

The Role of the Catechetical Formation Programs of San Pedro Calungsod Parish Towards a Synodal Church: A Case Study

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Abstract—This is a study centered on the function of catechetical formation programs conducted in the parish of San Pedro Calungsod. This study described the role of the catechetical formation programs of San Pedro Calungsod Parish towards a Synodal Church. Using a descriptive qualitative study design, the researcher used a self-made guide questionnaire that underwent face and content validation to ensure its veracity. The data for this study were gathered by using an interview guide questionnaire administered to the participants and recordings were made using a mobile phone. The study revealed that the catechetical formation seminars conducted in San Pedro Calungsod parish were seminars for Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, Eucharist, Confession, 1st Communion, Matrimony, and Recollection, and the 4 marks of the Basic Ecclesial Community (B.E.C.). The references of the catechetical formation seminars conducted in the Parish were modules from the diocese, teachings of the Church, and the Catechism of the Catholic Church. The Catechetical Formation Seminars were helping the parishioners of San Pedro Calungsod by bringing the parishioners closer to God by nourishing their faith and gaining more knowledge. The catechetical formation seminars play a role in forming a Synodal Church through the participation of the parishioners which is rooted in the principles of dialogue, collaboration, and discernment within the Church community. These study's findings have led to the following recommendations: a. strengthen religious education classes in schools; b. hold spiritual retreats; c. hold adult faith formation which should include their cultural backgrounds; d. attend catechetical classes and sessions, e. support the youth and children's catechesis in the church.

Keywords—Catechesis: Catechists: Formation: Seminars: Synodality.

I. INTRODUCTION

The word “catechesis” comes from the Greek word “Katékheo” meaning to “echo down”. In catechesis, we aim to echo the truths of the Catholic faith, which have been passed down from Jesus Himself, from generation to generation (Diocese of Toledo, 2024). Almost 500 years after the arrival of Christianity to the Philippines, the Catholic Church continues to face challenges in the evangelization and catechism of Filipinos (The Varsitarian Staff, 2019). The term “catechetical formation” describes the process of teaching people about the doctrines of the Christian religion, especially in the context of Catholicism. Also, studying scripture, dogma, sacraments, moral theology, and prayer are all common components of

catechetical formation, which aims to promote spiritual development and a closer relationship with God (Baring, 2015).

There have been a series of catechetical formation seminars conducted at the Parish of San Pedro Calungsod in Tacurong City. The researcher was motivated to write this paper to know how the catechetical formation seminars help the parishioners be active members of the synodal church. Although many people attend these seminars, fewer return to the parish to serve. Because of this, the researcher questioned whether the participants truly understood what they had learned from the many seminars they had attended. For this reason, the researcher conducted a study that centers on the function of catechetical formation in the parish of San Pedro Calungsod (The Roman Catholic Archdiocese of San Fernando, 2022).

The term “synodal Church” encapsulates a model of church governance emphasizing collaboration, dialogue, and participation among all members, regardless of hierarchical distinctions. This approach seeks a shift towards inclusive decision-making processes rooted in consultation and discernment within the community. By recognizing the Church as a communion of believers, synodality promotes transparency, accountability, and responsiveness to both internal and societal challenges. The significance of a synodal Church in the lives of its community is profound and diverse. It promotes participation and inclusion, affirming the worth of every member and fostering diverse input in decision-making. Additionally, synodality enriches the Church's pastoral response by encouraging dialogue and discernment to address pressing issues effectively. Ultimately, synodality fosters unity amidst diversity, facilitating a collective journey of faith where members embrace their shared identity as disciples of Christ, celebrating the richness of their differences (Synod 2021-2024, 2015).

The research was carried out in an extremely complex environment. Furthermore, the parish where the researcher carried out the investigation was still being built. The parish's catechists were all volunteers and did not receive pay. Because of this, there aren't as many catechists as possible, and some people are reluctant to engage due to financial difficulties. Additionally, the various B.E.C.s must ride a tricycle to go to the location because they are remote from both their homes and their parish. Another factor is that many of the parish's

catechists are young people, and one of the challenges they face is their academic schedules (Abante, 2021).

