



Listening Session: Facilitator Guide

“What opportunities and challenges exist for us?”

Estimated Time: ~90 minutes

Please be sure to make space for everyone to share their thoughts, while also keeping an eye on the time. Start with very brief introductions, pose the first question, and then invite people to a few moments of silence before sharing begins.

Round One

Round One - 20 minutes

Each person shares once, with equal time for each participant.

- **What challenges do you see that exist in the wider community? An example could be having a large homeless or undocumented immigrant population with specific needs.**

Round One Summing Up - 3-5 minute

Each person shares once - this could be one word or one sentence.

- **What did I hear? What is one main theme that is staying with me from listening to what people shared?**

Short Break - 5 minutes

Read the next prompt and allow a short break to reflect and stretch.

Round Two

Round Two - 20 minutes

Each person shares once, with equal time for each participant.

- **What challenges do you see that exist in the parish? An example could be having a large number of families with teenagers but not being able to hire a youth ministry lead.**

Round Two Summing Up - 3-5 minutes

Each person shares once - this could be one word or one sentence.

- **What did I hear? What is one main theme that is staying with me from listening to what people shared?**

Pause for Prayer - 3 minutes

Read the next prompt and ask the group to briefly pray over it.

Round Three

Round Three - 20 minutes

Each person shares once, with equal time for each participant.

- **What opportunities do you see (in our parish and in the wider community) to more effectively serve and accompany others?**

Round Three Summing Up - 3-5 minutes

Each person shares once - this could be one word or one sentence.

- **Having heard information from the community demographics report, what opportunities do you see (in our parish and in the wider community) to more effectively serve and accompany others? Is there anybody that we can do a better job of reaching?**

Free Conversation in Small Groups (remaining time - at least 10 minutes)

Facilitator opens up the conversation to invite any feedback people would like to share, flowing out of the conversation.