

WHAT DO WE SEE?	
Fewer people in Mass	1
Falling numbers	1
Suffering community	1
Dwindling church population and the future of the church in doubt	1
Dwindling numbers	1
Age demographic retired or near retirement age	1
A desire to close churches because of falling numbers	1
Small attendance at Mass considering the size of the area	1
Lots of poverty and deprivations around. _ try to respond to this and reach out to people. What do other churches do?	1
Less churches, closures, needing to work together	1
Church closing down and having to amalgamate because of falling numbers	1
Dwindling Catholic faith and numbers	1
Reducing numbers in parishioners	1
deline in church numbers	1
decining church numbers	1
half empty churches	1
aging congregation struggling to connect with younger people	1
Aging congregation - what will happen when people pass away?	1
The older generation are the only representation in church	1
A community with reducing number in need of revival	1
A strong and close community that is aging	1
Empty Churches	1
Less people in church	1
A dying community	1
A decline in numbers	1
fewer people	1
fewer people in church	1

dwindling numbers		1
empty seats		1
Aged and dwindling congregation with fewer children		1
Falling attendance in all churches for many years		1
Aging congregation		1
Church empty on Sunday as there is no Mass		1
diminishing flock but caring community		1
smaller Mass attendance		1
The parishes are all getting smaller		1
Diminishing congregation, but commitment from those who are here		1
An increasingly older community		1
Fewer people coming to Mass		1
smaller Mass attendance		1
Churches are empty - people don't go to church anymore		1
Insufficient numbers to keep churches viable		1
Not enough people in church - other churches are the same		1
decline in attendees		1
Not many church goers		1
numbers dwindling. Not a large congregation on a weekly basis		1
Less people attending church		1
Lack of attendance, lack of devotion		1
Less people coming to church since the pandemic		1
Church is not as busy as it was years ago		1
Empty churches		1
Less [people coming to church		1
Less people attending.		1
Lack of attendees,		1
Small numbers attending mass, mostly older		1
decline in numbers		1

lowchurch attendance		1
Communities dwindling		1
Numbers have decreased		1
underfilled church		1
half full church		1
Empty space. Where is everybody?		1
A large parish, a full school, but mostly elderly at Mass and empty benches		1
a half empty church		1
less people in church and less masses		1
Less people coming to church.		1
Churches - there are few that are consistently used		1
Fewer people at Mass		1
Church is big and people coming are less		1
not enough people attending church		1
a community declining in numbers an vibrancy - it is ageing		1
dwindling community		1
increase in population in area doesn't correspond with umbers in church		1
people, but not many going to weekend church		1
church communities getting smaller		1
parishes dying through lack of younger families/ embracing the future/ the laity in the liturgy		1
falling numbers		1
Dwindling attendance		1
lack of parishioners		1
Elderly congregation		1
Falling numbers		1
aging congregarion		1
falling numbers		1
Congregation getting older and not replaced with younger mebers		1
empty churches		1

benches are empty		1
Absence of people attending Mass		1
empty church		1
decline in mass going parishioners		1
Energy/enthusiasm but ever diminishing numbers		1
Lack of unity	0	2
No knowledge of other churches in the area		2
Who are the other priests in the area?		2
what do other priests do what area do they cover		2
Don't know what goes on in other Churches	11	2
Not a lot of communication		2
Parishes isolated		2
No unity		2
No awareness of other parishes		2
No real connection		2
Each Church seems to be self sufficient and isolated		2
Separate churches and communities		2
Separate churches and communities		2
Rarely visited other churches in the area		2
All parishes do the same but in isolation		2
Good things are happening in different parishes but no cohesion		2
Smaller communities that do not reach out		2
Different parish communities working in isolation		2
No knowledge of other churches in the area and how they operate		2
Isolated parishes, falling attendance		2
Separate communities		2
Too many scattered churches		2
Large distance geographically between churches		2
divided - very different approaches in each parish		2

seperate parishes with different ideas	2
divided community based in separate churches	2
While not necessarily a big gap geographically, there is no connection between the churches	2
Isolated churches - little evidence of like minded approaches	2
Don't see other parishes - not sure where they are	2
Lack of community between communities	2
small groups of church goers - keep to themselves	2
Parishes are seperate	2
Unfamiliarity of the area as a new parishioner	2
Individual parishes - no real communication	2
Churches working as individuals, but beginning to try work as a team	2
Each parish doing its own thing	2
We are forgotten about	2
the need for more communitcation and co-operation between parishes in the area	2
parishes who do not know about each other	2
I don't really see a formed community	2
Individualised community	2
Insulated places - no connection to each other, no celebration of the catholic community - summer fayres etc...	2
I can go to Mass at _ at 8:30, but across the area there is no community	2
Isolation between the parishes	2
This is a large spread out area	2
small communities working together with little or no interaction	2
A growing community with not much interaction amongst members	2
not much integration of the parishes/ parishioners	2
a broken community that comes together during Mass	2
an absence of colour	2
Individual , satelite buildings	2
Aging churches, some more welcoming than others	2

not much communication with other parishes	2
unco-ordinated church	2
parish communities that are not connected	2
different visions of faith	2
Division, lack of unity, insular - each church looks to their own community, disconnect	2
opposition to change	2
all individual, everyone keepst own traditions and identities	2
no sense of cohesion/ community between parishes	2
We are one people with 6 parishes	2
separate churches in isolation of each other	2
total spearation - not integrated with any other parish in deanary	2
Have connected with other parishes outside of the deanary with similar outlook	2
Parochial - don't know whats happening. Could be 500 miles/ 5 miles wouldn't matter to knowledge	2
This feels like the accepted norm that communities are insular	2
Parishes hold on to their own identities	2
Churches are so far apart	2
Active within our own community, but don't know other parishes, so no involvement	2
Church parishes isolated, not active in all churches	2
Not working together - stand alone churches	2
different parishes, but isolated	2
disjointed and reliant on regular parishioners	2
6 churches with little or no connection to each other not aware of neighbouring parishes	2
separate communities doing their own thing	2
be all inclusive/ share resources	2
some differences in each Mass	2
isolation - concentrating on own parish	2
- A body trying to be one	2
Currently operating in silos	2

Wilderness	2
British landscape – stone walls around fields – independent entities – some walls higher (maybe for defence)	2
- Insular/isolation/disconnection (geographical space between creates difficulty to connection)	2
Not a cohesive group	2
Can't see the whole	2
Don't 'know' each others parishes	2
What are the good things that are going on?	2
Different attitudes etc (reconciliation services)	2
Need to get out of the helicopter and see what's on the ground	2
Decline in Catholic influence	3
Schools taking on non-Catholic pupils	3
Few in the area regard themselves as Catholic	3
less focus on Catholicism in high schools	3
Wide extensive area - many catholic families no longer practicing their faith	3
Less practising catholics	3
Steady increase in a lack of interest in what church has to offer	3
less people coming to church	3
People prioritise their faith less	3
People are no longer interested in church	3
Rosary is not said in churches anymore	3
few people practising their religion	3
People falling away from the church	3
Lack of interst in the curch generally	3
lack of catholic faith	3
not enough morming services	3
Increasing number of attendees from multi-ethnicity for Mass	3
Reduced number of attendees from white ethnic group	3
People not follwing faith	3

