

**GLENELG CATHOLIC PARISH FORUM**  
**1<sup>st</sup> DECEMBER 2019, 1 pm ST MARY'S HALL**

INFORMATION REGARDING THE THEMES FROM PHASE 1: LISTENING & DIALOGUE

**THEME 4: PRAYERFUL AND EUCHARISTIC – SNAPSHOT REPORT, NATIONAL THEMES FOR DISCERNMENT**

As we move into this second stage of the Plenary Council journey, we continue to seek the wisdom of the Holy Spirit. We are invited to reflect on Scripture, Church teaching and our contemporary situation in order to discern the answer to this question: ***How is God calling us to be a Christ-centred Church that is inclusive, participatory and synodal?*** The fruits of what is discerned during this time will help shape the agenda of the first session of Plenary Council in October 2020.

The National Theme for Discernment is inspired by the voices of the People of God who shared how deeply they treasured the Eucharist and the sacramental and liturgical life of the Church. There was a call for stronger and more engaging preaching with an emphasis on the Word of God and connection to daily life, some seeking a uniquely Australian expression of prayer and Eucharistic celebration, drawing from the wisdom and rituals of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and also bringing together the many migrant communities which make up the Church in Australia. There were many divergent expressions of ways in which people and communities encounter God through their experience of prayer, music and liturgy, and a desire for catechesis, training and formation for those in ministries related to these.

**What did people talk about in Phase 1?**

People spoke about a number of different topics in Phase 1: Listening and Dialogue. A comprehensive report on all the voices of participants in PHASE 1: LISTENING & DIALOGUE is available on [www.plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/resources/reports](http://www.plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/resources/reports)

Below are some of the topics that informed this particular theme, that was created through a combination of analysis, discernment and prayer.

- Acknowledge Christ's presence in the Eucharist
- Affordable adult faith formation courses
- Authentic faith teaching in Catholic schools
- Better attention to all aspects of liturgy
- Better communication of what the Church does
- Better Faith formation
- Better formation for liturgical ministries and sacramental programs
- Better homilies
- Charismatic spirituality
- Church to act as a guide for Australian society
- Contemplative spirituality
- Cultural Masses
- Eucharistic adoration
- Greater attention to music in the liturgy
- Greater emphasis on prayer and Sacraments
- Greater focus on Jesus Christ
- Greater focus on the Word of God
- Greater involvement of the laity
- Greater leadership from Bishops
- Greater leadership from priests
- Greater support for RCIA
- Greater trust, faith and hope in God
- Importance of Communion services in rural parishes
- Keep the commandments
- Keep the faith
- Listen to the Holy Spirit
- Mass to be appealing to youth and children
- New translation of the Mass (inclusive language)
- Pray the Rosary
- Remain faithful to Church teaching
- Remain faithful to Church teaching on marriage
- Renewed call to holiness
- Return to Traditional Latin Mass
- Return to traditional pre-Vatican II ways

**WHAT WILL YOU DISCERN FROM THIS THEME?**

**YOU ARE INVITED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE GLENELG CATHOLIC PARISH PLENARY COUNCIL 2020 FORUM ON 1<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER. REGISTER YOUR INTEREST WITH THE PARISH OFFICE.**