1.1 Research Questions (RQ)

This study aimed to explore the Role of the Catechetical Formation of San Pedro Calungsod Parish Towards a Synodal Church. Specifically, this study aimed to answer the following:

1. What catechetical formations do the San Pedro Calungsod Parish conduct?
2. What are the bases and outcomes of conducting catechetical formation?
3. What roles do catechetical formations play in forming a Synodal Church?

II. METHODOLOGY

The purpose of this study was to investigate how San Pedro Calungsod Parish's catechetical formations led to the formation

of a synodal church. A descriptive qualitative study design was used by the investigator. Five catechists (one male and four female) who regularly conducted seminars in the parish composed the respondents. Four important questions constituted the self-made guide questions are used in the study which underwent face and content validation to ensure their reliability. To collect data for this study, self-made guide questions were given to research participants and recordings were made using a mobile phone. The data generated were recorded, analyzed, and interpreted using thematic analysis.

III. RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

This section presents the findings of the study.

RQ 1: What Catechetical Formations do the Catechists of San Pedro Calungsod Parish conduct?

TABLE 1. Catechetical Formations conducted at San Pedro Calungsod Parish.

Respondent	Code	Theme
Resp. 1	"Pre-Bap, Pre-orientation Seminar para sa Confirmation pati sa 1 st communicants, pangumpisal, usually amo na tapos recollection sa grade 6."	Seminars for Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, 1st Communion, Confession and Recollection
Resp. 2	"Pre-Baptism, Pre-Confirmation, Pre-Eucharist, Pre-Cana, on-going formation sa ibat ibang ministriya."	Seminars for Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist & Ongoing Formation
Resp. 3	"Ang latest niya, ang 4 marks of the B.E.C. pero may naa pa da dira. Damo na pero di ko kasabat gah kay syempre malayo amon tapos sila taga parokya sila."	4 marks of the BEC
Resp. 4	"Ang latest niya, ang 4 marks of the B.E.C. pero may naa pa da dira. Damo na pero di ko kasabat gah kay syempre malayo amon tapos sila taga parokya sila."	4 Marks of the BEC
Resp. 5	"Ang Flores De Mayo (FDM) Orientation Seminar, ang ano sa Pre-Cana may ara gyapon kami catechetical na mga katesismo nga gina hatag. Sa pre-bap, sa confirmation, sa 1 st communion."	Seminars for Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, 1st Communion and Matrimony

Table 1 presents the catechetical formations that the San Pedro Calungsod Parish is conducting. Respondents 1, 2, & 3 answered that Seminars for Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, Eucharist, Confession, 1st Communion, Matrimony, and Recollection are the seminars that are conducted in the Parish, while Respondents 3 and 4 answered the 4 marks of the BEC.

Typically, educational programs or courses intended to instruct and strengthen a person's faith—often centered around the doctrines and customs of a particular religious denomination, such as Catholicism—are referred to as catechetical formations held in a parish. The word "catechetical" comes from the Greek word "katecheo," which means "to teach" (Catholic Diocese of Toledo, 2024). These programs were designed to give participants a strong faith foundation in moral principles, religious understanding, and spiritual growth.

Sacramental preparation programs frequently involve sacrament preparation, such as First Communion, Confirmation, and Reconciliation. This entails guiding people through the procedure and teaching them about the significance of each sacrament (The Roman Catholic Diocese of Saskatoon, 2021). Bible study sessions were centered on reading, analyzing, and comprehending the Bible. To get a deeper understanding of the sacred writings, participants can investigate important biblical passages, tales, and lessons (Hock, 2016).

Adults who want to become members of the Catholic Church can go through the RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) procedure, which provides them with direction and

teachings about the Catholic faith. Usually, it consists of several phases that culminate in initiation via the Eucharist, Confirmation, and Baptism ceremonies. Programs for youth ministry that combine community building, catechesis, and service to promote spiritual development and active engagement in the church for teenagers and young adults (Winter, 2009).

Small Group Discussions and casual get-togethers where people can talk about spiritual matters, exchange personal stories, and encourage one another on their spiritual paths. Parishes can modify their catechetical forms to suit the requirements of their community, accounting for the participants' ages, cultural backgrounds, and degrees of spiritual development. In addition to imparting religious ideals, these programs are essential for building a stronger sense of community and a closer relationship with God.