Community of people who need to encourage the young ones to move closer to God	3
faith fading away	3
fear the catholic faith is diminishing faster than usual	3
secularism - many catholics in name only	3
unattractive to general population	3
Sepearate communities with their own ways of doing things	3
encourage people to renew their faith.	3
Don't seem to want to get involved	3
culture and upbringing	3
No respect for preists and religious - faith not important in their lives	3
People practising their faith, but the respect for the blessed sacrament isn't always there	3
church pushed aside for sport and shopping	3
* a joined up parish others should replicate	4
Loss of Community	4
Wider community coming together	4
Strong community	4
Our community tries to link others together	4
Friendly, helpful community working towards the holy word of God	4
Our Parish is a strong united community	4
Friendly and helpful people in the area	4
Very connected at * wonderful Priests	4
Great community in *	4
Vibrant caring joyful community in this church.	4
Inclusive and passionate community	4
Trying its best to improve on what has been done in the past	4
If all church communities are like this one then it would be a benefit to all	4
* recognises current issues and welcomes everyone	4
* a functional community and has a missionar outlook	4
Joining of* making the church stronger	4

Our parish is good community	4
the church is here for us both spiritually and socially	4
we are an outreaching, supporting parish	4
My community - built by parishioners that look out for one another	4
Our community is great with loving and caring people	4
Strong links with local primary schools	4
In our church while there are falling numbers there is also vibrancy	4
I am part of a very socially focussed community	4
A vibrant community led by hardworking parish priest - full of ideas and enthusiasm	4
SHARe Knowsley instigated in this parish	4
part of other collaborative initiatives in the area - Bellevalle Passion	4
We are a close community	4
Churches trying to work together	4
* is a friendly caring community	4
A good community	4
Mass is convenient for people to attend	4
Supportive Parish priest *	4
Pilgrimages and group activities organised by the parish team	4
Strong community	4
We have a good community	4
My church is a community where I feel safe and not alone	4
A community based church	4
* are connected by PP and the schools, build further	4
Committed community of *	4
Sincere, hardworking priests and deacons and lay people doing good work	4
I don't know this area very well, but I was given a lovely welcome in the church	4
A community that has been broken and our church is the only backbone and legacy left	4
A friendly community	4
A community of faith in Christ	4

people all over huyton celebrating the word of God in this church	4
Caring community - place or a cup of tea and a chat	4
all churches uniting together	4
more people coming to church	4
more diversity in the congregation	4
a family - closeknit, support each other	4
hope in our community	4
good community	4
A community full of love, warmth and welcome	4
people getting together more around the churches	4
Spiritually - invisible togetherness. We have been welcomed back into this community	4
people worshipping	4
friendly people - very welcoming	4
a brighter future for the catholic church	4
Our thriving and welcoming parish	4
good community spirit	4
diversity	4
wealth of gifts	4
Good community locally in *	4
Expanding community in the parish	4
increasing diversity	4
a diverse community in church	4
good mix of ages - young and old	4
Diverse: financial/resources/school provision/laity involvement/religious	4
Believe each parish living to the best of their ability	4
Increase in ethic diversity	4
Hope	4
Confession and Divine Mercy not available easily	5
More lay leadership (feel empowered)	6

Lots of unknowns	6
Untapped skills and talent	6
Ways need to change - Rules don't form a church community - God's people do	6
We need to connect more with all denominations - one God	6
Uncertainty	6
Distance between parished geographically - need something central for all	6
Need stronger faith activities along with Masses	6
Parishes who are beginning to embrace positive change	6
how can we all benefit from the process?	6
There seems a ceiling to creativity - no able to break through	6
It takes a lot of energy to keep own parish going. How can this be shared without being lost?	6
What brings all the churches together?	6
Catholic churches (parishes/schools) – how do they move out of the wilderness?	6
Work to do . . .	6
Disconnected jigsaw – holding the pieces (holding back?/tentative?/all in?)	6
Natural meeting point (Asda)	6
Lack of help from those responsible for our area	7
Antisocial behaviour	7
Poor people struggling	7
Community is not like it used to be	7
Children, families, poverty, run down parks	7
Poor transport links	7
Everyday people are in need of help one way or the other	7
Many new housing establishments -many peoples' needs to consider	7
Very large area with a number of parishes, some of which have already closed down	7
Public transport difficulties between parishes	7
Broad geography - Liverpool Rd. Separates communities	7
variation in social demographics	7
not geographically close to other parishes	7

A large community with several churches	7
Big church buildings that need a lot of money to be maintained	7
depressed people	7
Families don't attend and the area is deprived	7
There is not a lot of community spirit. People are struggling	7
Poor area, poor attendance	7
deprivation	7
Many new housing establishments - many people's needs to consider	7
There should be opportunity for lay people to be more involved	7
Lack of youth centres	7
decline all around us	7
sadness, pain, sorrow	7
poor community	7
broken area	7
desolation	7
A relatively small area with increased numbers of diverse cultures	7
poverty and homeless people	7
Sufficient social housing especially with a growing population	7
disrespect in the youth	7
open wasted spaces - no place for community to gather	7
physically broken community - unused land and general mess	7
Lots of new developments being built	7
slowly growing more diverse	7
that a lot of people need help	7
different social backgrounds, diversity,	7
Area is too vast to be one community	7
Mass times could be checked against public transport timetables	7
broken community	7
see the community come together with the church	7

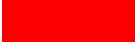











lack of respect		7
Examples of clericalism which inhibits growth and liety involvement		8
Lack of support to bring parishes together		8
Conservative vs progressive		8
ANOTHER SURVEY - Archdiocese don't seem to move on anything - just more questions		8
Enthusiasm in the parish quashed by archaic system		8
Some clergy responding more to their own needs rather than the needs of the people - People are th church		8
Some churches forward thingking while others set in the past		8
The church in decline		8
Danger of parochialism		8
Not enough Priests		9
Not enough clergy		9
Large Catholic community with too few priests and poor support from senior Archdiocean heirachy		9
Fewer parishes, fewer priests		9
Shortage of priests		9
lack of priests		9
ageing priests,		9
Decline in number of priests		9
Priests overloaded with too much work		9
one priest running 2 parishes		9
Tradition catholic parishes - concern for future because of lack of priests		9
mothing, cleary are apathetic		9
lack of preists		9
too many priests stuck in old fashioned ways		9
aging priests		9
shortage of priests		9
Less young people		10

