

THANK YOU FOR YOUR REFLECTIONS AND IDEAS TO GUIDE OUR FUTURE PLANNING
This document is a summary of your feedback and themes. *Distributed August 13/14, 2022*

**QUESTION 1: PLEASE TELL US WHAT YOU HAVE LOVED ABOUT REGINA CAELI
IN THE PAST OR WHAT YOU LOVE ABOUT REGINA CAELI TODAY.**

RESPONSES TO QUESTION 1:

The welcoming, friendly, relaxed atmosphere of the Community was treasured. The goodness of the priests who have served here was named and very highly appreciated. The contributions, the closeness and the memories of people who have belonged here were cherished. The Sacramental life of the parish was deeply valued. People found the work of the Friends of Regina Caeli group and the social occasions very helpful.

Changes such as a priest not resident now and the ageing of parishioners were recognised. There was a desire to review the Mass times.

THE INTERIM STEERING COMMITTEE RESPONDS:

Let us continue to value and grow our Regina Caeli Parish Community together using our collective wisdom.

**QUESTION 2: PLEASE TELL US WAYS YOU THINK REGINA CAELI
NEEDS TO CHANGE AND DEVELOP.**

RESPONSES TO QUESTION 2:

It was strongly recognized that we all need to respond in these circumstances for the good of the Parish. People asked that the Parish's strengths which they have loved - not be lost. Regina Caeli is a spiritual, social and cultural hub, so let's support/engage with our community on all fronts. Ageing and the loss of a resident priest are new realities. The consequences of the altered Mass times were named several times.

Diverse concerns were named:

to improve our Liturgy and create opportunities to pray together during the week; and review care for people across all age and cultural groups. They include the elderly, people needing high care, people who can be linked to the Parish and students in the schools and their families.

How can we support people celebrating Sacraments –
Baptism, Confirmation, Eucharist, Matrimony – and people who are bereaved?

Our need to plan was strongly recognized. There were two ideas for a management structure which will need further discernment for how activities are grouped and how needs are responded to:

- Administration – a range of present needs and future planning
- Finance
- Maintenance – buildings, cleaning, grounds, workplace health and safety
- Liturgy and prayer – support for people leading in any way
- Pastoral support for the range of age groups within the Parish
- Pastoral outreach beyond the community
- Life-long learning to help us live our faith in our society today
- Formation – Sacramental programs, safety procedures...
- Friendship, support for one another and social gatherings for the community including Friends of Regina Caeli.

There are tools which will help us plan in manageable steps.

While maintaining our own identity and community life, our relationship with the Carmelites will present new opportunities for our greater good. As well, we can be enriched by opportunities to learn more about issues which are a part of the breadth of Catholic life in our society today.

THE INTERIM STEERING COMMITTEE RESPONDS:

We will discuss our management structure with our incoming priests to have combined discernment of a structure that will nurture us into the future.

**QUESTION 3: FOR YOU TODAY IN 2022,
WHAT PRACTICAL HELP OR OTHER SUPPORT
CAN WE GIVE TO MEMBERS OF OUR COMMUNITY?**

RESPONSES TO QUESTION 3:

- To ensure the continuing vitality of the community, plan to support or connect with the elderly, people in care, families, peoples of different cultural backgrounds, people with disabilities and young people including those in local Catholic Schools.
- Prepare the Parish to be aware of future options for the property.
- Rent the Parish house.
- Use the beauty of the property, its grounds and the oval for retreat prayer, games and socials both 'On the Green' and in the Hall.
- Have working bees three or four times a year to care for all we have.

- Gather for hospitality after Mass and even at local Clubs for meals.
- Learn about prayer, the Plenary Council, Laudato Si', Health Services, hobbies e.g. knitting /crochet, a Reconciliation Action Plan, and Ecumenism/Multi-Faith relationships.
- Improve the signage, the music space, the Reconciliation Room and the former piety Stall.
- Investigate an LED Screen inside the Church.
- Maintain the Parish's accessibility for people with their pastoral needs by continuing to keep the Parish Office open.

THE INTERIM STEERING COMMITTEE RESPONDS:

Your many suggestions have been recorded and are appreciated, and we as a parish should endeavour to give life to those proposals.

**QUESTION 4: BEYOND OUR COMMUNITY, THERE IS SO MUCH NEED.
SUGGEST PRACTICAL WAYS YOU THINK WE,
AS INDIVIDUALS, AS GROUPS OF PARISHIONERS
OR EVEN THE PARISH AS A WHOLE,
COULD HELP OTHERS BEYOND THE COMMUNITY.**

RESPONSES TO QUESTION 4:

'Neighbour' is firstly next to us in our families and in our Church as we address our local parishioners' needs. 'Neighbour' is across the fence, within the suburb and on the other side of the world. We need to try to make a difference and help where we can! Encourage parishioners understand the value they are, and what they are able to provide is important.

We need to be a Parish of outreach. Let's analyse our activities; consult local leaders and Vinnies to identify people in need. We may not be able to change the world but we need to try to make the difference we can. Aiming smaller at first with projects as the needs arise, we can collectively work for better outcomes.

In our busy world today, one of the areas where society falls shy of the mark is the provision of company for the isolated, lonely and marginalised - someone maybe to chat with. We can learn much by visiting Emmanuel Ministries, South Brisbane. Practical help for the needy, the bereaved, migrants and refugees can begin in tiny steps. A Youth Group and our reactivated Coorparoo Community Support Group can be engaged.

Let's continue our Lenten and Christmas Appeals. Run an 'On the Green' afternoon for the people or a parish in Tsunami-damaged Tonga.

Parishioners can learn about local Church organisations e.g. the Little King Movement, other organisations that are a part of the Church and other organisations for whom volunteers are important and are valued. They will fill a need whoever they help. It helps parishioners to feel worthwhile knowing they are contributing. It's a win for all.

THE INTERIM STEERING COMMITTEE RESPONDS:

There is so much need. As a faith community, we can discern what specific needs are within our means to support, using our finances and the talents of parishioners.

**QUESTION 5: EVEN IF YOU HAVEN'T THOUGHT IT THROUGH,
PLEASE SUGGEST ONE MAYBE DIFFERENT IDEA
FOR THE COMMUNITY TO CONSIDER
– OR BRAINSTORM A FEW OF YOUR IDEAS.**

RESPONSES TO QUESTION 5:

Some responses offering us guidance or other perspectives include:

- 'Become missionary!'
- 'From little things, big things come'
– keeping at a level of what we can do with the willing and able.
- Now is the time for a Regina Caeli Parish group of parishioners to focus on the future of the church building and the redevelopment of the property. The group needs to have expertise in this area of business / industry.
- Conduct a Farmers' Market / Second Hand Market / Creative Market on the grass monthly.
- Find another community in need and adopt it as a sister community
- in a rural, regional, interstate or overseas location -
with whom we can exchange ideas and services
e.g. like a sister city which a city adopts.
- Celebrate annually Multicultural expressions of our faith – here at Regina Caeli or encourage all to join in the annual Multicultural Mass in the Cathedral usually in August or attend the annual Luminous Parade and Festival at Southbank next June (organised by Multicultural Australia, Woolloongabba).

THE INTERIM STEERING COMMITTEE RESPONDS:

'From little things, big things come.' To achieve these and all suggestions to be developed over time, the Community needs our ongoing support. Thank you.

*Come Holy Spirit. Fill the hearts of your people.
Come amongst us and there will be a New Creation
for you are renewing the face of the earth.*

