

Strategies For Listening Broadly

Pope Francis has invited the Church into a period of listening to the Holy Spirit. This listening is to occur broadly. We are to gather within our parish communities to listen to each other and then we are to listen to those outside the Church. We are listening to understand who we are, who is being included and who is being excluded. We are listening to hear who we are called to become during this next leg of our journey as the People of God.

Some Suggestions for Listening to Those Outside the Parish:

- Prepare a list of those not attending church.
 - Visit them with no agenda and no expectations. Simply tell them about the Synod and invite them to tell their stories.
 - Phone them and ask if they would like to be part of the Synod. Invite them to join an on-line forum, complete an on-line survey, send them a paper-based survey or simply share their stories with you over the phone.
 - Mail the paper-based survey to each family on your list
- Provide paper-based surveys to Senior Care Homes in your area and pick them up on a pre-determined date.
- Send an invitation or call to invite those from other Christian faith communities to attend a parish group gathering or to attend the diocese on-line forum which will be held on Wednesday, January 26th at 7:30 p.m. sharing about Christian Unity. Register for the on-line forum at <https://www.padiocese.ca/synod2023>
- Put up the posters (picking the right one for the location) with QR codes in a variety of public places – schools, bank offices, grocery stores, restaurants, medical centers, rink, coffee shops, etc.
- Brainstorm regarding which groups you are not reaching with your chosen strategies and find other ways to reach them.

