PARTNERS IN THE GOSPEL

# Community Listening Session: What should we be called?

## Document E3B: Facilitator/Planner Guide

### Complete Event Guide (for event hosts)

**Opening prayer** – 10 minutes
Begin with time for prayer and reflection, inviting the Holy Spirit to be part of the process.

**Process overview** – 5 minutes
The parish leader provides an overview of the listening process, explaining the rounds and how feedback will be recorded. Once this is outlined, please send people to small groups, ensuring each group has a facilitator and a note taker. The facilitator will guide the synodal listening process throughout the three rounds of listening. In the first round, each person will take an equal turn sharing without interruption. This is followed by silence as each person pays attention to how the Holy Spirit is moving in them, in the people speaking and in the group. Each person is then invited to briefly share what stood out from the first round. This pattern is repeated with a second and third round of listening.

**Questions** – 5 minutes
The parish leader then provides an overview of the question along with the proposed names and why they were selected.

**Small group listening and discussion** – ~30 minutes (for entire process)
Please be sure everyone shares their thoughts, while also keeping an eye on the time. Start with brief introductions, pose the question and then invite people to a few moments of silence before sharing begins.

> **Sharing** (20 minutes)
> Each person shares once, with equal time for each participant.
> *Based on my experience, what proposed new parish names resonate with me? How do these names reflect the discussions we had up to today?*
>
> **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?*
>
> **Free conversation in small groups** (5-10 minutes): Facilitator opens the conversation to invite any feedback people would like to share, flowing out of the listening session. This conversation may include proposals of write-in names.

**Concluding Prayer** – 10 minutes
The facilitator invites everyone in the small groups back together as a large group. Conclude with prayer and thank people for their participation. Ensure notetakers provide the PFAC with their physical or digital notes before leaving.