

BOX A Summarize the *highlights and common themes* regarding "**Speaking and Listening**"

- The Church should **listen to the voices that aren't usually heard** by leadership and pay attention to the stories of those who feel excluded. This includes inviting more diverse speakers to Church events and conferences, such as Youth Day.
- Many Catholics feel that they are owed an **apology** by the Church for the sex scandals or for personal experiences with leadership. Leadership needs to address these hurt people and offer resources for lay people to talk to victims and non-Catholics about Church scandals.

BOX B Summarize any points of view that *varied* from the majority of comments on "**Speaking and Listening**"

- Some people have a difficult time confronting heavy topics because of what others might think.

BOX C Summarize the highlights and common themes regarding "**Celebrating**"

- There was a real **hunger for in-person community and worship** during the pandemic. "Mass wasn't the same when you couldn't be with others."
- "Political and cultural divisions that run through the Los Angeles Archdiocese and the national Catholic Church" make it more difficult to celebrate together as Catholics. **U.S. politics exacerbate differences in the body of Christ.**

BOX D Summarize any points of view that *varied* from the majority of comments on "**Celebrating**"

- "We need to get back to a community of Eucharistic adoration."
- "Homilies are never memorable." One parishioner says he goes to Mass for the Eucharist, not the homilies.

BOX E Summarize the highlights and common themes regarding "**Going on Mission**"

- The national Church and the Archdiocese should prioritize **youth involvement and service**. "As young people are our Church's future, it is a missed opportunity." There are not nearly enough resources to serve young adults (from pre-teens to mid-20s). Many teens are being confirmed because their parents are Catholic, and many will fall away from the Church after Confirmation. There should be more outreach to create young adult groups in every parish, and priests should be trained in how to preach specifically to young people.
- At the local and national level, there should be more focus on **social justice** and Pope Francis's teachings of serving the marginalized, and welcoming everyone into the fold.
 - **Environmental activism** is particularly important to younger people, and parishioners would like to see Pope Francis's encyclical *Laudato Si'* implemented in the Church.
 - The Church should openly **accept everyone where they are**: divorced, remarried or LGBTQ+. We should be more proactive in reaching out to the LBGQT+ community because "gay people are equally loved as children of God."
 - It's important to cultivate communities of **service**, starting with the youngest in our communities. Many people find God by serving others.

BOX F Summarize any points of view that *varied* from the majority of comments on "**Going on Mission**"

- There is no "right way to worship." There should still be an opportunity for **Latin Masses** in the Diocese.
- There is a lack of information in the Diocese as to how to get more involved with our **time and talent, not just treasure**.

BOX G Summarize the highlights and common themes regarding "**Dialoguing**"

- The Church needs to be careful **not to tangle politics with religion**. USCCB must not align with one political ideology. There are many concerns about the Church's liberal-conservative divide, and many want a separation between conservative culture and Catholic doctrine. "We have to find commonality to pull us together."
 - Most recently, the Church's teachings on COVID-19 rubbed people the wrong way and created confusion. Some parishes required masks and others didn't, and Pope Francis's teaching to get vaccinated wasn't promoted at the Diocesan level.
- The Archdiocese and its parishes should create **dialoguing opportunities between other local Catholic parishes and other faith traditions**. This would allow collaboration and form connections with people who have different perspectives within and outside our own faith.

BOX H Summarize any points of view that *varied* from the majority of comments on "Dialoguing"

N/A

BOX I Summarize the highlights and common themes regarding "**Discerning and Deciding**"

- The greater Archdiocese has **felt unwelcoming** and has been **overriding the people's voice** on mission and service. "All Are Welcome" is a great slogan and should be adopted by more Catholics. It doesn't seem that the wider Church is trying to be of service to its people.
- There are aspects of **Church teachings** that we **struggle** with. For example, the Church's teaching on birth control and abortion. It's as if the Church wants to control a female's body.
 - Church leadership shows passion against abortion. There's a call for leadership to have that **same passion for the marginalized** and make it a priority straight from USCCB.
- The Church should offer teachings on **modern issues** that reflect how our society and life experiences are changing over time. For instance, we need guidance on relevant issues like social media, gender equality, environmental activism, and LGBTQ+ inclusion. What does it mean for us as Catholics?

BOX J Summarize any points of view that *varied* from the majority of comments on "**Discerning and Deciding**"

- "Shut up and listen to the Holy Spirit! Stop speaking and listen!!!"
- "If the Holy Spirit is talking to me, **I am deaf**. I'm waiting for the Spirit to help me push the button."

BOX K Summarize the highlights and common themes regarding "**Growing in Synodality**"

- The synod is a great process that St. Monica should continue—even on our own—in the coming years to **build synodality within our parish** communities.
- **Women in leadership** are needed. Leadership lacks respect for women who often experience being talked down to in Church settings. The worldwide Church needs female participation to be included on every level.
- The greater Church needs to grow in trust and respect for **lay people**, giving them more say on a consistent basis. We should open up preaching to a larger group: not only the ordained, but also lay men and women.

BOX L Summarize any points of view that *varied* from the majority of comments on "**Growing in Synodality**"

- "It's nice that Rome wants our feedback, but **the Vatican still feels so distant.**" How can we get a continuous feedback loop?
- The Church has relied on the parish model for too long. We go there to pray, but we also go for **community**. We should try to **recapture the spirit of Vatican II**: light, energy, and hope.
- The future of the Church depends on threading the needle between tradition and innovation—adjusting to the modern world and staying true to values. People want firm truth and guidance. A **Church that changes with the times because it's worried about losing members is not an authentic Church.**

BOX M **Additional feedback** that could not be categorized and are important to move forward through the Synod process

- People feel more connected to their local parish than to a national or global Church. We are a divided Church—a **Church in despair** nationally and globally.
- It's difficult to see the amount of money the Church pays out in lawsuits instead of on strengthening the Body of Christ.
- Los Angeles should start an Archdiocese-wide **resource guide** for every department.