

Let's Listen & Discern



Guide Facilitation



How is God calling us to
be a Christ-centred
Church that is

*A joyful, Hope-filled
and Servant
Community?*



Where have we come from?

Phase 1: Listening & Dialogue Encounters

Nationally



Archdiocese of Brisbane



#2 overall
Nationally

#4 Nationally

#1 Nationally

Source: Listen to what the Spirit is saying: Final report for the Plenary Council Phase 1: Listening & Dialogue, July 2019 NCPR



Where are we now?

Phase 2: Listening & Discernment Experiences

“What is God inviting us to do to enable our transformation - with the grace of the Holy Spirit – into a community of disciples who are journeying together into a deeper intimacy with God.” Archbishop Tim Costelloe SDB

Source: Listen to what the Spirit is saying: Final report for the Plenary Council Phase 1: Listening & Dialogue, July 2019 NCPR



National Themes for Discernment



What happens next?

Listening &
Discernment
Experience



Propose 2-3
Emerging
Actions



Submit to National
Discernment &
Writing Group



National
Discernment &
Writing Group
Prepares Draft Papers

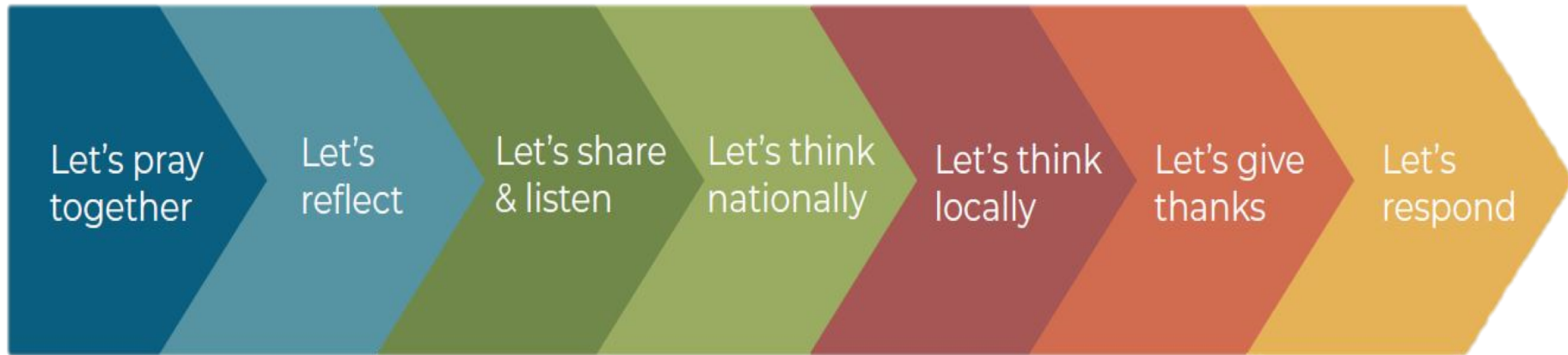


Papers
submitted to
Plenary Council



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Listen to what the Spirit is saying...

Listening & Discernment Experience





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Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we work and live, and we recognise their continuing connection to land, water and community.

We pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging and honour them for their sacrifice and stewardship.



Let's gather and pray together

1

Lord,

You once told us,

'Just as you did it to one of the least of these, who are members of my family, you did it to me.'

May our eyes be opened to the hungry, thirsty, naked, sick and imprisoned.

May our minds be freed from the bounds of self-interest, fear and prejudice.

May our hearts be moved to recognise and respond to the needs of your people.

May we be open to the fruits of your Spirit, so that our thoughts, words and actions can be infused with love, peace, compassion and selflessness.

We ask this through Christ, our Lord.

Amen.



5 mins



Listening to Scripture

1. One person from the group reads the Scripture passage aloud.
2. After 2 minutes of silence, a second person from the group reads the Scripture passage aloud again.



Scripture Passage

Humble Service in the Body of Christ Romans 12

3 For by the grace given me I say to every one of you: Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with the faith God has distributed to each of you.

