps to make people welcome
- See Christ in everyone - pray for them
- Service going forward - reach out to those who left the church; help in the healing process
- Church must be true to itself; encourage others in Christ with knowledge and understanding; encourage people where they are. Serve entire spectrum of society. Charity is what is espoused by our parish

- Ethnic diversity on our parish; welcoming community; cultural masses
- Catholicism is opening; popular conception is that is exclusionary
- People need to be connected with the goodness of God, not judgement
- No such thing as an enemy if you are a Christian
- Carry ourselves with joy and treat others with respect
- Pray for others; we don't know what is behind others' objectionable behavior
- Cited Dorothy Day: "I only really love God as much as the person I love the least".
- How do we get youth involved? Lack of programs for the youth
- More outreach for altar servers.
- Have different missions which support different personality types
- More things in place to make people feel more comfortable
- Anything we can do to bring in people to the true meaning of Jesus and his love.
- My family(my kids/and spouses) came to church here for a long time but no one knew them. They had obstacles to joining ministries, jobs, kids, etc. We need to do more to make people welcome, i.e., at Archangel Attic, drop a card in their bag to invite them to join.
- When there is a fire/flood other disaster, bring that person(s) to Archangel Attic and have them take for free anything they need.
- Everyone is included to a certain degree, but this question is vague.
- Specifically everyone should be brought into heaven, and we should aim to help others get to heaven.
- With the word journey it seems to ask the question: Are there some people who feel they are not invited? To that we say yes,
- Live out mission by including everyone who wants to be Catholic
- My problem is that divorced people who want to return to the church but also want to re-marry face a long and problematic process(annulment) (2)
- Divorce is not as big a sin as others - a person who commits murder can confess to the priest and you are still a Catholic - but not with a divorce(2)

- With economics of today birth control should be re-thought about in the church.
- Way church views women and women's place in church needs to be more modern
- "I know women who turned away from the church because they felt unwelcome" No place in the leadership of church
- Headlines of church are "everyone's a sinner", constant reminder does not feel welcoming...needs to not put so much focus on sins, ie, abortion, homosexuality, but say "I love you" and always want you here. Messaging of the church needs to be better
- Enjoy the things that only Catholics do(even with all of the issues I have with the church), such as the strength and magnitude of Mary, rosary, format the same in every church
- All are included, but if people stray, we should have a way to bring them back. Church not doing enough to bring people in. Catholic TV, radio, etc
- There are people who are suffering, having problems; it's our family, meaning of community, to walk and serve the Good News. Let the work come alive in the community.
- I love to volunteer with food, church decorations because I love to see everyone happy and do things together.
- I am the one who waits for all the people and when the church is still open, enough time to come before the doors are lock. For example, the new thing that exists, like gay marriage, I write with other weak people, and we also need their holy spirit to be with God. In any case, they have a church and it's all open to anyone. It's really up to the person itself to come to an open church to pray to our God. This weakness has the people, I also receive the Holy Spirit of Jesus. We all sin, and no one is without sin. Any kind of people will be burdening them ourselves if they judge others. When we are strong enough to pray for Jesus and do good deeds that do not change our minds by doing, keep doing the work that will strengthen our faith in our church and parish. especially to Jesus.

2. Listening:

- Need to reach more understanding
- Listening to marginalized VERY important(3)
- Listening to everyone, especially minorities, the vulnerable and those feeling separated from the church
- Being there for single mothers-more support
- Message of God's love
- Separated feeling from church-I have value
- Need to be more welcoming, suggest welcoming committee(5)
- More proactive in reaching out to those going through life changes(2)
- Need to communicate more with the high school
- Struggled after my husband's death, no support left me angry. I worry about people going through life changes
- We need a structure - if death can we make a call to listen
- How do we reach out and identify who might need help. Can we put together an online directory
- Victims of abuse not being heard/listened to
- Family has always been Catholic but we need an adult understanding of faith and what religion means. Church does not do a good job of going to people in their 20's and 30's and re-introducing and letting them re-digest the faith as an adult. They need to be able to answer Why be Catholic?
- Must see dignity of everyone - same sex i.e., gay, make them feel welcome
- Faith and love; guide by the holy Spirit, help, comfort, healing
- Realize everyone is part of family and Heaven will be biggest family
- Talk with people with respect
- Concern for hurting people who are unable to return comfortably
- Have a "Healing Mass" where people have opportunity to pray/confess who are harmed by sin/abortion/marriage issues to welcome people with troubled past back to the church(2)
- Separation from others: anger is a foretaste of Hell
- We need to find a better way to bring people back to the faith and find out what is driving them away
- When my husband left me no one comforted me or talked to me, pretty shattering to have that happen here at St. Benedict's. Feel there is little here for support