Not enough to keep youth engaged and off the streets. Church used to be a big part of this	10
lack of young people attending church	10
There are no young people coming to church	10
Older congregations, fewer people in church, not enough young people	10
not enough children	10
Lack of children coming to church	10
Not enough children in Mass	10
Lack of youth at church,	10
not many youngsters	10
people are far from the church- especially young people	10
not many children come to church anymore	10
Not much involvement of young children in prayer, especially on a Sunday	10
Less activities for children	10
no clubs/ activities for children therefore gangs	10
low population of youth	10
less people coming to church - especially young people	10
diminishing numbers, fewer children	10
no activities for youth	10
not enough young people attending church	10
Younger generation not at mass	10
lack of children in mass - need children's mass weekly	10
empty churches - no young children at Mass	10
no young families	10
no children at mass	10
lack of young people	10
No links with schools	10a
the need for more participation by parents of school children	10a
No school children or families at Sunday mass	10a
RE in school + lifelong catholics?	10a

schools not particularly interested- many schools to one parish		10a
no catholic school		10a
Need to keep in touch with people who have lost their place of worship		11
a lost congregation from the closure of *		11
Lost members of the church when * closed		11
sad when* closed, but the amalgamation has largely been successful under good leadership		11
churches closing		11
churches closing		11
churches closing		11
The bigger churches will stay open		11
Churches closing - not having a safe place to go and worship		11
Churches are closing		11
Churches closing		11
Fear the day we are unable to travel to church		11
St. aidan's has gone - already lost one identity, can't lose again		11
Lots of church buildings in need of repair		12
lack of functional churches,		12
ageing buildings		12
Too many parishes		12
large church in need of repair		12
Old buildings in need of repair		12
lots of churches that need maintaining, but not the resources to look after them		12
church seems to be closed other than Sat & Sun		12
Churches costing a great deal to maintain		12

1. What do We See?

Column1

	Dwindling Mass Attendance	90
	Lack of unity/ cohesion/ communication between parishes	101
	Faith no longer a priority	31
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	Lack of Priests	16
	Lack of youth/ young people	26
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	Uncertainty/ looking for change	17
	School involvement	6

WORDS AND PHRASES		
Church population dwindling		1
Mass numbers dropping		1
Church empty		1
People not going to Church		1
Poor attendance at Mass		1
decline in numbers		1
same people doing all the work		1
Congregation getting smaller		1
decline in numbers		1
A ripe field with less people to harvest the fruit		1
Elderly, dying congregations		1
Smaller congregations		1
very aging congregation but very caring		1
decline in numbers particularly post COVID		1
half empty churches		1
Not enough people coming to Mass		1
Empty churches everywhere		1
mostly elderly		1
dwindling number of parishioners, loyal, but aging		1
Aging, frail congregation		1
Lost 1000s of £ due to reduced numbers		1
dropping attendance - especially since COVID		1
Worry about future attendance		1
aging congregation1		1
no volunteers for parish activities		1
no welcomers		1
Empty churches everywhere		1
older age demographic		1

Continued impact of covid (online attendance)		1
Lots of churches in the area but no interaction		2
No integration		2
Stand alone		2
Churches not united		2
Too wide an area to work closely with		2
Different ways of working		2
Fragmented		2
Isolated to a degree in relation to other churches		2
No link, no knowledge		2
Struggling, stand alone, poor, lack of resource		2
Well attended at * but not so much elsewhere		2
Separate branches of the same tree		2
We are an open parish but a lack of understanding of other parishes		2
Each parish is a separate entity		2
Jesus is the vine and we are the branches. need to blossom and branch out & include parishes that need help		2
Disjointed, no community spirit		2
Fragmented		2
lack of unity		2
No links to other parishes		2
People don't want to see what life is like outside their own bubble		2
We don't know what is affecting other communities		2
People are out for themselves. Church is my safe place		2
disparate		2
disconnected		2
ignorant of what is happening		2
no contact between parishes		2
No links to other parishes		2
don't know anything about other churches in the area		2

social community, but not connected with the surrounding parishes	2
Separate individual identities	2
Disconnected culture	2
divided... Territorial	2
Part of my parish not part of others	2
Fragmented - no obvious lines of working together or even having similar ideas or views	2
Need to connect - know notheing of other parishes	2
Fragmented	2
separate/ individual	2
the need for more communication between parishes	2
Lack of communication	2
unsure of other parishes	2
each parish struggling on their own	2
separated, insular	2
Isolation, stuck	2
parishes are insular - only go to other churches for funerals	2
lack of unity - church and local community	2
not the same commmunity feel anymore - lots of strangers	2
love and loyalty seen in church, but no connectivity with other parishes	2
things are as dark or as light as you make them	2
churches need to work together	2
can be better	2
We need to stick together	2
Need for more effective communication	2
Difference between churches	2
Everybody digging their own furrow	2
tension between different appraoches in each parish prevents a feeling of community across Huyton	2
Walled off fields	2
it feels easier to connect ecumenically than with local catholic churches	2

Attempts in the past to make connections - shared pulpit, newsletters, have come to nothing	2
Don't know what goes on in other parishes, there is a need for sharing	2
Want parishes to work together and be motivated	2
need for collective thinking and to talk to other parishes	2
knowledge of our own parishes, but not aware of other parishes	2
lack of knowledge - need for formation	2
Isolation, bewilderment	2
That we might grow together	2
Isolated	2
Separate	2
Lack of communication	2
landscapes- fields separated by different levels of stone walls can't see over them, sometimes high defences	2
We speak from our own context	2
Disjointed	2
stuck	2
generosity of spirit	2
working in silos	2
difficult, frightening, lacking in faith	3
Negativity	3
Lack of empathy	3
Lack of interest in faith. Not many people in this area interested in going to Mass	3
Catholic church on the whole is imploding.	3
Lapsed Catholics, Involvement always left to the few	3
Lack of community / faith in the home	3
People blaming God for the state of the world	3
sad, disappointed	3
apathy	3
busy lives	3
A changing world where religion does not seem as important	3

Families not attending Mass		3
Very sad		3
Sadness		3
desperate		3
Jesus not adored in adoration		3
lack of faith		3
lack of friendship		3
Lack of commitment / sense of duty		3
People don't help eachother		3
nothing done to encourage faith		3
Less people believeing in Jesus than years ago		3
People too busy to help others		3
upset, people too busy for God		3
faith is diminishing		3
people don't bother about what is happening in the catholic church		3
We are losing out faith		3
individuals consumed by their own interest		3
Apathetic use: bptisms, marriage, funerals, but don't attend personally		3
People generally display more apathy, anti-socila behavior, disrespect, materialistic goals		3
Fear of reduced number of people coming to Mass if there are no activities based on faith		3
Tough losing community spirit		3
societies priorities are different - church is not as important anymore		3
Busy lives; sometimes people too busy to help others		3
sadness, anger, loss, fear, noone helping		3
less spirituality		3
Improvement in moral values and teaching God's way		3
Worry for the church as a whole		3
no commitment		3
sad, apathy, why? So much change		3

