

St. Elizabeth of Hungary Church – Synod Questionnaire

The ambassadors of St. Elizabeth Parish held a community meeting on December 5th. While it was well attended, we feel more input is needed from all of our parishioners. Below is a simple survey as found on the Diocese of Allentown website; these same questions were asked of those individuals we met in person. Knowing that all may not feel comfortable meeting in person, we opted to put out this questionnaire in the hopes we'll get more responses. Please answer the following questions to the best of your ability; there is no need to put your name on it. You may put it in the collection basket or mail to the Parish Office – St. Elizabeth Church – 618 Fullerton Avenue – Whitehall, PA 18052. Please mark your envelope "Synod". All answers/comments will be kept confidential.

Thank you for taking the time to complete this survey. **Please return it to the parish by February 1, 2022.** You may also fill it out on-line at www.allentowndiocese.org/synod. If you have any questions or need more information, please ask one of our ambassadors.

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Individual Synod Reflections

Reflections on Participation in Life of the Church

Synodality is at the core of the mission of the Church in which all members are called to participate. Walking together is only possible if it is based on communal listening to the Word and the celebration of the Eucharist.

1. Describe ways that you learned about being Catholic.

- I was raised Catholic from birth. I chose to become Catholic. (RCIA/Convert)

2. How would you describe your relationship with the Catholic Church today? Has it changed over time? How? Would you call it fulfilling? Why or why not?

- Good, Steady, Consistent Growing; Increasing in Fulfillment over Time
 Losing Faith; Decreasing in Fulfillment over Time No relationship with the Church/Non-existent
Other/Additional Comments

3. Does your parish offer a spirit of welcome and inclusion to all in the community? Why or why not?

- Parish is welcoming and inclusive. Parish is welcoming, but not inclusive.
 Parish is neither welcoming nor inclusive. I am not currently connected to a parish.

Other/Additional Comments

4. Do prayer, Mass, the Sacraments, and other Church celebrations inspire and guide your life with the Church? Why or why not?

- Always Usually Sometimes Never

Other/Additional Comments

5. Does your participation in your parish help to inspire important decisions in our life?

Always Usually Sometimes Never

I am not currently connected to a parish.

Other/Additional Comments

6. What joy does the Church bring you now or in the past?

7. What do you think is the mission of the Church? What areas of mission is the Church fulfilling? What areas need more attention? What areas are being neglected?

8. When you reflect on your parish community, do you find diversity in dialogue that is representative of the wider, local community? Why or why not?

Yes, my parish is very diverse and includes people of all ages, genders, cultures, and backgrounds.

No, my parish is not very diverse and doesn't seem to include people of all ages, genders, cultures, or backgrounds.

Not Sure

I am not currently connected to a parish.

Additional Comments

9. How well do you believe that the Catholic Church listens to the whole People of God?

Very well Well Average Needs Improvement Poor/Not at All

Additional Comments

10. What issues in the Church and community do you believe should be highlighted more often?

11. What dialogue and collaboration does the Church have with believers of other religions and with those without religious affiliation?

12. Do you feel there is space in your parish for the voice of all people, including those both active and inactive in their faith?

Yes No Not Sure

Additional Comments

13. Are you aware of tools and procedures that the Church uses to promote transparency and accountability?

Yes No Not Sure

Additional Comments

14. How would you describe your relationship with God? Would you call it fulfilling? Why or why not?

- I have a very personal and deep relationship with God. It is very fulfilling.
- I struggle with a consistent relationship with God. It can be fulfilling, but sometimes is difficult.
- I would like to have a better relationship with God and find the time and commitment to make it fulfilling.
- I do not have a relationship with God.
- Not Sure
- Additional Comments

15. How do you think people can grow in their faith? What resources (books, clergy, retreats, services, etc.) are helpful to you?

16. Where do you hear the voice of the Holy Spirit? What are we being asked to do?

17. How can a church community help form people to be more capable of walking together, listening to one another, fulfilling the mission, etc.?

18. How do you think the Holy Spirit is inviting the Church community – both locally and universally – to grow together?

19. Is there any other feedback that you would like to provide?

*To ensure we reach a broad diversity of Catholics in the Diocese of Allentown, we ask that you consider completion of the **optional** demographic information below. Thank you!*

20. Are you a baptized Catholic?

- Yes
- No

21. Age

- High School Student
- Young Adult (Ages 18-35)
- Adult (36-55)
- Adult (56+)

22. Ethnic Background

- Caucasian/Non-Hispanic
- Hispanic
- Native American
- Asian
- African American
- Filipino
- Vietnamese
- Other (please specify)

23. What is your typical Mass attendance?

- Daily Mass
 - More than Once a Week
 - Once a Week (Saturday Vigil or Sunday)
 - Holidays Only (e.g. Easter, Christmas, etc.)
 - I attend Mass a few times per year.
 - I do not attend Mass.
- Other (please specify)

24. Do you belong to a Parish in the Diocese of Allentown? If yes, which one?

Thank you for taking the time to participate in the Synod by providing your feedback and reflections! All information will be summarized and shared with the Diocesan Synod Working Group that will prepare a document for the United States Conference of Bishops (USCCB).