

**DIOCESE OF CROOKSTON  
SYNOD 2010**

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**Topic I: The Church, God's Family – Meeting Christ - Living Catholic Faith Today.**

Under this topic, we may look at numerous things. What it is to be a believer, a Catholic Christian in our world today? How are we – young and old – to continue to grow in our understanding of our faith? Meeting Christ – our call to holiness: the Bible, the Sacraments, Community. Living Christ – the Church's moral teaching, our Creed our Code. Catechesis. Ongoing Faith formation. Catholic Schools.

Theological context:

1. Acts of the Apostles
2. Dei verbum
3. Catechesi Tradendae

**Topic II: The Domestic Church – Meeting Christ - Living Marriage and Family Life Today.**

We will look at God's wonderful gift of marriage and how we might help people to understand and live this wonderful vocation today. How might we strengthen marriage, better help prepare couples for marriage and support couples as they live marriage? How might we help couples continue to encounter Christ in their marriage and meet the challenges they face in marriage? We will look at the gift of family, family life, and the role families are challenged to live in our world today; Catholic schools; family faith formation and education; fostering discernment for answering the vocation call to marriage.

Theological context:

1. Ephesians
2. Gaudium et spes
3. Familiaris Consortio
4. Marriage: Love and Life in the Divine Plan  
A Pastoral Letter of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops

**Topic III: Meeting Christ – Praising Christ Together - The Church At Prayer.** A good look at our liturgical heritage and practice. Full and active participation. We meet Christ in the sacraments and he sustains us in our Catholic Christian life through the sacraments. What are the sacraments? What is our understanding of the sacraments? How can we best teach about the sacraments? Good liturgy fosters faith; poor liturgy may hinder faith – how can we make our liturgical celebrations rich and fulfilling? Why do people stay away from the sacraments and how can we help people use and appreciate the sacraments better? How can we help enrich family life through prayer?

Theological Context

1. 1 Corinthians 11:23-34
2. Sacrosanctum concilium
3. CCC 1066-1209

**Topic IV: Meeting Christ – Living Christ Together: The Parish.** We will look at life in our parishes. What should a good parish look like this day in age? What is the purpose of a parish and how might we help our parishes fulfill their role? How can we embrace our emerging ethnic diversity? How might all members of a parish be enabled to share the gifts of the Spirit they have been given for the good of all? What do we need to be doing to help parishes thrive and grow?

Theological Context

1. 1 Corinthians
2. Canon Law, Cc. 515-552
3. The Priest, Pastor and Leader of the Parish Community, Instruction from the Congregation for the Clergy

**Topic V: Living Christ – Bringing Christ to the World.** The disciples of Christ are sent into the world. We will examine our responsibility and mission as God’s Church sent into the this part of the world. How might we help one another be good witnesses to Christ? How can we integrate social justice into the fabric of our daily lives as individuals and as communities of faith? How can we re-evangelize ourselves and those of us who have “fallen away from the practice of the faith?” How do we best work to evangelize our culture as we are asked to do?

Theological Context

1. 2 Timothy
2. Redemptoris missio
3. Go and Make Disciples: A National Plan and Strategy for Catholic Evangelization in the United States Tenth Anniversary English/Spanish Edition (USCCB)