Church is lukewarm delivering the faith	3
we keep the faith, but we keep it to ourselves	3
respect dwindling in the church, lack of reverence	3
faithlessness, lack of ommunion with God	3
lack of commitment - its not srving the local population	3
sad	3
losing hope	3
things would be better -in church there is no discipline, chatting, no punctuality	3
anxious - christian families getting smaller	3
come for the sacraments - don't return	3
role models	3
respect.	3
humility	3
Faith priorities	3
Welcoming Church	4
Strong, acive	4
Great Volunteers	4
Great Priest	4
Strong parish community	4
Volunteering helps run the church and strengthens relationships	4
Faith in practice	4
Great volunteers	4
Active Parish Priest	4
Family	4
Friends	4
Unity	4
Welcoming, inclusive, different activity groups	4
Inclusive care fro the community	4
Lots of volunteers compared with other churches	4

We are a growing community who try to reach out to everyone	4
We impose our laity but does not seem to be the case everywhere	4
Community spirit, inclusive, passionate, loving	4
Hopeful for change	4
Kind, welcoming	4
Feel comfortable coming to church	4
Welcoming and inclusive	4
* is alive	4
* is open and positive, some parish priest don't act as one community	4
our own parish is doing well and people have a sense of belonging through volunteering	4
our church is open daily for private prayer	4
spiritual and social needs are met in our parish	4
Our parish is a welcoming friendly family	4
own parish feels forward thinking and is searching for ways to connect with the community	4
Own parish has a strong emphasis on faith in action	4
We recognise the reality of family life in the 21st Century	4
i feel welcome	4
I feel safe	4
Community	4
compassion	4
Our parish is inclusive	4
People in our parish are involved in a variety of groups	4
Struck with how people are encouraged to use and share their talents	4
As a new parishioner - love the dynamism and friendliness of the parish of *	4
Our joint parish is now a vibrant unit	4
So many energetic groups who do great work	4
Lay people heavily involved. Friendship through tea club and pensioners group	4
Many religious groups -	4
1 years old and people are very kind to me	4

we have a strong parish	4
Working together, supporting different needs	4
Active community of catholics	4
kind parishioners	4
organised, inclusive, caring for others, family	4
togetherness	4
happy, loved, hope, peace	4
happy, holy, loved, family, belonging, special	4
Love, faith, hope, trust in God	4
good, with room for improvement	4
peaceful, happiness, together with God	4
things are going well	4
wonderful	4
more diverse and inclusive, growing community, more young people	4
growth in diversity in the parish	4
parish community of different nationalities	4
We enjoy our church, lively congregation, welcoming, friendly and caring	4
The value of our social gatherings and our tea club on Sundays	4
Sense of community - it is a joy to come to Mass	4
Enjoy the relaxed atmosphere - a reflection of the inclusivity and how PP conducts Mass	4
Strong feeling of community at * - easy to get to know other parishioners	4
being able to show the love of God in words and actions	4
Cosmopolitan set of groups within our church - happy healthy and supportive parish	4
In our church, our welcoming attitude means we are growing in diversity - as a vine we are reaching out to others	4
Our parish of * feels alive, enthusiastic, open to possibilities, welcoming and inclusive	4
* encourages lay people in various roles through encouragement of PP	4
We are very lucky to be part of * - inclusive, one big family, very supported by PP	4
We are welcoming regardless of religion, sexual orientation and beliefs	4
We feel we are on the right track and would like to share this with others	4

* - encourages outreach, mission, inclusion - encouraging lay ministry & responsibility		4
Promising future		4
optimisim		4
commitment		4
How welcoming*is for everyone		4
Share Knowlsey a great example of christian love		4
Fear of change		5
Fear of change		5
things are ok		5
We are happy with how things are		5
I think things are going well and will continue to get better		5
As Catholics, we need to keep church and Mass		5
Miss the traditions		5
quite happy as things are		5
loss of traditions		5
Uncertain about the future		6
Some are optomistic about the future and the possibility of pooling resources		6
We are at a crossroads, signposts are clear, clergy and parishioners can either carry on the same or		6
Hope/scepticism, joy/sadness, potential/weariness		6
If the Archdiocese was to give the go ahead for a new church it would be a beacon of hope		6
Church needs new blood		6
Rules need to change		6
Need to cut out cloth as there are not enough numbers to keep churches going		6
The church needs to modernise		6
uncertainty and concern		6
outdated		6
Hopeful for change		6
need to connect... Need to share... Need for all to be open to change		6
Archaic at times BUT forward thinking at times too		6

the unknown - where will we end up?		6
Feel sad and helpless and worried about what will happen		6
Aware that there is a need for change		6
Worried, concerned about the future		6
Change		6
Things need to get better		6
sad, how can we improve things?		6
Acceptance that things must change		6
need for a shared vision		6
brighter future		6
challenging but hopeful		6
Changes in the church		6
make changes for a growing, happy community		6
Uncertain		6
More interesting for everyone		6
Lacking meaning in the modern world		6
Lacking demonstrable purpose in a context that is not conducive to active faith		6
fear we cannot manage this situation		6
Unsettled, in limbo		6
Isolation, uncertainty		6
Uncordinated, confusion, too much for elderly parishioners		6
Our parish has a sense of the spirit - anxiety that other parishes may not share same values		6
Change is not easy - it is hard!		6
Change will come		6
Development of lay leadership - inclusion of men and women		6
Change is difficult, but we need to change for the next generation		6
How do we widen out tent pegs?		6
How does church become something beyond the building		6
disappointed, confused, cheated, forgotten		6

younger parishioners, older parishioners, deaf ears, lots of questions	6
untapped talents and gifts	6
Up in the air	6
Paradox of isolation and hope/anticipation	6
What will we have in the future? Not just about managing decline (priests/congregations aging and declining, Sisters being m	6
Room for opportunities	6
Fear – uncertainty	6
Image of shared resources – 2 sets of famers – water source plentiful on top farm – eventually agreed to have water piped to lo	6
Image of jigsaw pieces – is it tentative desire to come together or holding back pieces – also one piece leads to another	6
Imagining there is nothing – we come together – what would we want to create?	6
Fragile	6
Potential	6
missed opportunities	6
More Church involvement in the Community	7
Carol Singing in Town	7
Cost of living, low mood, lack of care, hopelessness	7
Broken, jungary, sad, racism, cost of living crisis	7
Struggling,	7
The church is isolated from the community as a whole. Only people in the community feel a connection	7
climate change	7
High cost of living	7
very unsettled at the moment	7
difficult times	7
neglect	7
Being open to the world around and heling in the community could bring a lot more people to church	7
sad world	7
Difficult times for people to connect with the church	7
The rich getting richer and the poor getting poorer	7
Unhappy times for some; hope future improves	7