Specifically, within the broader framework of the Church, Basic Ecclesial Communities (BECs) are tiny Christian communities that come together for mutual assistance, prayer, and fellowship (Macaraan, 2013). Although the traits of Basic Ecclesial Communities may differ, four traits are frequently emphasized as essential to their identity. The Bible is the first source of truth. Basic Ecclesial Communities place a strong emphasis on having a close relationship with God's Word, usually by reading, studying, and thinking through the Bible. Members join to study chapters, exchange ideas, and apply the Bible's lessons to their everyday lives. The community uses the Bible as a guide for moral decision-making, faith development, and spiritual advancement (Synod of Bishops XII Ordinary General Assembly, 2008).

Worship and Liturgy come in second. BECs take an active part in the Church's liturgical activity, especially when it comes to celebrating the Holy Eucharist. They may plan their prayer sessions, liturgical celebrations, and activities for collective worship in addition to attending parish liturgies. The community's members feel more unified and spiritually linked as a result of this emphasis on worship (Chapter 24 – Catholic Prayer and Worship, 2012). Community Life and Fellowship comes in third. One characteristic of BECs is the feeling of community. In addition to engaging in spiritual activities, members gather to support one another, exchange life stories, and establish sincere bonds with one another. They frequently take part in social activities, lending support to one another when needed and fostering a feeling of community within the wider parish community.

Finally, Social Transformation and Mission: BECs encourage their members to live out their faith by actively

participating in efforts to address social issues, serve the marginalized, and contribute to the common good. This social dimension reflects the Church's commitment to living the Gospel in the context of a larger society. BECs are not isolated from the social realities around them. Rather, they are called to engage in social action and transformation, promoting justice, peace, and solidarity (Mutia, et.al, 2023).

These four symbols highlight the confluence of spirituality, community, and mission and represent the fundamental ideas of Basic Ecclesial Communities. A more dynamic and engaged Church that is firmly rooted in the Gospel and actively involved in the social and spiritual facets of Christian life is greatly enhanced by BECs.

RQ 2: What are the bases and outcomes of conducting catechetical formation seminars?

TABLE 2a. Bases of Catechetical Formations conducted at San Pedro Calungsod Parish

Respondent	Code	Theme
Resp. 1	“Una , syempre ga request gid man na sila especially ang schools sa mga recollections. Request sila, kami nila ate Leny may mga modules kami gyapun nga gina kwan.”	Modules from the Diocese
Resp. 2	“Teachings of the Church includes books, letters, modules and other sources from the Church.”	Teachings of the Church
Resp. 3	“Di bala kis-a ga conduct kita seminars paagi man sa kwan kun ano ang kwan sang Diocese. Ma advise abi ang Diocese nga amo ni nga bulan kinahanglan may kwan, may mga seminars nga ano ni sa amo ni nga barangay or ano.”	Modules from the Diocese
Resp. 4	“From Diocese, naga down sila diri sa by parokya. Pero kung kailangan gid, halimbawa kay Father Dadz nga amo ni kailangan gid sang mga katekista diri maghatag pa gid sang seminars sa more formations pa, mag request man na si Father kay Sister nga amo na.”	Modules from the Diocese
Resp. 5	“To learn, para mahibalan nila eh, ma bal-an nila ano ang ila nga, bilang mga catechist kung may ara nga may mga gina conduct nga catechetical formation. Kag dagdag kaalaman eh bilang katekista nga maitudlo man nila sa mga kabataan.	Catechism

Table 2a shows the bases of the catechetical formation seminars that the San Pedro Calungsod Parish is conducting. Respondent 1 answered that the modules are his basis for conducting seminars, respondent 2 answered the teachings of the Church as her basis in conducting seminars, respondent 3 and 4 answered that their basis in conducting seminars came from the Diocese, and respondent 5 answered Catechism is her bases on conducting catechetical formation seminars.

Religious education and spiritual development were promoted using foundational concepts in catechetical forms conducted in parishes. The doctrines and customs of a specific religious group are frequently in line with this basis. Doctrinal, liturgical, moral, spiritual, community and historical underpinnings are a few of the common foundations for catechetical formations in parishes.

