



# THE PEOPLE OF GOD JOURNEYING TOGETHER

## THE BIG QUESTION

### HOW DO CATHOLICS 'JOURNEY TOGETHER'?

### HOW MIGHT WE DO IT BETTER?

#### 1. OUR JOURNEY TOGETHER

*Jesus wants us to walk together, side by side.*

- How do you feel we as Catholics are doing at walking side-by-side?
- Who do you feel is included / welcome on the church's local journey?
- Who is not included or welcomed?

#### 2. OUR LISTENING

*Listening is the first step - it requires an open mind and heart, without prejudice.*

- How good are we Catholics at listening?
- Who do we need to listen to more? (Consider – women, young people, lay people, those on the margins of society, minority groups, the socially discarded and excluded.)
- What stops us from listening more carefully?

#### 3. OUR SPEAKING UP

*Everyone is invited to speak boldly and courageously in freedom, truth, and love.*

- How good are we as Catholics at speaking out in public?
- How do we say what is important to us as Catholics?
- What helps or hinders our public visibility?





## 4. GATHERING

*For Catholics, 'togetherness' is based on gathering to explore the Gospels (Word) and to break bread (Eucharist).*

- Are our Catholic gatherings achieving their purpose for our people?
- How does our gathering for prayer (including Mass) meet people's needs?
- How do they fail to meet people's needs?

## 5. OUR MISSION

*Walking together enables us all to accept our mission to share the Good News.*

- Do we as Catholics take this mission seriously?
- How exactly do we as Church members spread the Good News of Jesus Christ?
- What stops us from being active in mission?

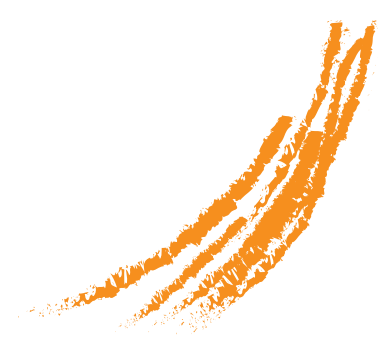
## 6. OUR CONVERSATION

*Genuine conversation requires perseverance and patience but leads to understanding.*

- As Catholics, how good are we at conversation – both listening and sharing?
- Good conversation (dialogue) leads to collaboration – how, and how well, do we collaborate as Catholics in our local community?
- In what ways could we dialogue and collaborate better with others in society (e.g. in politics, economics, culture, civil society, and those who are poor or disadvantaged?)

## 7. WITH OTHER CHRISTIANS

*Walking with other Christians is essential to our mission to share the Good News of Jesus Christ.*

- How well do we as Catholics know our sisters and brothers in other churches?
  - What do we share and how do we journey with Christians from other churches (denominations)?
  - Why don't we do more together?
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## 8. SHARING RESPONSIBILITY

*Our Church is all about participation and shared responsibility.*

- Catholics aim to balance authority and governance with teamwork and co-responsibility. How well do we achieve this?
- How could we balance these better?
- How do we encourage lay involvement, participation and leadership?

## 9. OUR DECISION-MAKING

*Our aim is to make decisions by discerning what the Holy Spirit is saying through our whole community.*

- How well do you feel we do this?
- What methods or processes do Catholic communities use to include people in discernment and decision-making?
- What do you think we should do to improve our efforts in this?

## 10. LEARNING TO JOURNEY TOGETHER

*All of us need to be open to change and ongoing learning.*

- To what extent do you find Catholics are open to change and new learning?
- How do we as a Catholic community form our people to listen, participate and be open to change?
- Have you found Church leaders to be willing to listen, participate and remain open to new ways?