- No help for the elderly, especially Alzheimer's. Why doesn't our church have support group/information night?
- How do we journey with those having gender issues?
- If you have a lifestyle that doesn't agree with church teaching, of course you would not feel included. It is important to live a chaste life and the church shouldn't have to change teaching, rather the other people need to change their ways.
- One issue unrepresented is that the homeless are not reached out to often, except for Urban Hearts. Specifically, there is very little diocesan outreach to the homeless.
- Traditional people aren't being included because of the order to not have traditional masses.
- There is exclusion to those who want to receive on the tongue. Partially related there is a pressure to receive on the tongue from the priest rather than Eucharistic ministers. One argument for receiving on the tongue is why risk getting particles of Jesus on random objects after having Him on the hands.
- Nontraditional, more charismatic people also might feel excluded by feeling there is no leeway and think that the mass is too rigid. An example is that some people are pushed away by the Latin, or other people seeing the strict rules as a hinderance to the most important part of the mass, Jesus.
- The traditional side is also being ignored though with the rich tradition not being incorporated in to the faith as it is today. There is so much wealth in tradition and knowledge that is kind of more or less ignored. The mass becomes more of a performance. There have even been times when ordinaries in Latin were banned which was weird.
- There is not enough abortion ministry in Anchorage, specifically people who are reaching out to those who are considering abortion like the sisters of life.
- The synod is an attempt to listen to everyone, but people separated from the church wouldn't show up.]
- Synod feels too democratized and ignores the hierarchy of the church. It seems to be more about how a majority of people feel. People are falling for the Martin Luther charm of doing what you want over the truth.
- The church is the teacher, and we need to provide the gospel
- The old church ladies aren't being heard. We should all be like them and listen to them - Very pious.

- Fr. Whitney, Deacon Dez(6)
- Good priests—
- Anyone talking about political leaders in a negative light(6)
- Youth and young adults because people are leaving the Church because there are not options or activities focused on them(2)
- We are doing a lot, bet we can be doing more, we do well in youth ministry and community building, but not a lot in outreach.

3. Speaking out:

- Sister giving homilies at student in parish seen as a problem
- Speaking out? Who do we speak to? Why even bother?
- Nothing happens if you say something, so why should you say something, an example: The Church was looking at papers of what people wanted in the mass like communion on tongue and sacred music. Somebody made a comment about sacred music in the church, but apparently the people reviewing the papers said that it's just an old church lady, no one cares about sacred music
- Whenever you say something that might be offensive, you might get cancelled, banished to a smaller remote parish or fired. Why would you speak out if you're going to lose your job.
- What enables people to speak? Fr. Tom is very welcoming for people to talk to him, which is very appreciated. He makes the time to speak to everyone. "Fr. Tom you're great"
- Sometimes you do not want to talk to people who aren't educated about it. They want the good, but they can't find the truth unless they see it for themselves. Education in the church is lacking. In the Church and in general. It's hard to talk to people on different levels.
- If the church is what Jesus envisioned, there would be no injustice or corruption.
- I sometimes feel guilty in our church because 2nd collection puts me in financial difficulty
- The sacrament of penance/reconciliation: does that mean the Jewish people and Protestants are all going to Hell? (2)
- Being afraid of being exiled (to remote places) or canceled(6)
- Anchorage Chancellery hinders speaking up by not answering phone calls or listening to ideas. They only do what "looks good" by giving Holy Rosary Academy the Eucharist back with sacraments, but still does not allow priests. (7)
- Filtering things through the synod because they do not feel they will be heard(6)
- Pope is making it hard for people to say Latin mass by needing special permission(2)
- Use the homily to speak to people. It is hard to speak up if we don't think we will change minds, especially with church leadership.