The Scripture is incorporated into the Doctrinal Basis. Religious texts constitute the foundation of catechetical formations, and the Bible is the main source used to communicate the doctrines, parables, and moral precepts of the religion. The Catechism of the Church is the other one. A catechism, or doctrinal compendium, which conveys the core beliefs of faith in a methodical manner, is referred to in many catechetical programs. The Catechism of the Catholic Church is one such resource offered by the Catholic Church (Baring, 2015).

The liturgy and sacraments make up the liturgical basis. Understanding and appreciating the sacraments are frequently the main topics of catechetical formations. This includes teaching the meaning, customs, and doctrinal foundations of sacramental celebrations. To help participants gain a deeper

grasp of the Church's worship life, catechetical formations combine the liturgical calendar and other liturgical activities.

Ethical teachings are part of the Moral Basis. Programs for catechesis focus on moral and ethical precepts that are drawn from religious doctrine. Talks about morality, virtues, and leading a life consistent with religious beliefs are included in this. Spiritual Basis discusses spiritual practices such as prayer and devotion. Religious instruction places a strong emphasis on prayer and introspection as essential components of spiritual development. In addition to being led in various types of prayer, participants are urged to develop a closer relationship with God. To foster a deeper spiritual life, instruction on spiritual disciplines like meditation, contemplation, and spiritual discernment may be provided (Irwin, 2021).

Ecclesiology and community service are a part of the Community Basis. In catechetical forms, comprehending the character and function of the Church as a community is crucial. Investigating ideas about the Body of Christ, the laity's function, and the communal facets of faith are all included in this. To inspire participants to put their faith into practice via deeds of compassion and social responsibility, catechetical programs frequently include components of social justice and community service. Finally, Church History is included in the Historical Basis. A fundamental element of catechetical formations is an understanding of the Church's beliefs and historical development. This gives the development of theological practices and ideas context (Mutia, et.al., 2023).

The combination of these foundations creates a thorough framework for catechetical formations, guaranteeing that the

religious instruction offered in the parish is complete, based on sound doctrine, and applicable to the participants' daily lives.

TABLE 2b. Outcomes of Conducting Catechetical Formation Seminars

Respondent	Code	Theme
Resp. 1	“Sa mga seminars is Pre-Bap syempre palapit sa Ginoo ah pano maging myembro sa Katoliko ang mga kabataan.”	Being close to God
Resp. 2	“Nagpapayabong sa pananampalataya at nagpapalawak sa kaalaman. Para ma-update sila sa mga bagong turo ng simbahan.”	Nourish Faith & Widen Knowledge
Resp. 3	“Labi na gid sa mga officers, facilitators sang seminar. Facilitators sang chapel.”	Gain more knowledge
Resp. 4	“Makabulig gid siya na kadagdag gid sang knowledge sa mga tao. Syempre ang mga kwan, labi na gid ang mga facilitator na ginapadala, seminar. Ang facilitator namon mag down na man sa every chapel mag hatag sang seminar kung ano ang kwan didto. Nakahatag gid man sang kaalaman. At least ang tao bala “ay amo gali na”, aware man sila bala ang programa sang Diocese.”	Gain more knowledge
Resp. 5	“Dako ang mabulig sa mga katesismo nga gina hatag sa ila, kay ngaa man? In part sa ila kinabuhi madamo sang mga pareha nato nga Katoliko nga gina hambal lang nga “Katoliko ako” pero indi nila naintindihan ang (gikan) kung ano sila nga klase sang katoliko. So paagi sa mga seminars nang mapaabot sa ila nga indi lang sila basta tawgon nga Katoliko kundi ara man sila nang ginahimokag may ara man sila himuon kung paano nila mapalambo ang ila nga Kristiyano nga pagkinabuhi bilang Kristiyano Katoliko.”	Gain more knowledge

Table 2b presents how the seminars are helping the parishioners of San Pedro Calungsod Parish. Respondent 1 answered that through the Catechetical Formation Seminars, the parishioners are being drawn closer to God, respondent 2 answered that it nourishes the faith of the parishioners and widens their knowledge, respondents 3, 4 and 5 answered that the parishioners gain more knowledge through the seminars. Parishioners' spiritual development, involvement in the community, and general well-being can all be enhanced by attending seminars. Spiritual enrichment, faith formation, community building, skill development, family life enhancement, outreach and mission, cultural sensitivity, and leadership development are a few of the main benefits of holding seminars for parishioners. Seminars frequently provide insights into religious ideas, scripture, and spiritual practices to help participants comprehend their faith on a deeper level. A deeper spiritual connection and a more fruitful prayer life may result from this. It also offers chances for continued spiritual development. They support parishioners in cultivating a knowledgeable and mature faith by assisting them in gaining a deeper understanding of the principles of their religious heritage.

