

Report to Plenary Writing Group: Theme 6

Plenary 2020: A group of parishioners from St. Clement of Rome Parish met to discuss the question for Phase 2: How is God calling us to be a Christ-centred Church in Australia that is **Open to Conversion, Renewal and Reform**. Through prayer, listening and conversation the group felt the Spirit is calling us to:

- Call for the ongoing education and true formation of the clergy and laity aimed at nurturing and developing a genuinely pastoral Church that listens with empathy, responds with compassion and encourages trust and hope.
- Invite, encourage and support more professional women from diverse backgrounds in the formation of seminarians and priests, and in all theological colleges.
- Review and audit documents, laws and teachings with a renewed pastoral consideration and emphasis.
- Reflect, dialogue and pray for direction to openly consider the ordination of married men and women for a fuller expression of the Church as a people of God without fear or favour, and which acknowledges and respects the baptism imperative given to all.
- A proper, sustained and genuine pastoral engagement with all God's people focussed on catechising and supporting families through all stages of life.
- An audit and renewal of Church laws regarding the Eucharist, and divorced persons and those who for different reasons find themselves on the fringes of the Church.
- Find creative and pastoral responses based on Jesus' teachings to meet the diverse spiritual needs of contemporary people.
- Focus on educating people to recognise and respond to their baptismal call to ministry.
- A review of liturgical practices to take in local circumstances and culture without compromise to the essence of and essential meaning and purpose of our liturgies. Accordingly, the training of personnel - staff and volunteers- are to be pre-requisites for professionalism, best practice and ongoing transformation and conversion.
- A review and audit of the resources available to parishes with a view of wider sharing, consolidating and support for all.

Our Parish Challenge: How do we translate these into real, action? Please pray, reflect and participate.

St Clement of Rome Parish

13 February 2020