

# PLENARY COUNCIL and our PARISH PRIORITIES SUMMARY

Thank you to all who participated in our Listening and Dialogue sessions at St Joseph's and sent submissions to the Plenary Council.

Qualitative and quantitative analysis of submissions are currently being conducted by the National Centre for Pastoral Research (NCPR) using best-practice methods to identify key themes. These themes, to be announced on Pentecost Sunday (9 June), will be the focus for the next phase of the Plenary Council, the Listening and Discernment phase, laying the foundations for the Plenary Council agenda.

Some *snapshot statistics* of the Plenary Council submissions May 2018 to March 2019:

- **17, 457 submissions** representing more than 222,000 participants
- 4,699 group submissions; 12,758 individual submissions
- **Perth Archdiocese had the third highest number of submissions** (after Melbourne and Brisbane archdioceses)
- **Perth Archdiocese came 2nd for group submissions; 5th for individual submissions**
- **Ag**es of individual respondents: 44% received from aged 50 and over; 14% received from aged under 25
- **Gender** of respondents: 49% of individual respondents females; 29% males; the rest unstated
- **Countries** of birth: 65% of respondents were born in Australia
- **Religion** of individual respondents: 72% were Catholic

The Summary of Submissions report by the NCPR to the Plenary Council Executive Committee is available on our Parish website.

Continuing our conversations from the Plenary Council dialogue sessions, some feedback was received from dialogue participants who expressed priorities that we as a community could implement locally in our Parish.

Some of the **key areas of priorities identified**:

- **to be an inclusive and vibrant Parish community;**
- **social justice and outreach opportunities;**
- **Parish based faith formation/spirituality programs and**
- **youth engagement.**

There are many existing groups and initiatives already in place with regard to the above priorities at St Joseph's including:

- ✓ Seniors' Morning Tea
- ✓ Visitation to the sick and housebound
- ✓ Assistance to the homeless
- ✓ Financial contribution to Aboriginal communities, Calcutta Mission and Caritas
- ✓ St Vincent de Paul conference
- ✓ Lent and Advent Discussion groups for adults and young adults
- ✓ Weekly 24/7 Youth Group for students in Years 9 to 12

Our **visiting speakers** this year are:

- **Daniel Ang** (Director of Office of Evangelisation, Diocese of Broken Bay) and
  - **Brother Bill Sullivan FMS** (Spiritual Director & Director of The Hermitage, Mittagong).
- Please check the bulletin and our website for more details.

**There are five possible new Parish priorities suggestions we could implement. However, we do require volunteers to commit to the cause to make it happen.**

**The suggested Parish priorities are:**

1. Coffee morning after Sunday 10am Mass every three months
2. Noticeboard in the foyer to outline Parish groups and activities
3. Crisis Action Group – to offer required assistance to bereaved or families in crisis with minimal family support
4. Women’s Spirituality Programs
5. Faith Formation and/or Spirituality Programs - two visiting speakers annually.

**Please contact the Parish office by phone on 9381 0400 or email**

**[enquiries@stjosephssubiaco.org.au](mailto:enquiries@stjosephssubiaco.org.au) to involve yourself in our community in order to realise our new Parish initiatives.**