Parishioners join for seminars, which help them develop a feeling of belonging and purpose. Participants form ties with one another via the shared experience of studying and debating significant issues, strengthening their sense of belonging to the parish community. Practical skills linked to volunteer work in the parish, pastoral care, or leadership may be the subject of

some seminars. Parishioners are thus given the resources and information necessary to make meaningful contributions to the community. Attending parenting, relationship, and family life seminars can assist parishioners in overcoming the difficulties associated with family dynamics. As a result, families in the parish community are stronger and more resilient.

It may inspire parishioners to engage in mission work and community outreach. By raising awareness of social justice issues and encouraging a sense of responsibility, seminars can motivate individuals to actively contribute to the welfare of society.

Seminars addressing cultural diversity and inclusivity help parishioners develop a deeper appreciation for different cultural backgrounds within the community. This fosters a welcoming and inclusive parish environment. Leadership seminars equip parishioners with the skills and knowledge needed to take on leadership roles within the parish. This empowers individuals to contribute actively to the planning and implementation of various parish activities.

In summary, seminars play a crucial role in nurturing the holistic development of parishioners, addressing their spiritual, educational, and practical needs. By offering a diverse range of topics, seminars contribute to the overall vibrancy and growth of the parish community (Johnson, 2020).

RQ 3: What roles do catechetical formation programs play in forming a Synodal Church?

TABLE 3. Ways That Parishioners Have Participation and Unity in the Given Catechetical Formations.

Respondent	Code	Theme
Resp. 1	“Ma kwan man gid na, budlay gid man. Ako personally, sa kwan sa akong ministry sa sakristan, kung naga recruit ako hindi ako naga recruit sa parents. Mag recruit ako sa bata. Kay ngaa? Pag maguyod mo ang bata, updan man na sang nanay kag tatay. Ti sa pag upod sang nanay kag tatay, ang madala mo sa simbahan tatlo ang mag simba. Amo na ang akong idea.”	Recruitment
Resp. 2	“Tagapakinig at tagabahagi sa GKK.”	Listener and Sharer to the Gagmay nga Kristuhanong Katilingban(GKK)
Resp. 3	“Ti ma bal-an mo man kay halimbawa paano nga may participation kay halimbawa kung ano ang kwan sang Parish tapos I forward sa may chapels ano ang (liwat) sang chapels dira naga participate ang mga tawo. Naga participate ang mga tawo meaning nga ng naka learn sila.”	Announcement
Resp. 4	“Tungod man gyapon sa GKK. Naga down man sila sa GKK. Through ano ah, through message. Sa mga trainings man gyapon kag sa mga seminar nga mag partisipar man sila.”	Message, Trainings and Seminar
Resp. 5	“Parehas sina sang Regular Monthly Meetings ng PPC. Diba ang mga opisyal sa simbahan naga attend? Diba? Dira makita ang partisipasyon kag pagkakaisa sa Parokya.”	Regular Monthly Meetings of the Parish Pastoral Council (PPC)

Table 3 presents how the parishioners participate in union by the catechetical formations that are conducted. Respondent 1 answered that by recruiting people, the parishioners participate in the Church; Respondent 2 answered that through

listening and sharing in their GKKs, the parishioners participate and are united; Respondent 3 answered that parishioners participate by the announcements given in their chapels; respondent 4 answered through messages, training, and

seminars, the parishioners unite and participate; while respondent 5 answered that through Regular Monthly meetings, the parishioners are united and participating.

