

St Kevin's Parish Templestowe

Phase 2 of the Plenary Council Journey

Workshop Week 2: Theme – **A joyful, hope-filled and servant community**

The following is a summary of consideration of the theme **A joyful, hope-filled and servant community** on the evening of Wednesday 20th November 2019. **Note:** *The considerations were made against the suggested changes put forward in the "Plenary Council 2020: Joint Parish Statement".*

*How do we act on the theme: **A joyful, hope-filled and servant community?***

Change the nature of the Plenary Council

- 3rd of the people need to be lay people – ask Bishops to decide to include more lay people
- Invite members of Bishops' Conference/Plenary Council to visit and listen to the needs of small Community Groups

Encourage an Open and Inclusive Church

- Change/modify Church Laws to include women, the LGBTQI communities and those divorced and re-married

Promote Servant Leadership for a Humble Church

- Education of Church Hierarchy by lay people of the vital work provided by groups within the Church e.g. Vinnies, etc.
- Change in Governance e.g. Parish Councils for all Parishes and Diocesan Councils for all Dioceses

Change the Composition of the Priesthood

- Women priests and married priests – more attuned to the needs of families
- Parents are more attuned to the development of families
- More joyful Communities would result if women priests and married priests were appointed

Renew our Focus on the Poor and Marginalised

- Plenary Council/Bishops' Conference make a statement of support for those Church organisations e.g. Vinnies and Caritas that are providing vital support of the poor and marginalised members of our society
- More encouragement for people to become more involved in Social Justice

Make the Liturgy More Relevant

- Australian Catholic Church should employ an group of people gifted in the English language top re-write the three (3) Penitential Prayers and the Peoples' responses and express them in everyday language

Protect and Restore the Earth

- Australian Catholic Church should establish an Education for Change Group.