A WAY TOGETHER



Hello,

Welcome to the St. Mary Catholic Community Synod! Synod means "a way together". Our hope and prayer is that we, as a St. Mary community, find our "way together" as we bravely dare to be different in our approach to living out our faith.

We are beyond excited to have you participate in the Synod. Positive and spirited change has been coming for a while as we have worked to define our mission and vision. This Synod is a continuation of that work and at the same time a call to all members of our parish family to be part of this change.

This is not intended to be a retreat or even a meeting, it is intended to be a conversation with our family members to better understand our mission and vision, to learn and to listen, to share and to receive. We need each other, but most of all we need Jesus in our hearts and minds to truly be our best.

We hope you can find time to prepare for the Synod by reading the enclosed materials:

- Schedule for the day
- Mission & Vision Statement
- Scripture and questions for your prayer, contemplation, and preparation.
 These are focused in each area of the vision and will serve as the spark of our small group conversations
- Historical document that briefly outlines how we arrived here

We truly want to enter this Synod in a spirit of openness, transparency, and hospitality. To prepare your heart and mind, please consider reading this interview with Pope Francis: <u>A Big Heart Open to God.</u>

You are special in your own unique way and so loved in the eyes and heart of God. Thank you for sharing your gifts with us on this special day. May the Holy Spirit be ever present in your life and in our beautiful family at St Mary.

Blessings,

Beth Power & Cindy Boyer