The Parishioners actively participate and contribute to catechetical formation and fostering unity within the community. The ways that the parishioners engage in Catechetical activities to strengthen their sense of unity is through volunteering as catechists or facilitators. Parishioners can volunteer to serve as catechists or facilitators for catechetical programs. This involvement allows them to share their knowledge, faith experiences, and enthusiasm for the faith with others. This is also a good practice of being a listening Church by their way of sharing their faith experiences with others. The other one is to involve families in catechetical activities by encouraging families to participate together in catechetical activities making the community more intact. Family-focused events and programs create a shared experience that strengthens family bonds and integrates faith into daily life. Another is to engage in Liturgical and Sacramental Celebrations. Actively participating in liturgical celebrations and sacraments is a beautiful exercise for a community. Understanding the significance of these rituals and engaging in them as a community reinforces a sense of shared worship and spirituality. Next is to participate in service and outreach programs. Engaging in service and outreach programs organized by the parish helps a lot in the community and is a good exercise of being a synodal Church. Participating in acts of charity and social justice together reinforces the practical application of faith and a shared commitment to helping others. Celebrating Feast Days and Special Events with the community is another example of being united. These occasions provide opportunities for the parishioners to come together, celebrate their faith, and strengthen their sense of community.

Providing feedback and suggestions and encouraging open dialogue is the main goal of being a synodal Church. By actively participating in the planning and improvement of catechetical formations is a big help to have more effective faith knowledge for the community to actively participate in. This involvement can contribute to the continuous growth and development of catechetical programs. Also, this creates an environment that encourages open dialogue and discussion. By allowing parishioners to share their thoughts, questions, and reflections to foster a sense of community and mutual learning (Office for Evangelization and Catechetical Ministry, 2024).

Incorporating these practices encourages active participation and unity within catechetical formations, creating a vibrant and supportive faith community. The key is to provide diverse opportunities for engagement, acknowledging the unique gifts and contributions of each parishioner.

IV. RECOMMENDATIONS

The researcher suggested that religious instruction, adult faith formation, and spiritual retreats be included in the initial description of the catechetical formation programs conducted in the Parish of San Pedro Calungsod which is to offer more than just surface-level knowledge to the parishioners but instead foster a profound engagement with the teachings of the Church. Religious education is necessary for parishioners to understand

the seminars in which they are engaged. Moreover, classes in religious education fulfill the vital requirement of giving people the information, abilities, and spiritual development needed to deepen their faith, actively follow Jesus Christ, and participate in Church life.

The other is that parishioners, particularly the leaders and catechists in the Church, must go on spiritual retreats. For them to have spiritual renewal, personal development, discernment, relationship-building, overall well-being, connection with mission and values, and spiritual practice modeling for them to share substantially in the catechisms that they are conducting and for them to lead their members in their spiritual life. Church communities can enhance their entire ministry and efficacy in carrying out their purpose by making investments in the spiritual development and well-being of their leaders and parishioners.

The researcher recommended that the background of the culture in the San Pedro Calungsod Parish community should also be the basis for their catechetical formation seminars.

A catechetical formation seminar must be tailored to the cultural milieu of a parish to uphold diversity, facilitate good communication, attend to special needs, empower parishioners, and build a community of faith. The seminar will be able to help parishioners in their spiritual journey within their cultural environment if it embraces cultural sensitivity and relevance.

The researcher observed that there is a lack of community participation in catechetical sessions and classes in the Parish of San Pedro Calungsod and recommended an ongoing accompaniment of the catechists to the parishioners who received these sessions.

To participate in a synodal church, it is crucial to attend various catechetical sessions and classes. These activities offer formation in synodality, encourage active participation, foster dialogue and listening, promote discernment and co-responsibility, deepen faith and understanding, prepare for synodal engagement, and cultivate a synodal culture within the faith community.

Since youths are not frequently seen in the parish, it is also strongly advised that they receive support in all areas. For young people to grow spiritually, navigate obstacles, form communities, feel empowered and develop as leaders, meet their specific needs, avoid disengagement, promote genuine expression, and share the gospel, they require support both inside and outside of the parish. The church guarantees a lively and prosperous religious community for future generations by making investments in the upbringing and development of the young.