4. Celebration:

- Be faithful to vows and Baptismal promise
- Dominican education(or Franciscan) help to understand the why of Vatican 2 decisions, also helps a feeling of being more Catholic.(3)
- So much of Catholicism is rooted in Bible
- Get out what you put in
- Sometimes religion is done to you. How do we help our parishioners transition to having a personal relationship with God?
- Advocate for innovative prayer
- Church on tv is not the same, we're missing a lot of people(2)
- Urge faithful to form conscience, receive communion in the state of grace, bring people into actual not superficial membership of the faith
- Teach faith requirements more explicitly
- Communicating in love; practice it with practical formation/spiritual formation
- Holy Eucharist is at mass always; Mass-to receive the body and Blood of Christ
- Understanding and love of scripture is way to include everybody
- Holy hour important
- RCIA helped me to understand faith I was brought up in
- Focus on what you need to do not what others are doing
- Proclaim Catholicism as true faith
- Use Latin mass: traditional liturgy is truth and beauty
- Make more time in life for prayer and scripture; in that she has found cheerfulness which is a gift(2)
- Change the way we approach Eucharist; church only requires it once a year; need to approach with respect/we are approaching Jesus (2)
- We should be asking for forgiveness for our sins as we approach Eucharist
- We should be going to confession more than just during Lent; Lent shouldn't be only time we sacrifice; should be year long fasting/almsgiving(2)
- Some youth groups are not offering their full respect to the Eucharist; need to better instruct youth on true presence of Jesus
- In our own parish we need to better support confession(2)

- We need to educate people about their Catholicism. Society educates one way and we need to educate the faith.(6)
- Lack of Catholic schools. Less seminarians(2)
- Look at the time of day the church offers special events like missions; they should be at a good time/better times so more people can come.
- Most people say they love the faith, so why come to church?
- Youth and young adults don't go to church cause it's not fun; other churches are fun
- Not sure how to get church back to core beliefs
- "I see youth believing in God but not in us. We don't live our Christian beliefs".
- "When my son in law comes here he feels things are too rehearsed and not from the heart." Feels sermons lacking the Holy Spirit.
- We have masses in Tagalog and Samoan, why aren't there translations of those for us in English?
- We need to up our music game. We need sacred music and we just do not have it. Some of the songs in the hymnals of the church are literally heretical, and even the best of it is just meaningless. For a specific example the Ash Wednesday mass had only one good song, with some of the words feeling meaningless.(2)
- We want songs set apart for Jesus, not songs that could be played on Christian radio. There even is a song on the hymnal on Christian radio. For some It's not the lyrics but rather the rhythm and melody. The song post communion should be relaxed and leave a person in awe. Silence after communion would also be appreciated. (2)
- The opposite of ad orientum turns people from God to focus instead on the people.
- I do like the sign of peace, we are part of the body of Christ and it just feels better, but it's good to say peace be with you to everyone instead of just looking at the altar. Though some people linger on it during the Lamb of God
- We need to form altar servers to do better, tons are irreverent. Even the laity need to know how to genuflect properly.
- Church décor should make it feel that we are inside a Catholic Church, it's not enough of a testament to the beauty of mass. Reverence must live up to beauty goodness and truth of the tabernacle.