people destroying public property	7
struggling families	7
wasted, derelict, rubbish dumped	7
poor area - food bank is very important	7
run down, scruffy, not looked after	7
financially struggling community who rely heavily on the charity of the church	7
sad, isolated	7
lots of crime, no community spirit	7
struggles	7
As they close catholic churches other churches come up with other religions	7
decline, dying, lacking vibrancy	7
transport	7
no social club at St. Dominic's	7
no respect	7
broken and fragmented	7
In decline	7
Lack of Archdiocese support	8
How much does this possible way forward depend on the Priest	8
Frustrated with endless processes that never bear fruit	8
Frustration that processes take so long and are met with so many hurdles and challenges	8
Broken promises	8
Boring - stuck in the past. Services can feel long and something to be stuck out	8
Let down by archdiocese with empty words and promises	8
Mass focused on the homily, not the eucharist	8
Controlled from powers that be	8
old fashioned	8
quiet - needs more life and excitement	8
Lack of direction from the Archdiocese- not thinking about parishes, more about purse strings	8
Who advises the Archbishop? Who makes the decisions?	8

Too few Priests	9
poorly supported	9
There is a lot of work in each parish for one priest	9
Aging group of priests out of touch	9
Smaller congregations, less priests, each church is different	9
Pressure on our priests accross the community	9
priests tired and overworked	9
fading away, no succession	9
not all parishes/clergy recognise inclusivity	9
At the momemt parish culture feels very dependent on the priest rather than being created by congregation	9
lack of priests	9
Do the priests encourage the laity?	9
Fewer priests	9
Fewer religious	9
Next generation/children	10
Difficult to engage children and young people	10
Not enough young people, make their communion and don't come again	10
Plan more things to engage teens and encourage them to get involved with church matters	10
fewer young people coming to mass	10
Need for more outreach - more community and youth engagement	10
The need for more young people to come to Mass	10
More involvement from the young	10
Mass doesn't engage with young people	10
There should be more young people in the church	10
Not enough young people	10
Children are not encouraged to come to church by their parents	10
Younger generations not acknowledging faith, their parish or the church	10
Younger generation unable to see impact of ignoring their faith	10
no children	10

Ok if you're elderly - you know lots of people, not ok fo the young		10
Better to involve young people more		10
Help adolescents use Jesus's words to make a change in their lives		10
more fun ways to encourage children to attend		10
the next generation do not know the faith		10
youth - future is a poor situation		10
church attendance is diminishing - especially the young		10
What can we do to bring young people into church?		10
Irrelevant (particularly for the young)		10
Closing churches - unsettling		11
Loss of * Club less social gatherings		11
Sadness at church closures, importance of family working together, warm atmosphere		11
"Clique" occuring after amalgamations		11
Sadness at church closures, importance of family working together, warm atmosphere		11
change of parish could mean loss of identity		11
things are confusing		11
People are worried about their church closing and if they wil be able to attend Mass		11
fear of closure		11
Uncertainty about the future of our local parishes		11
Sad at thought of churches closing		11
Unknown what lies ahead for our local churches		11
We have lost ou school and social club, we cannot lose our church		11
Unsettled - it took time to join *		11
Sad to have lost touch with those who did not come with when * closed		11
Crumbling Churches		12
Old dilapidated Church.		12
Crumbling Church		12
deteriorating church buiding		12
church buildings not fit for purpose		12

Prayer, church, family		12
Churches are in desperate need of repair		12
Church buildings practically not fit for purpose		12
decline, rundown		12
A church that needs repair		12
empty benches, cold church		12
More Masses at Christmas		13
Need to update profile of Churches		13
Getting together with other communities helps to make us stronger		13
Communication and coming together		13
Welcoming people regardless of race		13
A more comprehensive faith community		13
Be welcoming		13
Need for church activities		13
Meet the needs of the community		13
We need to work together		13
The need to support each other		13
traditional but needs more traditional activities like Easter parades, christmas cards etc...		13
Things would be better if people took time to get to know each other better		13
church a nice place to practice faith - could get better with more activities		13
Need for good leadership. good support and engage more with schools		13
lack of teaching in schools that they should attend Mass		10a
re: schools things are disjointed, schools need to be more involved		10a
Schools are not particularly interested		10a
- Schools seem less involved		10a
God helps those who help themselves		

Words and Phrases	Column1
Dwindling Mass Attendance	29
Lack of unity/ cohesion/ communication between parishes	74
Faith no longer a priority	55
What we feel works well	79
Social/ political influences	32
Heirarchical Obstacles	13
Lack of priests	14
Lack of youth/ young people	24
The Closure of Churches	15
The Buildings	11
Uncertainty/ Looking for change/ acceptance of change	56
We are not looking for change	9
Things we would like to see happening	15
School involvement	4

WHAT ARE OUR HOPES?		
Large healthy Catholic community in the area		1
More people attend Mass and get involved		1
more people go to church		1
more people come to church		1
People to be more engaged with church life		1
More people attending church		1
More people to attend Mass		1
for churches to stay open and congregations to become full again		1
higher attendance		1
More of a community, more people coming to church		1
more people attending Mass		1
Better attendance, community, music, schools involved		1
More volunteers - not just reliant on the same people		1
Fuller churches		1
For more people to attend church and * to be a part of the community		1
Seeing churches full on sundays		1
More people come to church		1
more attend mass		1
lots of helpers		1
that more people attend mass		1
more attendance at mass		1
more people attend Sunday services		1
more people to get more involved - give more instead of taking		1
more people volunteer as elderly are finding it hard to manage		1
the church will be full of people ready to praise the lord		1
the church grows in love and kindness		1
the church will grow and flourish		1
to involve more people		1

the catholic church continues to grow and thrive		1
the parish becomes larger		1
that we become more vocal singers		1
Hope to entice people to come to church		1
support – shared resources (fewer people to do the jobs, so need to share own resources and richness of communities)		1
more people to attend - build considerate communities		1
for the parish community to continue to grow		1
increase numbers		1
Teamwork, churches working together for the Catholic community		2
Pooling of resources and shared ideas		2
Work together for a stronger community		2
To act more as a community		2
Unity		2
Community groups, social gatherings, artisan fairs, line dancing, craft		2
Coming together of Churches and people making them stronger		2
Regularly get churches together		2
Share the positives and strengths of each church		2
We thrive and pull together		2
more linked events, joint services/community centre		2
Greater christian unity		2
Catholic people work together to break down barriers		2
Catholic community continues to thrive		2
Positive encouragement, dialogue between partner parishes		2
United churches with shared ideas and resources		2
Welcoming and committed to diversity		2
For other parishes to be as open and welcoming as *		2
To share our community with others, to welcome and build better relationships		2
That we can be more together		2