4 For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function,

5 so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others.

6 We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith;

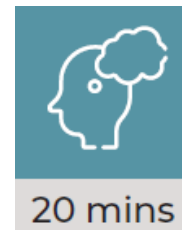
7 if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach;

8 if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully.



Individual Silent Reflection

During this time of silence, consider the questions below. You may wish to journal, to draw or simply sit quietly with your thoughts.



How is God speaking to you in this scripture and all that you have read?

What words/phrases are you being drawn to and why?

How do you feel?

Sharing and Listening,



3 mins
per
person

Listening to the Holy Spirit through the voices of the group, I have heard...

- 2-3 minutes per person – please keep an eye on time in each group.
- Remember
 - one person speaks at a time
 - this time is for people to share their thoughts



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Reflection time

What am I hearing the Holy Spirit saying to us?



5 mins



Reflection time

How are you feeling about what you have read, regarding the theme and all that you have heard shared within the group and from what you have read today?



5 mins



Sharing and Listening, Round 3

From my prayer today and listening to the voices of the group, I feel

During this time, remember to listen deeply when someone else is speaking, and to respond to the conversation with an open and kind heart.





Short Break Time





How is God calling us to
be a Christ-centred
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Reflection time

Think about the concrete, practical steps which could be taken to move forward in the thematic area you have been focused on today.

Write one (1) action per post-it note.

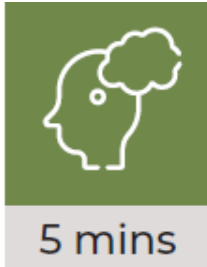
How is God calling us to be a Christ-centred Church in Australia that is A joyful, Hope-filled and Servant Community?

Consider examples of good practice or programs, locally, nationally or globally that you are aware of that could be *explored?*



Write one (1) action per post-it note.

How is God calling us to be a Christ-centred Church in Australia that is A joyful, Hope-filled and Servant Community?



Remember, these actions need to be:

- 1. Clear*
- 2. Stated as a positive*
- 3. As specific as possible*
- 4. A real action (practical, achievable and measurable)*

Sharing and Listening

- Each person in the circle takes 2-3 minutes to share their ideas with the group.
- If you have used Post-It notes, place these in the centre of the group as you speak about them.
- Anyone in the group can begin, and the person on their left is the next person to share.
- Continue clockwise around the circle, until each person in the group has had their turn.



10 mins



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Group Discussion, Towards Decision



20 mins

What actions do we feel strongly called towards?

What actions could really help us to move toward becoming a Christ-centred Church which is A joyful, Hope-filled and Servant Community?

What is the most loving response that the Spirit is calling us to?

Remember, these actions need to be:

- 1. Clear*
- 2. Stated as a positive*
- 3. As specific as possible*
- 4. A real action (practical, achievable and measurable)*



Reflection

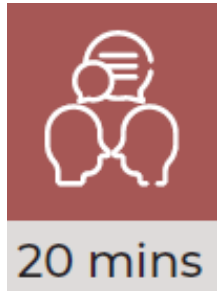


5 mins

How do I *feel* about our proposed actions, our group decision?



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**What ideas do we have that can nourish
our local faith community?**



Gracious God,
Through our experience of discernment,
you invited each of us
to hear the Holy Spirit in the voices of others,
to challenge our own will, desires, fears and
prejudices and to be open to your will.

Lord Jesus, thank you for guiding us
as our beacon of light, truth and life
so that we can clearly see how best to honour
and serve you, our neighbours
and our true selves.



5 mins



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We pray that our decisions today
have stayed true to you
and to the faith and trust
that you have in us.

Through this experience,
may the Holy Spirit ignite
feelings of joy, and deeper faith,
greater hope and trust,
greater love and peace,
greater courage and compassion
in each of us and in your holy Church
as we journey forward together.

Amen



You can submit your 150 word response to the Discernment & Writing Group via:

www.plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au



Thank you for your participation today,
and for your ongoing engagement with
the Plenary Council 2020 journey.



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