- We should not have eucharistic ministers at daily mass; it's just excessive. While there is a want to include the laity, Eucharistic ministers are not the way to do that. Ideally there should be none at any of the Masses, but especially at daily mass. It is great to help, but there are other ways to do so. Sacraments should be distributed by the priest.
- We would enjoy having an altar rail for mass or something similar; it would promote reverence for the Eucharist and could even be something simple and removable.
- There needs to be more focus on the education of the lay people. We need to promote reverent reception of communion, such as kneeling and on the tongue, but not necessarily. A lot of people purely get their catechesis through the mass, but the mass needs to be more reverent to give everyone proper catechesis. Also the Homily needs to be teaching of the church. It should be about Jesus or some virtue. Sometimes it feels as if the mass is ordered to the homily because it's so much longer relative to the Eucharist. Making communion efficient makes sense, but we shouldn't rush it.
- People shouldn't start their cars during the final blessing. Also people shouldn't talk inside the church; people often just immediately stand up and start talking within the church. This is a problem that stems from lack of reverence and education.
- Adoration helps me get through the week.
- Organize activities such as Jr. High Nights and Super Sundays to educate the younger people about Church(7)
- Masses available to people especially at times people can attend(8)
- Do not enforce masking; people attend other churches because of mandates(6)
- Need to always have Sunday Mass obligation and never let it taken away—especially during Covid(8)
- Have Ascension Thursday on a Thursday for people to attend mass during the week; do not move feast days to weekends(60)
- Offer more times of Confession and promote confession(7)
- Saying the St. Michael prayer after mass(4)
- Saying the rosary(7)
- Reading King of the Golden City by Mother Mary Loyola(2)
- Priests saying the rosary(3)
- Catechesis and reverence for the Eucharist are not talked about often enough.

- Teaching in our music, parts of liturgy. The Mass is the only way most people interact with the Church. Samoan community doing skits and instruction on Palm Sunday- prayer service.
- Ideas: Solemn youth stations; Classes/ sessions with information about Catholicism for those who are seeking answers, have questions.
- Because I grew up in the Church, I received communion and I realize I'm not receiving communion. At this time with the changes I'm trying to do for me to receive communion again. Hopefully it will set a good example for others in the (Samoan)community.
- I see a lot of our community(Samoan); they are receiving communion but I know; I'm not judging; maybe there are more people who don't know about coming clean in the Church.(2)
- Another changes I see in the Church, back in the days growing up, when the penitential song is song, everyone kneel, but not only the person with fine mat and two individuals taking fine mat. Everyone kneels. I don't know if there is any changes or its just us in America.
- Other things, like to be cleanse. I see in our community they are receiving communion. I thought only when you married in the church. Most of the people I see are not married but are receiving communion. I thought is this right; they should not receive communion in this dishonor way. I think we as a Samoan Community should let people know; because Father doesn't know. We should talk to them; they shouldn't receive communion if they have not been cleanse in the Church
- The way I see it. It's between the faithful person and God. How does the community push the faithful to Mass? How do we feel and lead ourselves our lives to the mission of the Church?
- We come to Church because of our relationship but I'm from the Congregation Christian Church. I attend lessons from the Church to gain understanding of the Church
- All churches goes to God. To consolidate when there are lessons that I can attend and learn about faith and keep my faith.

- I'm not a pope but I wonder if all true Catholics are going to share the gospel. I'm sorry, but I'm not a Catholic and I've been a Catholic for 30 years. I would like to know more about the Catholic Church. This is how we miss out on the gospel and especially the Catholic Church. I don't know why the gospel is covered. It's a bad thing why we don't have the good news, but we are forbidden to share the gospel if so only priests, pastors and clergyman are only ones to read the Gospel, how about the people?
- Create a Catholic network to get the word from house to house to keep the people grounded, at least the generations are still fighting to understand. The evangelical work of the clergy moves and directs. Here's how to put one together for use with our people, but we are confuse by the pastor and the pope, there are other people who do not listen to what the liberation sermon says. We are the good callers, let the church come together. Especially is the work of our preaching the body and blood and resurrection of Jesus.
- I said to my wife, the minute a priest perform and honor a gay marriage, "that's it for me". Are there any gay priest in the who does the Catholic ceremonies?