Build relationships with other parishes, share resources with other churches	2
Churches working together, more groups and activities	2
To see the community come together. Events to offer support to people	2
Community to get more help and to make it a friendlier community for all races and gender	2
Maintain a sense of community of being seen and valued	2
Greater unity to share gifts and talents of other people	2
Better link between other churches	2
More compassion shown to those who need help and care	2
More joined up working	2
People will realise that helping each other and looking out for each other is what makes a community	2
People less scared to share experiences	2
Better connection between parish & Archdiocese and parish & parish	2
to work together as a group	2
That we all work together	2
To share good practice ideas - combine common activities	2
That there is unity not division	2
More social activities	2
To be kept informed of what is happening	2
For a large group to be active in various part of parish life -	2
More events to support the parish	2
To feel part of a whole community parishes	2
More community gatherings and joint outreach - show people God's Love	2
Community to come together socially got kids and families to grow their faith	2
For more people to be involved	2
Everyone works together	2
Friendly, dynamic sharing of gifts and talents	2
That the community takes care of one another	2
We all work together to achieve our goals	2

That we grew together		2
That we get to know each other better and we get along.		2
unity		2
More invlvement with our community churches		2
We build a close community to help each other		2
More integration, but also to continue to belong to your own local community.		2
Share more resources/ human resources		2
We will work more closely together		2
more social events to bring people together		2
to work with other parishes		2
to all come together		2
Better co-operation between our "Family of Parishes"		2
More events to bring the community together		2
To continue to grow in faith with the support of the parish priest		2
That we become more together		2
That we can bulid our relationship with other parishes to help us grow		2
That we come together and realise our beliefs make us better people.		2
A strong, faithful and devout community		2
more people to be included and encouraged to participate		2
All become united		2
We work together, keep churches, more young people, lookafter priests		2
more collaboration and sharing of resources -		2
Harmony in the community- everyone able to have a say and input		2
Hope for more togetherness		2
That our church families can come together and succeed		2
to come together, to be kind, to serve as a community		2
JUST COME TOGETHER IN SOME WAY		2
Bible studies in the area, sharing, day retreats, children's activities		2
Brighter future - hope for a better community		2

to become family		2
for more cooperation between parishes		2
greater intergration of community and parishioners		2
people to unite, take care of each other		2
unite the community		2
more participation in catholic activities		2
better communication		2
Unity and co-operation will help us survive as a people with one faith		2
Work together for our future church		2
We can achieve more together than what we can achieve alone		2
Communicate (parishioners)		2
Work together to make the right decisions for the future good of the Church (Family of Parishes)		2
More collaboration		2
sharing of resources		2
share more		2
communicate better		2
strength in collaborative talking and thinking – exciting possibilities		2
More communities and churches come together		2
Vibrant parish communities working together as a family of parishes		2
Greater interaction (energy needed)		2
Want to be involved but feel inadequate		2
Consolidate our strength to make more vibrant congregations		2
Identifying our resources (strengths) and work out how to share them		2
More community involvement - more volunteers/ lay people		2
Make family of churches real		2
We can all learn from each other		2
Recognising strengths in each community		2
Possibility of amalgamating newsletter (monthly?)		2
work together and share knowledge		2

that the churches in huyton can become a united community - church is the people	2
more communication between parishes	2
to share our understanding and thoughts of parish situation and needs - come together	2
greater community growth	2
parishes work together to survive	2
use strengths/ share resources - talk to other parishes about what is available	2
collaboration of all parishes	2
more opportunities for socialising - and a sense of community	2
share best practice	2
hope to have knowledge of other parishes and sense of wider community	2
The ability to recognise and share skills share best practice	2
Success of intergration, but keeping the character of each parish	2
Building awareness encouraging God's Love	3
That people will come to church and hear the word of God	3
Love one another, more help and understanding, fair prices on food	3
Keep on improving and win more souls to Christ.	3
Encouragement of dormant Catholics to rejoin the church	3
Welcoming church	3
That our lovely community can reach out to others	3
People find acceptance	3
outreach to the housebound	3
Spread a foward looking, welcoming message to those who don't currently come to church	3
intergration and sing our church for the betterment of all	3
That all communities are as welcoming, forward thinking as I think our parish is	3
To engage with those on the margin and become even more inclusive	3
Focus on Liturgy	3
People come back to the church	3
Hope that more people come back to church	3
With more people moving into the area, we will have more joining our parish	3

Jesus will be adored in Adoration		3
people will come with greater faith when asking for baptism etc...		3
That people return and start filling the church		3
Bring back good old family values and help in the community		3
People come back to church		3
More people realise what is important in their spiritual lives		3
A community that respects each other with God in their lives		3
That people have hope for the future		3
People will come back to church		3
Something will happen to bring people back to church		3
More people will find faith again		3
a catholic community with more interaction - more engaging and attractive		3
more people to learn who God is		3
the church becomes more important		3
more people coming back to church		3
That we are all heading in the right direction and people do not continue losing their faith		3
That there will always be a Priest or Deacon to talk to and a local Church for prayer and comfort		3
God's mercy will manifest in the lives of the laity		3
To gain insight into self, acquire character and love more		3
Prioritise faith (people's attitudes to 1st communions etc)		3
Reawakening of religious awareness		3
Try to remove prejudice and superstition		3
church is available for all		3
outward looking community - work to be Christ centred		3
help the wider community see values of the church		3
that the church is still standing for all to be able to worship		3
Believe our parish * is on the right track		4
That we get back to the way it used to be		5
That the church will continue to develop and improve upon what is well established already		5

