

## **BIBLES AND BREWS LISTENING SESSION Eckert's Cider Shed 7/11/25**

**DISCOVERY** - What excites you and motivates you? What is going well?

- Choir at St. Clare
- Access to the sacraments – adoration & confession
- Incorporating parish life with the rest of my week
- Single mom's ministry
- Young Adult events
- The "small town" close knit feel of our parishes
- Small schools where the kids know each other
- A callback to tradition, both in the Mass and in the young Catholics in the diocese
- The organizations are welcoming young people
- It is exciting when everyone is contributing
- Growth in local parishes through OCIA/Adult Faith Formation
- Young families participating in Mass
- Eucharistic revival
- Jubilee celebrations in local parishes
- Living authentically Catholic without fear of judgement
- Trust – kids wandering around, people holding each other's baby
- Space for Young Adults – something between youth ministry & families with kids
- Fellowship – deep Catholic friendships grounded in a common belief system

**DREAM** - What is possible? What big ideas do you have? What opportunities can we build on?

- Young Adult ministry keeps getting bigger
- Not just Masses – What else?
- Growing out of mission status
- Enrollment at Catholic Schools – will they still be open for our kids?
- Pay teachers well
- Space for women, especially younger lay women
- Things at convenient times for those people who work
- Vocation boom
- Attracting non-practicing Catholics to return to the faith
- Culture of life – womb to tomb
- Greater community support throughout life and at all stages
- Life is greater being Catholic, how can we share that without being pushy?
- Preservation of historical churches
- Network of Catholic families
- A resource where you can find a Mass that fits your schedule

- Expansion of Catholic community
- More young people staying active in their faith
- More access to Catholic schools
- To have a revival to bring people back into the Church
- Revitalization of Eucharistic devotion across all groups
- Better catechesis in Catholic education
- Earlier daily Masses
- More opportunities for adult catechesis
- More traditional things, parts of Mass in Latin or certain prayers

### **GROWTH – What are we willing to change and grow in?**

- Resources available
- Diverse Mass times, not every parish at 10:30 a.m., at least a few parishes with noon or 5:00 p.m. Sunday Mass
- Making space for people who are not doing things 100% by the book – LGBTQ, divorced, living together before marriage, single parent, etc.
- Young Adult events locally
- Ecumenical events
- Sharing the importance of rituals
- Opening our doors to those in other faiths
- Quilting groups for young women
- Relationships between young people and the older generation
- Not being intimidated by your faith and more eagerly participating
- For vocations to become priority
- Not making the sacraments so difficult
- More convalidations of marriages
- Lead with love (show people they belong)
- Be welcoming and not judgmental of others
- Stop livestreaming Mass – getting people back after Covid
- Consolidate resources (some think even if closing Churches)
- Make Holy Days celebratory with parties
- Speaking to those whom you do not know (especially at events/following Mass)
- Making Mass more of a priority (precious opportunity) vs. obligation
- Changing minds and hearts, we get to be present and receive Jesus
- Importance in burying our dead/funeral Masses
- Try to avoid distractions of daily life
- Have higher standards of yourself
- Foster genuine relationships with other people to direct their hearts to Christ