5. Sharing Responsibility:

- Doing good with social services
- St. Benedict's offers many opportunities to move forth w/faith. "called to make some noise"
- Expectation/have kids do volunteer work w/existing programs inside parish(3)
- Church teaches we have a reason to be here not a "free" period
- Drawn to action of St. Benedict's in terms of direction you want to go in your faith
- With all the groups here at St. Benedict's, ie., Knights, Stewardship, EM's, etc, we are doing all the things in the 10 themes all ready. It has changed now but times have changed so how do we go back? Tired of Zoom. When sponsoring an RCIA youth last year didn't seem like I could latch on because of Zoom - we're missing the personal
- Easier if you have kids to get involved than as an adult coming to the church
- Become a disciple; go out and not be afraid
- Getting people to use charity of their heart, ie, food bank; see the face of Christ serving others; a challenge to get out of comfort zone
- Enact a social ministry as Jesus would not as the world does
- Church is better than the government
- Outreach doing well
- Share our faith, reach out to seniors, Clare House, etc.
- Need for financial charity
- Prayer at Planned Parenthood
- Parishes should come together for stewardship
- Need to look at how much independence different outreach programs have
- Knights of Columbus should have a lot more conversations between themselves
- Needs to be more support of different ministries
- Why isn't Youth Legion of Mary at a time so kids who go to public school can attend?
- More publicity of good groups is necessary. There are groups in churches that people have never heard of and they're just hidden in the bulletin, the only ones who read are those who already care. The groups definitely need to reach out more.

- The diocese requires a federal background check for people 16 and older who are working with children and vulnerable adults. In Alaska, 16- and 17-year-olds are still considered minors. Requiring a federal background check for minors to work with other minors does not make sense. Safe Environment training is understandable, but on a background check for minors, the diocese cannot receive any of the information found, unless the teen has been tried and sentenced as an adult. Requiring this is impractical. It feels as if the diocese does the purely to avoid being sued at all costs.
- Social ministries and just in general we need more priests. More Dominicans, more other orders, just more priests in general.
- Every person agrees that interparish events should be promoted more. It would also promote more youth and younger people to come to more parish events in general. A great interparish event to bring back is truth pursuit.
- At another parish someone said their priest tried to get permission to say traditional right. "Unless you're able to insure it will continue after your transfer you cannot" Basically it means no because the diocese are the ones who choose the next priest.
- In terms of lay ministry groups the St. Benedicts is doing well, but on as a whole the diocese needs more work.
- Faith formation through CCD alone is not enough;; there are tons of people who just do not pay attention, and only few are actually listening. Those who do are the ones who already know it, especially at other parishes. Parents need to be the primary educators, but the parents aren't coming to the CCD for parents. Also, after Confirmation there seems to be nowhere to go. All the groups seem to only consist of older people. The curriculum taught would work a lot better as a daily thing instead of once a week.
- At youth night there are not enough new people that show up. We need to know how it's possible that Christian groups are able to have massive youth nights with 80 people every week. Protestants probably just have more high schoolers though.
- For the world youth day committee, it was bad to take Bob off the committee and ACYC being cancelled makes it harder for community.

- Before COVID, it seems that a ton of people were drawn to having food during events, and could especially be seen by the fact that after COVID there were less people without the food.
- People are too addicted to their phones and people just don't want to put away their phones. In general if you say no phones people are more hesitant to come. The lack of technology is important, however, to promoting interpersonal relationships, especially at youth events.
- St. Benedict's provides food from food bank to but we are getting more calls from outside our area; we need to promote this to get more food.
- Feature ministries once a month at Mass so people know what is going on. Not enough people attend ministry fair.

6. Dialogue in Church and Society:

- German background offers striking view of experiences. But the framework and masses all different types of churches can lead you to God. There are so many things we can do. You want your part but you can't do everything. Would like to have option of Latin masses, charismatic masses
- Church daily in Germany and partially in Latin
- Sexual abuse scandals still a problem
- Church must follow law, ie, on immigration, Catholic Relief for example
- Frustration with President/public figures not publicly supporting Catholic faith(4)
- Are we doing our job well in the call to become a saint; formation of our faith
- Seeing the end of Western civilization; media is dishonest; use of cell phones; public education disaster
- Parents too busy to pay attention
- Don't watch tv. Unless the Catholic channel
- We need to promote truth and values in our homes we need to promote values and honesty of the church.
- The church needs to promote its truth
- Catholic church under attack worldwide; need to be proactive defending the church
- Church becoming more political
- Need stronger commitment to Life
- Okay to walk with people but need to be called away from sin
- Mercy infinite but judgment is real
- No salvation outside the church
- Concern for factions inside the church and in the factionalism of the world; need to find way to bring cheerfulness not "factions" into the church and world.
- Focus on joy of the Gospel not what divides us
- Relativism in society a problem
- Public schools are teaching CRT/woke ideas and we need to counter
- NFP has been talked about less and less in the past few years, only two people in the entire diocese and haven't taught any in months.

