

What have we heard from you?

Listening and Dialogue sessions have been held at both of our Mass centres and have also been occurring in the homes of parishioners.

Some of the questions or statements that parishioners have had for the council include the following:

That we be more open to the reunification of the Christian Churches – losing the language of division and recognizing that the Holy Spirit does not belong only to the Catholic Church.

Currently the Church is missing out on or not utilizing a huge reservoir of different wisdom, experiences and thinking. Why are women not encouraged to have a pathway to authentic leadership in the Church, including a road to priesthood? The Church needs to understand that the Holy Spirit is also acting through women.

God wants us to be a Church that supports families and parents in the ongoing faith and spiritual development of their children.

God wants us to be a Church that takes on the responsibility for the continuing education of the faithful in the scriptures and in the beliefs of their religion.

The Church should devise ways of being more welcoming and less judgmental of young people and their families – understanding the complexities of families' social and work lives which can keep them from regular Mass attendance.

Women should be included in all levels of Church decision making.

In order to preserve the well-being of our priests and to provide them emotional support in their ministry that we allow them to marry should they choose and that we ordain women.

That we become a Church that welcomes and values everyone regardless of their race, gender or age.

We should be a vibrant Church that presents the faithful with a sense of hope in the future in these constantly changing times.

Why have we lost the prayer about satan and his wiles from the end of the Mass?

The Church needs to understand that God is pure love and we should listen to the voice of God who speaks to us as a friend and a child.

God wants the Church to have direction and to move forward in love – to embrace change.

God wants the Church to give more power to the faithful and listen to their ideas

God wants us to understand that He is a God of peace and that He wants us to live

God wants us to move the Christian churches together – to look more at how we are the same rather than how we are different.

The Church and the celebrations in the Church should be more relevant to our young people so that they want to attend.

God wants us to pray more for the young ones who are pulling away from God.

God wants us to protect the universality of the Church. How much can the Church in Australia change before we lose the essence of who we are?

Can we encourage women into leadership in the upper echelons of the Church?

The Church should encourage more prayer groups and serious Bible study.

We should encourage greater development of community and sense of belonging to community in our Church so that people want to be involved in all aspects of Church life.