The Synod on Synodality: Responses to questions in Sacred Heart, Skegness, and Our Lady and the English Martyrs, Spilsby.

Responses to the questions put to the parish before Christmas came from 17 people (qn. 1 and 2) and from 9 people (qn. 3 and 4 and also qn. 5 and 6). These responses were examined and collated by me and by two persons, one from Skegness and one from Spilsby, and the outcome was as follows:

1. What is my dream for the Church, for my parish, so that it can become more outward-looking, more missionary?

 - attracting children and young people by children's liturgies

 - being more ecumenical, doing things together with other churches

 - gaining a better knowledge and understanding of the faith.

2. To achieve this dream, what do we need to stop doing? what are we doing that needs to be developed or done differently?

 - governance: greater role for people in parish pastoral council

 - not changing the priest so often

 - stop apologising for the past

 - not stop doing things, but need to develop what we are doing

3. As a parish, do we know the people who feel marginalised or separated from the parish and society?

 - we do not know who those who are marginalised

 - socially marginalised; poor

 - separated, such as divorced and separated

4. How can our parish best respond? Suggest at least identifiable ways (an immediate action and a long-term change) in which, as a parish, we will reach out to and listen to the marginalised and the separated?

 -visit them; make contact with them - immediate

 - use the church hall or other premises to meet them, integrate them and to build up community - long-term

5. How do I hear and respond to the voice of God's Holy Spirit in my life?

 -meditation and prayer - based on Scriptures

 - reflecting upon this in order to spread the Gospel, in the family and towards our neighbours

6. What signs of the Spirit at work do I see in the life of my parish? What steps may the Holy Spirit be calling us to take as a parish, on our journey together into God's future?

 - community; volunteers, active laity

 - spending our lives in living the Gospel, in love and in peace.