**DIOCESE OF SCRANTON - SYNOD ON SYNODALITY**

*The Diocese of Scranton looks forward to listening to your voice as we journey forward in this Synod process. It is our hope that you will prayerfully consider the prompts provided in order to participate and offer feedback about your experience as a member of the Diocese of Scranton via the online survey, on the available hotline, or during a parish gathered listening session:*

**Online Surveys:** English--<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Y3FRDX6>

Spanish--<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NRB7GJY>

**Phone line:** 570-591-5024 (English or Spanish)

***Synodal Prompts:***

For each, please respond with: “***Strongly Agree; Agree; Strongly Disagree; No Opinion***”

*In the church and in society, we are called to walk together side by side on the journey of life.*

1. **The Catholic Church in the Diocese of Scranton is inclusive, meaning every person has the ability to participate as equals**
* We invite you to provide any thoughts on groups or individuals who you feel the Catholic Church may be leaving on the margins

*Listening is one of the most powerful and deeply human experiences we can have. The act of listening respects and validates the voice that is being heard.*

1. **The Catholic Church in the Diocese of Scranton listens to all people**
* We invite you to provide any additional thoughts on those that the Catholic Church does/does not listen to.

*Catholics in the Diocese of Scranton are encouraged to speak up, be brave and boldly trust we are loved by God.*

1. **Catholics in the Diocese of Scranton are provided with the opportunity to speak candidly with their parish priest and our bishop**
* We invite you to provide any additional thoughts on what enables or hinders people from speaking up about their hopes and concerns.

*One of the foundations of the Catholic Faith is the belief that God is alive in each and every human person. For Christians, we are baptized and anointed with the Holy Spirit and are nourished by Christ in the Eucharist.*

1. **The celebration of the mass inspires me toward a more joyful and holier life**
* We invite you to provide any additional thoughts on how prayer and/or masses does or does not inspire you.

*Every Catholic has a responsibility to participate actively in the mission of the Catholic Church, sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ.*

1. **The Catholic Church in the Diocese of Scranton is succeeding in the following areas of its mission**

- Leading People to a Deeper Relationship with God

- Educating People of All Ages in the Faith

- Helping the Poor, Lonely and Vulnerable

- Welcoming Immigrants, Refugees, and Other Newcomers

- Being Compassionate to those in Prison

- Ensuring Racial Equality

- Promoting Pro-Life Issues

- Protecting Human Rights

- Caring for the Environment

- Supporting Families

* We invite you to provide any additional thoughts on where the mission of the Church is in need of greater focus.

*From Pope Saint Paul VI to Pope Francis, successive popes have actively called the People of God to be a Church in dialogue. Through dialogue, all of the Christian faithful shape the way the Church achieves her mission.*

1. **Catholics in the Diocese of Scranton are provided with the opportunity to discuss, debate, and dialogue about the future direction of the Church**
* We invite you to provide any additional thoughts on the places and opportunities that our church does or does not offer for constructive dialogue.

*Christ calls all His disciples, united by Baptism, to work side-by-side with diverse groups and other faith communities.*

1. **It is a priority of the Catholic Church in the Diocese of Scranton to work with other faith communities in promoting the well-being of all**
* We invite you to provide any additional thoughts on the way the Catholic Church could interact with other Christian denominations and/or individuals with no faith tradition.

*Through Baptism and Confirmation, the mission of the Catholic Church belongs to all the Christian faithful. Everyone is called to play an active role.*

1. **All Catholics, including young people, lay men and lay women, are challenged to use their gifts and talents in the life of the Church**
* We invite you to provide any additional thoughts on how people are/are not challenged to participate in the future of the church.

*The Christian faith is accessible to everyone. Because the mission of the Catholic Church belongs to the Church's members, every voice has a right to be heard.*

1. **In making important decisions, the Catholic Church in the Diocese of Scranton is transparent and accountable in its decision-making processes**
* We invite you to provide any additional thoughts on the decision-making process that the church uses and how it can be improved.

*The Church's Tradition, received from the Apostles, carries the Christian faith through history. A synod is meant to identify the needs, challenges and opportunities of the present moment.*

**10) While respecting Tradition, the Catholic Church in the Diocese of Scranton is responsive to the needs, challenges and opportunities at the present moment.**

* We invite you to provide any additional thoughts on how the church listens and engages in dialogue.

As we bring our hopes and dreams for our Church into the future, we join our hearts in prayer:

**Prayer for the Synod:**

*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 Son, forever and ever. Amen.*

For more information or if you have questions about the Synod,

please contact the Diocese of Scranton Synod Team at 570-591-5024 or at synod@dioceseofscranton.org.