- People don't know how to approach the topic of people who are gay. Many don't know the teaching of the fact that we're against the sin but not the sinner. We don't like what they do but we still like the person themselves. Have more open education about it to let other people know where the Church stands on the more difficult issues. People fall into the trap of just not mentioning their existence or just letting them exist. In Catholicism we can't just compromise.
- Woman's place in the church. Women priests just should never happen, but some people want it. Some think women aren't appreciated in the church despite one of the most important people being a woman (Mary). Women are here to nurture and protect, but that's looked down upon by society.(2)
- There seems to be a fear of publicly excommunication of people, even if sometimes rightly deserved. As a topic it's not well understood in general outside of Catholicism.(2)
- The sex abuse within the church is also huge, but people just sort of let it go despite the public having a negative perception. We need to rebuild our reputation. What would be the best way to rebuild? Proclaim the Gospel and live it out. We need to combat it and prevent it in the future as well especially in seminary
- Trans stuff, contraception, and LGBTQ are all bad and we should be teaching the Catholic truths about them.
- Identify those who elevated and condoned Macheric (SPELLING) and those who supported him and they should be removed from the church. The corruption within needs to be addressed.
- The church is stripping the Catholic name off of a Catholic school, but there seems to be much more important things that need to be worried about, such as Providence Hospital allowing abortion and moral evils. No one from the Archdiocese even visited HRA and thus there was never a chance since the Archbishop never visited
- We need more awareness and education about the other rites in the church other than Roman Catholicism. There are 24 or some other Catholic churches that no one really knows about, like the Roman Byzantine church. People don't even know the different Catholic Byzantine rights exist. It's understood that each has their own diocese. If we had a better understanding of the Church we can see what each right emphasizes and learn from that. Unity is not uniformity

- We don't put emphasis on holy days of obligation. There are only ever two masses, but for Sunday there are so many more masses, the same is with Ash Wednesday which isn't even a holy day of obligation. It is often just shifted over to Sunday, which isn't justified.
- There should be more 24 hour adoration and people to go. It's really good that we do have it at St. Bens.
- A bishop should never again say no mass over Easter, which happened because of COVID. There was no attempt to get sacraments out to the community. It's literally refusing God to people and telling people it's not important.
- Fr. Tom has been really good during COVID about getting the sacraments out to people though including confession, plus this was the first parishes to be able to have youth group.
- People need to read the Bible a lot more; it's literally the word of God and Protestants know the Bible way more. We need to be well versed in Bible scripture and dogma.
- The church is too slow to change -it was in the 20th century it "forgave" Galileo
- I had to have an IUD put in because of extreme pain in my uterus, not as birth control, but to stop the pain. Church needs to recognize and accept that birth control is not always for birth control but for pain or the fact that if the woman becomes pregnant she may die. Church needs to change idea of what is sin here.
- Birth control is a way to stop abortions-even for married women
- There is a minister Downtown who is involved with the community and I am so impressed by the way he acts in community and helps people. "On a local level I would love to see our priests become more vocal." We need more messaging on how our church helps, ie, refugees.
- "If you are the leaders of our church, you are also the leaders of your community." Get outside and take responsibility.
- Lack of safe, affordable child care; would love to see leaders of the church endorse universal pre-Kindergarten.
- Abortion(9)
- Ukraine(8)
- Government (6)
- Wearing proper clothes to mass(9)
- People believing women should be priests is an issue(8)