To further enhance this study, future researchers may employ a framework that integrates catechetical formation seminars within a synodal approach will be able to foster deeper engagement and participation among participants. This method fosters a sense of co-creation of knowledge and understanding within the religious community in addition to encouraging a sense of ownership and belonging among participants. Adopting synodality can also result in a more genuine and lively interchange of ideas, which will enhance catechesis as a whole and foster a stronger feeling of community within the Church.

V. CONCLUSION

The catechetical formation seminars conducted in San Pedro Calungod parish encompass a comprehensive range of sacramental preparation and spiritual development. These seminars cover the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, Eucharist, Confession, 1st Communion, Matrimony, and Recollection, providing participants with the foundational knowledge and understanding necessary to receive these sacraments with reverence and significance. Additionally, the seminars delve into the four marks of the Basic Ecclesial Community (BEC), fostering a deeper appreciation for community, worship, service, and discipleship within the parish context. Through these seminars, participants are equipped not only with the theological insights and practical guidance needed for sacramental participation but also with the spiritual formation essential for active engagement in the life of the parish community.

The catechetical formation seminars conducted by the San Pedro Calungod Parish are firmly grounded in the rich teachings of the Catholic faith, drawing upon three primary sources: The Bible, modules from the Diocese, and the Catechism of the Catholic Church. These seminars are meticulously crafted to integrate scriptural wisdom, diocesan guidelines, and doctrinal teachings, providing participants with a comprehensive and cohesive understanding of their faith. By centering the seminars on these sources, participants are equipped with a solid foundation rooted in sacred scripture, official Church teachings, and pastoral insights, ensuring that their catechetical formation is both authentic and deeply nourishing for their spiritual journey within the Catholic tradition.

The Catechetical Formation Seminars organized by the San Pedro Calungod Parish serve as transformative journeys for parishioners, fostering a deeper connection with God and nourishing their faith. Through these seminars, participants are provided with opportunities to delve into the core teachings of the Catholic faith, enriching their spiritual understanding and strengthening their relationship with God. As parishioners engage in the seminars, they not only deepen their faith but also expand their knowledge of Catholic doctrine and tradition, equipping them with the insights and wisdom needed for a more profound and meaningful spiritual life. By facilitating this process of spiritual growth and knowledge acquisition, the seminars play a pivotal role in empowering parishioners to live out their faith more fully and to contribute actively to the life and mission of the parish community.

Catechetical formations play a crucial role in shaping a Synodal Church by fostering active participation among parishioners in various seminars and church activities. This involvement fosters unity, evident in gatherings such as PPC meetings, seminars, and recollections, where parishioners engage in dialogue and understanding. Participation is facilitated through recruitment efforts and addressing the needs voiced in parish GKKs, with members sharing experiences and insights. Parishioners respond to chapel announcements and unite through messaging, training, and seminars, actively participating and addressing issues in their regular monthly

meetings to ensure the holistic development of their faith community.

APPENDIX A

Interview Guide Questions

Name: _____ Sex: _____

1. Anu-anong mga seminars ang isinasagawa ng San Pedro Calungsod Parish?
2. Ano ang basihan ng pagsasagawa ng mga seminars sa mga parokyano?
3. Paano nakakatulong ang mga seminars sa mga parokyano ng San Pedro Calungsod Parish?
4. Sa paanong paraan nagkakaroon ng partisipasyon at pagkakaisa ang mga parokyano sa mga binibigay na mga Catechetical Formation programs?

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

I would like to express my deepest gratitude, first and foremost, to God for granting me wisdom and the grace of the Holy Spirit in my journey as I conduct this study. To Rev. Fr. Ronnie L. Torres, OMI, Ph.D, and Sr. Mary Ann B. Rhudy, OND, for their invaluable guidance, encouragement, and support throughout the duration of this research. Their expertise and insights have greatly enriched my understanding of the subject matter.

Additionally, I extend my appreciation to the Parish Priest and Staff of the Parish where I have conducted this study, for their assistance in data collection and analysis. I am also grateful to Mrs. Ana Belle Sta. Ana and Mr. Jun Cortel, for their constructive feedback and suggestions during the drafting process. Lastly, I would like to acknowledge the support of my family and friends at Notre Dame Center for Catechesis who have stood by me with unwavering encouragement and understanding. Without their support, this research would not have been possible.

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