

Summary of the Synod Delegate's Suggestions Made During the Online Meetings of Spring 2020

This document is a summary of the online discussions that took place with the representatives of the synodal process in the spring of 2020. This is not an exhaustive list, but rather highlights of the discussions to help guide the actions and reflections in the Church.

WORTHY INITIATIVES

1. Paul-André's online videos (very popular).
2. Celebrations of the Word via Zoom at Notre Dame de l'Eau Vive (valued by many people from all over the diocese).
3. Various televised masses. They allowed us to stay in touch with our parish even if only virtually.
4. During the confinement, parishioners have been deepening their spiritual life.
5. Some groups, such as the Cursillos, turn to video conferencing to continue their journey.
6. Many people were involved in making calls to isolated people.
7. Some parishioners distributed *Living with Christ* to isolated people.
8. A new parish Facebook page in Chénéville. Several parishes continue to feed their FB pages.
9. Notre Dame de l'Eau Vive parish created online "community times" An example: they shared a recipe that everyone prepares at home and then virtually "share" a meal.
10. At Lac Sainte-Marie, there is a committee that shops for people who cannot go out and helps with cooking.
11. In some cases, parishes have gotten to know each other better, for example, through the exchange of parish bulletins (but it should be said that in some places collaboration between parishes rather decreased or ceased all together).
12. Many parishioners are involved beyond their parishes community to help people in need.



SUGGESTIONS

1. Communications (this suggestion came up very often)

- a. Improving communication
 - diocese towards parishes
 - in between zones
 - in between parishes
 - parishes towards parishioners
 - parishioners towards their parish priest (so as to support those who feel isolated and lonely)
- b. Better communicate the bishop's position regarding the affairs of the Church in the time of pandemic (opening of parishes, access to the sacraments, etc.).
- c. Communications should be aimed not only at priests and pastoral councils, but also at pastoral associates and all parishioners.
- d. Parishes should organize themselves to have the contact information of all parishioners so that they can communicate with them and find people in need or in solitude.
- e. One suggestion is that the zones have a Facebook group in which parishioners can communicate what they are doing and communicate the needs of the community.
- f. Improved communication would allow...
 - to publicize the initiatives of the diocese, parishes and parishioners in general.
 - collaboration and avoiding duplication of initiatives.
 - to support those who are excessively isolated
 - to raise awareness of volunteering opportunities
 - to let people know where to find resources for children and families.
- g. The diocesan centre could serve as a networking centre.
- h. A system of communication between parishes is needed to increase collaboration between them.
- i. Services to those who are in need will be greatly improved with better communications. It is difficult to do something if we don't know what people need.



2. Collaboration

- j. Participants identified the need to work with other parishes in the area to avoid duplication, and to pool our talents according to our strengths.
- k. In one area, delegates expressed the desire to work together to set up a joint Facebook page.

3. Services

- l. There are several groups that have difficulty finding locations to meet in this time of pandemic (Narcotics Anonymous, Itinerance Zero, Dépanneur Sylvestre). The Church should ensure a presence towards these groups, even if it is only a virtual one.
- m. Think about how to better reach those who do not have or do not use modern means of communication (Internet and video conferencing).
- n. A spiritual and human support hotline could be set up in the diocese.
- o. The televised Sunday Masses in the diocese could be celebrated in turn in the parishes and schedules would be inserted in a calendar communicated to all parishioners. This would increase unity in the diocese. Such a calendar could also make it possible to publicize the celebrations of the Word and the online comments of the Gospel in our diocese.
- p. Find virtual ways for sacramental preparations (including preparing couples for their wedding)
- q. Learn how to engage in evangelism even through our phone calls.
- r. Use this time of confinement to feed a broader reflection among believers (beyond the borders of the diocese).
- s. As we wait to participate in Mass like before, it would be great to create videos that help us better understand the prayers of the Mass.
- t. If possible, slowly permit certain forms of liturgical life such as times of biblical worship or sharing with appropriate rules of distancing.

The diocesan team