- Catholic Schools—not having Catholic teachers; the point of the religion is to be implemented into each aspect of the class (7)
- People stopped going to Church after Covid—need to go to actual mass just not online or live streamed(8)
- Public Schools—people doing drugs during school, vaping, fights, bad behavior (6)
- Teachings on tough moral issues, from pulpit and adult education.
- Catholic morality- teach the process to decide right and wrong. Evening sessions for adults. People need to grow no matter where they are in their faith journey. Topics such as gay marriage, birth control, abortion, transgenderism.
- Maybe require classes for parents of kids in Super Sunday.
- How do we show love and be clear on moral issues.
- I am strong in the depths, while the word is out, Jesus is coming down for the sins and the sick, while we are righteous and faithful in God. These are times of war and disease. The only thing the holy scripture foretells is that there will be times like this. What concerns the pope, what is the reason. Bad days have come. Even our churches are divided into words of wickedness and deceit. But the person and his faith endured. It is our strength to come and listen to the word of God, to grow in a life of faith in God, to pick up good things.
- I love to serve God, and praise God, thank God for life and strength at all times.
- Evangelism and others, I don't want to change the situation, but even if there are other changes, if we take it seriously but there is a problem, I'm all for it. Let's move forward and not back. It also brings the benefits of a change of heart to strengthen our faith in Jesus. I'm not perfect, I'm just turning to Jesus with the help of the Holy Spirit. It would also be nice if you could help the leader or refugees help bring a Samoan priest to help Samoan people in Alaska. To broaden the understanding of the Samoan people in the Catholic faith, to help provide a place to live and a car or work with the parish priest at St. Benedict.

- But I came from Samoa to bring your enlightenment to the church, to bring life -saving programs to the elders, especially the generations, as well as the churches. It takes time to make peace. Even synods who don't want to share, aid and rescue, deacons to mark the work but then start working to share the changes that are taking place in the masses.
- When the church works to share the changes that are taking place in the masses. Sacramental things, especially the sacraments, and things that are useful to the younger generation. But hey, it seems like it's a different process. It is safe to say that none of our pastors would stand strong in this area. The white supremacist is not the only one in the world.
- So let's say the other different denomination have replaced the sacraments. It was also rumored that anyone from any church are allowed to be godparents.
- Even confession is in its infancy, but it is important for a scholar to understand the sacrament that the sacrament is possible. Here it is. These are just some of the things that have changed but we don't know how many changes.
- Just like mass. There's another old pope back home, and the mass will be different until all the popes go. Then came another pope, and all the different changes will take place again., even the revelations, Let's dig in and take a look at the latest developments. To me it is clear that change is possible but we do not know the meaning and the reason but the change has taken place. The question arises as to whether it is useful or not, whether it is the improvement or the outcome of the program that can change or the essence of all things life -giving. But there is no other factor that causes change.
- There's need to more programs out there for the youth. The internet is all over the place, and I've always been interested in hearing about things you don't know. Please update this pastor, and Father (Augustine Timu) Sefo Timu is continuing the pastor's program. Of course, we don't have anything to do with the US at least every change in the church needs to be the same.

- Also the said about abortion, it was a long fight hence abortion. I think it should be the person's own choice. That's right, follow up for a week when a topic is hot and after a week it gets bored, you don't have to worry about the subject. But it's time to move on. I'm all for it. It's been a long time coming but if you want us to work together and walk together, it's easy to do our job. We, especially the pope, have all the things we need to find out.

7. Ecumenism:

- Rev. Patterson and Archbishop Hurley had a great Mass together: these would bring folks together; more ecumenical services(3)
- Discussion on converting and not be converted: careful about losing what we have
- Evangelization like the Jehovah's Witness but invite them to speak to us
- Seek similarities with other religions
- We have Jesus! With the holy spirit covering the church we're good.
- There is a lot of misunderstanding regarding the topic of ecumenism. Opinions range very widely about what it means. Some say it's heretical or that we should incorporate other faiths. Ultimately, it's not about acknowledging that other religions are of equal standing of church teaching, more that other religions have some elements of truth and that we should bring it more in line with the fullness of the truth in the church. Not everything has to become Roman Catholic or Byzantine Catholic. There needs to be more conversation about why we do things with other religions and hopefully root out and destroy error in the other ones.
- As a Catholic, always went to Catholic church but when I came to Anchorage I went to Prevo's church for Easter/Christmas programs and felt close to God at those times but never wanted to lose Catholic-ness.
- Christmas mass(4)
- Having a synod which is commonly a Protestant practice which is not Catholic(2)
- Attending other churches for masses and services(3)
- I'm from the Congregation Christian Church; there are a lot of things in Catholic I don't understand, like baptism. Congregation Christian church says baptize, but for me it should only be one baptism of a person, but when you come to Catholic, it's a must to re-baptize again.
- Also the lessons you need to attend if you want to get married. Even my children; even adult kids wanting to get married; they have to go through lessons.
- There are sacraments; it's a must to know and learn.