That we are not relocated		5
that we don't lose what we have		5
That our parish continues		5
To keep our church		5
To see our churches stay open		5
To keep our church - * as people wouldn't be able to travel to another church		5
That * stays open		5
For the church to stay as it is		5
To keep the parish		5
To remain our own community within a community of churches		5
That My church - *, stays open		5
More masses on a Sunday, Sunday confessions		5
Traditional Latin Mass		5
To keep * church. This is our community! We need it!		5
no church closes and church can carry on		5
Things don't change too much for *. Parish and community is special and loved		5
The church remains open		5
That the choir comes back singing the songs everyone knows		5
Go back to traditional faith ad stop the dilution of the faith		5
It stays the same - Mass everyday		5
It stays the same able to have Mass daily		5
Daily mass and our church thrives		5
That me and my family can still go to this church		5
We keep * church open and active		5
that the church stays open		5
the curch stays open		5
I can't see things getting better		5
keep parishes open		5
We remain as a parish without miving building		5

change can lead to people who've contributed to church life feeling devalued		5
That our parish continues as it is		5
We get a new church		6
That we are heading in the right direction		6
That this is not another exercise that goes nowhere		6
New church in between communities with a bus or parish bus		6
Be creative in outreach, liturgy, spirituality		6
Our positivity spreads		6
That women are involved more and become deacons		6
A willingness to let go of entrenched ideas		6
More churches open during week days		6
More Catholics involved in Church matters		6
Things will not carry on like they are now so we need to work together		6
Build something to bring the community together		6
A new Church might bring old * people back		6
That we are informed and involved and wishes of the people are respected		6
A hub Church that offers a real centre for the community		6
A new building which will enable us to reach out to a wider community		6
Make the presence of the church feel in the community so more people will want to be involved		6
A new church that is accommodating when there are no services on		6
Need more rooms and space for activities		6
Liturg to move forward to listen to people		6
Safe environment to worship, more space, bereavement team, craft club		6
A new church. Success will breed success		6
A new church/community building		6
Priests allowed to marry and female priests		6
Consolidate and centralise		6
Church for all where everyone is welcome		6
better central support for local initiatives		6

That the church adapts to the changing times to ensure its survival		6
that in working together, we could have a bigger, wider impact		6
To have a common vision		6
more activities - breakfast club, youth picnics		6
Those with barriers to change are supported to see the benefits for all		6
A new church - fit for COMMUNITY		6
For the wider church to start moving an stop stalling		6
People approach with positive attitude and put away petty defences to mind-numbing status quo		6
That a new church is built with easy access to transport links and is central		6
People see what is possible - let down guards to change		6
To have a church for everyone - bring parishes together		6
Enough money to be raised to build a new church - a community hub for all		6
A new church and community centre in this area/location		6
Things get better		6
A new church build		6
A new Church		6
women priests		6
women priests		6
A new church in Huyton		6
That a new church is built with easy access to transport links and is central		6
Women at the core of what is happening		6
To Grow and for the church to expand its thinking regarding the future		6
That the essence of what we believe remains when changes take place		6
That we will become stronger		6
There need to be women priests and more inclusion eg: LGBTQ+ groups in the life of the church		6
If we act now, things might improve		6
Lay people will become more involved, support each other and embrace change		6
have a collective vision to support each other in faith, love and education		6
People will see the big picture - how individuals contribute to the wider church community		6

Finding / creating parish space to allow introduction of activities for all ages,		6
Maybe it's time to get a working party together		6
To come together and pass on our faith not just through Mass		6
The church will change to encourage people from different directions & needs		6
resurrection, new hope, growth, impact		6
A community church/ social place for all to be a part of		6
from different parishes discuss selling off church land,		6
amalgamating churches, building a super church?		6
widen engagement and hopefully increase church attendance		6
New Church will be as strong as the one we have now		6
we expect more		6
People being open to change and communication		6
Vision		6
dream		6
willing to take risks		6
broad vision		6
Like Pentecost – things will emerge if we keep meeting . . .		6
forward planning		6
manifestation		6
We dream of a central place where people naturally meet – attract curiosity –		6
working together – creative thinking (not a 'rehash' of 'old' model) –		6
offer church in many ways (to pray/to socialise)		6
– think beyond clergy (laity at the centre of future planning)		6
a place that meets changing needs of society –		6
Where pastoral needs are honoured and gifts people have are valued		6
Hoping to be able to inspire more people		6
Think big outside of our boundaries		6
Common website		6
Things will change - need to look outside of our comfort zone		6

Transparency - not fearful to ask questions		6
Embrace change		6
INCLUSION - particularly of women		6
development of lay led ministry		6
New church - accesible to all old and new - easy distance		6
a new church for the whole community		6
This project has a positive outcome		6
start small to make connections - use events to bring people together rather than relying on Masses		6
Look at creative ways of communicating - if we are reliant on priests we are filtered by their ideas/ mindset		6
BIG THINKING - if there were no churches in area - what would we need/want FOR THE AREA?		6
build on what we have		6
Married priests!!! Women Priests/ clergy!!!!		6
to build a new church - to include everyone		6
inclusion of modern technology		6
new church building		6
greater inclusion of laity		6
through change, we attract the next generation		6
progress needed , but 'don't throw baby out with bathwater'		6
develop lay ministry in its own right		6
could parished intergrate more - journey towards togetherness - informally/ social gatherings		6
don't rush these things - integrate groups of people through the ministries in each church		6
A furture for the church -a new church		6
Resolve our issues and represent each generation fairly		6
more empowerment for women		6
a new community church		6
Catholic Community being a beacon for those struggling		7
Needs of the people are met - food banks, clothing stalls etc...		7

social focus - to help keep people involved		7
Change in government		7
safety around the church and our homes		7
People to help those less fortunate		7
A safer area		7
The church becomes more understanding of modern-day working commitments.		7
A peaceful environment		7
Friendly community- my children feeling safe and comfortable		7
A better economic time for all - no need for food banks		7
There is sufficient improvement in NHS - need for all		7
Peaceful environment; to live without fear		7
for people to feel hope that life will get better		7
A peaceful environment		7
church and community to come together		7
local councils to provide financial support for struggling families in our community		7
the church continues to grow, be more diverse and help the poor/unwell in the community		7
eliminate class and discrimination		7
Reach out to the vulnerable (option for the poor)		7
serve the community		7
That the Archdiocese listens, numbers dropping, big decisions to be made		8
That the archdiocese agree to a new church		8
To lead with strong leadership		8
That all priests are on the same page rather than working to their own agendas		8
I hope things change for the better but the Pope and the clergy need to reform the church		8
church authorities start new activities to get people more involved		8
Our voices are heard by the Archdiocese		8
Able to be honest about what we can do and that being respected		8
More funding sources		8








Hoping archdiocese will invest in lay leadership training – what happened to pastoral assistants Eg?	8
Archdiocese to get its act together - not renege on its responsibilities to parishioners & clergy	8
that we will be listened to - the priests listen to parishioners	8
the church listens to parishioners	8
need priests to enable/ promote more involvement from parishioners	8
Some common sense and consideration for the people	8
to have a clear direction	8
Fr Anton continues as Parish Priest	9
We will still be guided by the leadership of PP	9
We need guidance as a Catholic Church and more vocations	9
That all clergy involved are working together without their own agendas	9
Our priests and deacons to work together	9
That the priests work together	9
Churches to stay open - more priests and more people to help	9
Parochial aspects shared to reduce the burden on priests	9
More people will enter the priesthood	9
Local priest to be known in the area	9
more vocations to priesthood and religious life	9
By the grace of God, we hope for a better future under leadership of PP	9
more vocations	9
All the priests to work together for the better of catholic community and not have own agendas	9
Priests in training to have more exposure to parish life - feels new priests lack life experience to connect with parishioners	9
Inclusion of young people	10
More parental involvement to encourage children to practice their religion	10
Strong Catholic community for the next generation	10
Work together for a better place for our children	10
Grow in number and bring in the youth	10

