



# Listening & Dialogue Small Group

**Facilitators:** *Andrew and Claire*

**Participants:**

- *Luke*
- *Rachael*
- *April*
- *Sarah*
- *Anaru*
- *Annabelle*
- *Alex*



# Week 1

God is asking us to put down our own wants and focus on others.

To rise above temptation and to overcome our fears and face God in our fullest.

God is asking us to be selfless, brave, courageous believers of Faith.

God is reaching out to us through prayer, praise and song, thoughts etc. to grow towards being the best person we can be and to become one big community within our Faith



## *Theme 1: Outreach and Faith beyond the Mass*


### **We desire:**

- To remove stereotypes and judgement.
- Be welcoming to all. Meet people where they're at, especially those outside our community.
- Build relationship with God and with others through opportunities other than just Sunday Mass.
- Formation – to better understand why we believe what we believe so we can outreach through Love
- Don't just throw money at issues



## *Theme 1:* **Outreach and Faith beyond the Mass**


### **Practical ideas we thought of:**

- Small groups/prayer groups (like ‘the Lounge’ youth group)
  - Guest speakers
  - Social Events (pilgrimages, retreats, festivals, game nights)
  - Visiting people (Who don’t go or can’t get to Mass)
  - Reach out and support outside communities rather than trying to get them to come to us
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## *Theme 2: Unity, Inclusivity and Community Participation*

### **We desire:**


- Find things that unite us rather than divide us
  - Find ways we as a whole parish can come together, breaking down the barriers of age, spirituality and different Mass times
  - Emphasis on improving spiritual interactions within the community e.g. prayer and adoration
  - Opportunities for people from different generations to build relationship
  - To stand strong together in Faith and God's love to provide a good witness to those outside the community
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## *Theme 2: Unity, Inclusivity and Community Participation*


### **Practical ideas we thought of:**


- Opportunities for group talks after Mass (social and spiritual)
- Intergenerational game nights (e.g Talkin' bout your generation, mixed tables at game nights)
- Intergenerational prayer groups
- Social events (Movie nights, picnics, social justice,
- Involve school within church more to increase community cohesion



## *Theme 3: Final Meeting: Prayers and summarising comments*

### **We desire:**

- Establish common ground to create unity within the Parish
  - More encouragement and support
  - We should continue to listen and act upon what the Holy Spirit is calling us to do within the Parish
- over the next year we need to focus on what unites us
- Accept and love all even if there are differences of opinion
  - Encourage people to volunteer
  - Make church welcoming
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## *Theme 3: Final Meeting: Prayers and summarising comments*

### **Practical ideas we thought of:**

- Create ways to come together and celebrate our faith.
- e.g. GCYF – Glenbrook Catholic Youth Festival!
- After Mass - create a space to have a drink and chat about the gospel, or pray
- Social events to connect everyone
- Charity Night
- Flowers in the narthex
- Multicultural food night
- Creating a welcoming environment in the church also creates a prayerful setting