8. Governance, Authority and Participation:

- The Church leaders could learn by experiencing poverty themselves
- By changing hierarchy and tradition
- Enjoy the historical line back to Jesus
- Would like to see the bishop of our diocese to continue to support the local orders especially the Dominicans in their celebration of rites
- Holy days of obligation canceled, i.e., Mary Mother of God, mixed messaging(2)
- Support all Catholic schools, bring Holy Rosary back into the fold
- Church needs to speak truth and doctrine(2)
- Role of women in church; why can't women be deaconess? (2)
- Girls were allowed to be altar servers and that has not led to confusion about them becoming priests
- We as lay people are afraid to speak out against priests, etc. We can speak up. We can come together to help them understand
- Our leadership is not united. They've been given grace to be in the position they are in; the leaders should listen to the Holy Spirit to go out and preach the word instead of preaching opinions.

Discerning and Deciding:

- Church should tell us more of what the Pope is saying, his four approaches
- Why change Creed?
- Inconsistent examples from church leaders hard to teach children(2)
- Leadership is needed(2)
- What is this need to change church to the left?
- Latin Mass(3)
- Too much control from higher up in the diocese(2)
- Administration contains people who want control instead of people who are passionate
- Trend of church too secular
- The leaders of the faith should be defenders of the faith
- Leaders get arrogant as they get higher in the church
- We need to recognize there is no stopping to learning - including our bishops and priests
- Archdiocese claims to care about youth but they have failed the young; they blame it on Covid but they were stopping us from forming a community with other churches before that; it won't let individual parishes put things together: "that's an Archdiocese thing" they say, i.e. young Adult conference
- Seems like the Archdiocese has no accountability; they make rules without explanation.(2)
- Where is Archbishop - is he hiding?
- World youth Day-why no parents? What is agenda?
- There should be transparency about what happened to certain priests and people discerning that were moved away without knowing.
- When the archdiocese makes a big deal of something they do not further explain other things. This is a problem since there are huge charges without much explanation.(2)
- Why some seminarians seem to just stop and maybe there should be more known to the people.
- The people leading the synods are not allowed to talk to each other about what they've heard in the synod. That makes it harder because there's no accountability to what has been said.

- How does a church make decisions - sometimes it feels that the church is too pressured by the people, like news of the Pope saying that he's fine with gay people, and that people are changing the narrative.

10. Forming Ourselves in Synodality:

- Foundation of our faith needs to be strong
- Be good examples and be knowledgeable about our faith
- Socialist countries struggle with involvement. It's because the high government tax and services they pay they expect the government to take care of the problem.
- Are my comments really going to be heard?(2)
- Church is not set up as a democracy so we may not be heard
- Synod should be more inclusive by design process
- Mission of the church is salvation of souls
- Problem with language(other than English)
- Best way is to come to Mass to get the truth
- Need to explain more clearly why the church teaches what it does: Jesus is the way, the truth and the life
- People have been assigning tribes instead of coming together as community; how do we get everyone to work together and to reach out to everyone in community(2)
- Synod has never happened in history. All teachings came from Jesus to disciples to Pope and then then he gives "orders", encyclicals.
- Church is not democratic, does not come from bottom up; this is a leftist approach.
- Synods are good
- We need education and spirituality
- Doing apologetics(4)
- Inviting people to St. Therese's Camp(9)
- Praying for one another(9)
- Homeschool has helped me with learning the Baltimore Catechism(3)
- Legion of Mary(5)
- Going on retreat
- Talking to priests and visiting religious
- By not ignoring bishops who are giving ideas towards solid teaching such as morality
- Churches should have good art; stain glass windows, stations of the cross (2)
- Not educated(7)

- They are scared to make the move and commit to the mission(2)
- People have been trying to become priests in our diocese but the bishop is refusing them because they are not "his kind" and so the only young priest we have is Fr. Whitney who is older. (5)
- Other people make them feel as though they should not be practicing and judge Christians(2)