



From Parish to Mission

Parish	St Joseph's Bishop Thornton
Parish Priest	Fr Maurice Pearce
Facilitators	Alicia Player, Liz Vickerstaff, Anne Pennock,
Date of Meeting	17 November 2021
Number	15
Approx. Age Range	25 – 80
I. The journeying companions As we journey together let us look around. Who are you on the journey with and what persons or groups are marginalised and why? Generally, Young People don't get a say. Young People get ignored. There are few Young People, Why? Other faiths are full of Young People and they leave feeling better and full of love for God. The catholic church doesn't concentrate on the joy of faith. Young People not being given what they want. Liturgy in its present form is a "turn off" for Young People vv.	
II. Listening How might our local Church better listen to lay people (and especially young people and women) and minorities and those who are not respected? This parish doesn't have a problem with women and young people. Like young people to be encouraged to come to church, and children to be welcomed. We need evangelists. Church will die as no children. Allowing, bringing children / Young People from other churches together. More interaction between parishes.	
III. Speaking out How can everybody be encouraged to communicate appropriately what is important to them? People ought to be encouraged to express their opinions freely. Priests must allow and encourage people to express opinion vvvv.	





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<p>IV. Celebrating How might I be better able to participate in Mass and other liturgies?</p>
<p>Vary the services and have Liturgy of Hours. Services which do not require the priest. As shortage of priests, have less frequent eg: fortnightly Mass and have more community involvement of laity. Address shortage of priests. Use Laity to lead more things like “stations of the cross” Laity could revive The Rosary.</p>
<p>V. Co-responsible in the mission How can each Baptised person become a “missionary disciple”, revealing Christ to others through their words and deeds?</p>
<p>With great difficulty due to the “cover ups” in the church. Encouraged to let the rest of the community understand what we stand for and believe in. Need to be energised by our priests and bishops to go out and sell the faith VVVVV. Bigger parishes to support the smaller ones in order to energise. Priests circulate and visit other churches in the diocese. Like more time from the priest in the parish. Provide the right training for people to act like missionaries.</p>
<p>VI. Dialogue in Church and society How might we improve our conversations within our diocesan family and also outside of it, (for example with people of different faiths, those who have no faith and those who have particular roles and duties in society)?</p>
<p>Judge other people how you see them, not with pre-conceptions.</p>
<p>VII. With the other Christian denominations Are our relations with our Christian brothers and sisters good? How might they be improved?</p>
<p>They were better years ago. We had more ecumenism. Relations are non-existent with other churches. We need to embrace other Christians. Muslims are thriving.</p>
<p>VIII. Authority and participation How might we develop teamwork and a sense of co-responsibility in our local Church?</p>





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Look to learn from churches who are successful and learn from others eg: Holy Trinity, Brompton.

The catholic church has to be more dynamic. Empower the Laity.

Sense of mission to spread with word of God.

Will the Laity bring converts? v

We are not communicating.

Hold on to what we've got. Duty to promote the catholic way of life.

IX. Discerning and deciding

How might we improve the process of decision-making in our local Church, so that we truly listen and recognise that the Holy Spirit can speak through each one of us?

Empower the Laity vvvvvv.

Transparency of decision-making at parish level.

Need a forum to express an opinion vvv.

More democracy.

Use parish newsletter to enable voting on matters at parish level.

X. Forming ourselves in synodality

What formation is necessary within the local Church if we are to become better at listening to one another and sharing our insights with one another?

Meet with cross-parish groups and a forum to enable this to happen vvv.

Swapping priests to enable this to happen.

Home groups, meeting in people's homes.

Got to Pray.

Questions overlap, Questions disappointing.

I think the questions are good.

We should be focussing our attention on Young People.

Identify why the catholic church is not attractive to young people.

The school closed and we lost the opportunity to encourage the young people.

