

## Vision Committee Oral Report to Parish #2

Jan. 28-29, 2023

Good morning/evening

I am (your name) from the St Joseph Vision Committee. My fellow committee members and I would like to provide you with an update on the topics we've been discussing.

We plan to unveil these initiatives as a part of Lent this year. As you might know, Lent begins with Ash Wednesday which is on Feb. 22 this year. Hearing about these four initiatives now will give you time to better understand them.

First, we have designed a parish census which will become available both electronically and on paper at the start of Lent. The purpose of this census is twofold: first, it will allow us to update the existing parish database, but secondly, and more importantly, it will allow us to serve you better.

Secondly, during Lent, we will be providing two opportunities for Faith Development. The first will reach everyone: it will be a brief set of instructions about the Mass, called Liturgical Moments, explaining the structure of the Mass. These Liturgical Moments will be part of the Mass itself. The second initiative will be small group Faith Sharing communities centered on this publication, (hold up the book) **Open Our Hearts**. There will be an informational meeting to explain what Faith sharing communities are on Sunday, Feb. 5 at 12:30, after the 11:30 Mass. We hope you will join us then to find out if joining a faith sharing community during Lent would interest you.

We feel that these two programs, Liturgical Moments and Open Our Hearts, could be wonderful spiritual aids that will enhance our Lenten journey here at St. Joe's.

The fourth initiative will be to create a Young People or Youth Synod where our aim is to channel the discussion created by the original parish Synod to the youth of our parish: we will host in-person conversations with three different age groups:

- Seventh and Eighth Graders,
- High School students
- and young adults.

We acknowledge and appreciate the participation of the youth in our church and feel that their voices and opinions should be heard.

So, please feel free to take a moment after mass today to approach a Committee Member if you have any thoughts or questions.

Thank you.