More young people		10
Encourage young people to practice		10
Show our children the impact of living community and what church means		10
To bring our children up to value a church where they are celebrated and supported		10
That once children make their first holy communion they continue to come to church		10
Activities for all ages		10
Church to be more intune with the youth		10
A church full of young people - a church wiht a future		10
To encourage the youth and young families to come to church - build a strong faith in the next generation		10
Young people to egae more with activities / events		10
to see more youg people involved in the church		10
The church grows and more young people become involved		10
More involvement for the youth		10
Schools support children in their faith		10
Increase congregation by exploring closer links with school and possibly changing Mass times		10
More family involvement in church		10
Famlies will come t Mass		10
more activities for youth		10
That we will thrive through our children		10
More families to attend church which would help churches to stay open		10
To see an increase in Mass attendance - especially young families		10
To continue to grow in faith and motivate the younger generation to do the same		10
The young accept religion		10
More parents get involved in life of the parish		10
Encouraging young people to learn about God and develop their own faith		10
more to be done to encourage young people in the church		10
For younger people to become more involved		10
More young people come to church		10

influx of new parishioners as old die. Youth involvement needed		10
Our younger generation will be more involved		10
Could our church be more visible in the community - youth services?		10
For the church to thrive and be more popular with the younger generation		10
More activities for young people		10
Catholic faith continues in schools		10
There are more children - this will keep the church and build the community		10
Include young, marginalised people		10
People to encourage the youth to come to mass		10
something will be done to encourage youth and children to engage with the church		10
more young families come to church		10
Make sure our kids are aware of our spiritual beliefs		10
bring more families and people to church		10
church outreach in the community involving younger generations		10
greater participation of youth		10
the younger generation are guided in their faith		10
the church will be full of people working in unity to teach children the ways of the lord		10
more encouragement for children to attend mass. Bring back children's mass		10
attention and training given to support children's faith		10
Younger generation to go to church		10
younger generation attending mass		10
younger generation getting involved		10
more youth involvement		10
find a way of reaching parents		10
schools to be more interactive in the parishes		10
inclusive activities eg youth club		10
bring the youth back to church		10
the next generation will be attracted to the church - create a more open and inclusive church		10
youth come back		10

make it fashionable for young people		10
more children and families attend and continue after making first communion		10
involve/ attract more young people		10
things improve for the younger generation		10
Catholic education needs to do more with the parents		10a
Local schools fully engaged		10a
More young people 11-17 Catholic members group linked to surrounding secondary schools		10a
Priests to visit schools regularly to maintain contact with our families		10a
Build on links with schools		10a
Hopefully for the church to grow with children coming from local schools		10a
school links are vital		10a
RE in schools		10a
Closer ties with link schools		10a
schools have a big part to play in educating young people in their faith journey		10a
to see children from local schools in church		10a
* improved when * joined so maybe the same will happen with other churches		11
When the churches combine there are no major changes		11
Combination of parishes doesn't cause antagonism		11
We have experienced the coming together of two parishes - can this happen successfully as a family of parishes?		11
Family of churches combine to support realistic ideas for the benefit of all		11
That our church doesn't close		11
Arrange transport if churches close		11
that * and * have a future		11
Parishes to amalgamate		11
less closure of churches		11
A building fit for purpose		12
we get a better building fit for purpose		12
have a safe space to worship in		12

3. Our Hopes

	Improved Mass attendance	36
	Suppotive working relationship between parishes	118
	Faith becomes a renewed priority	44
	Improvement politically and socially for the local area	21
	Breakdown of Heirarchical obstacles	16
	Inreased number of priests / improved support for priests	15
	Increase in Youth/ young people's involvement	66
	Amalgamation of churches to benefit of community	10
	Improved building	3
	Big changes explored creatively	110
	Tradition and what we know remains	33
	School Involvement	10

WHAT ARE OUR FEARS?		
We need to try and get people to church not just for weddings and funerals		1
Fewer people coming to church		1
Ever decreasing church population leading to more church closures as happened with St Aidan		1
Community with dissolve with the ageing process		1
No one in Church.		1
People lose hope and stop attending Mass		1
That people stop going to church - people rely on online streaming of Mass		1
The community dying - most f congregation is 40 +		1
Less people coming - sick or house bound		1
That the congregation will cease to exist		1
churches becoming empty		1
Fewer people coming to church		1
smaller parishioner numbers		1
Church attendance likely to decrease further due to aging congregation		1
dwindling congregation resulting in church closures		1
getting old and being lonely		1
that the church will close because there is noone coming		1
Everyone leaves		1
A drop in membership		1
church community will become smaller and smaller		1
falling attendance		1
losing parishioners		1
The less people engage the smaller our community becomes. People feel unsupported and lonely		1
Falling numbers (priests/parishioners)		1
attendance dropping		1
continued drop in attendance		1
aging congregation		1
loss of parishioners		1

Territorial and insular behaviour	2
Area will become diminished due to the lack of commitment in other parishes	2
That people will want to remain in their own known environment	2
That parishes will not work together	2
Too ambitious, poor planning, poor communication, poor engagement	2
resources spread too thinly	2
others aren't open to connect	2
That not everyone pulls together	2
disharmony	2
What if parishes fail to work together?	2
decrease in sense of community	2
Isolation from other areas	2
That people are not open to others - we need to help each other	2
Lack of engagement, feeling of helplessness, dwindling congregation, lack of working with the youth	2
Parishes don't come together because they are frightened of change	2
We continue to fragment, to clique-ish in church	2
Not sharing	2
lack of enthusiasm and co-operation between parishes	2
Apathy amongs children	3
People chosing their faith less and less	3
That there will not be churches or communities as people don't seem to want to join in	3
loss of Christian values	3
The church becomes less important in the community - that people don't live by good values	3
Lack of faith in the home	3
That faith and hope will be lost for any kind of change	3
people stop going to church	3
churches closing and decline of the catholic faith	3
That the church will be forgotten	3
people using the church for the sacraments to get into schools, but no interest in being part of the community	3

Apathy	3
Souls will be lost	3
People will only use the church as a convenience - leading to fewer numbers	3
That there are peoples who aren't tru catholics	3
Traditions being lost	3
People will lose hope and their sense of identity	3
Apathy in the attitude of the commmunity	3
no one believing	3
our faith dies out	3
lack of faith.	3
not evangelising and sharing the words of God	3
Not many people come to church anymore - they doon't believe in God any more	3
the disappearance of the catholic faith as a meaningful entity	3
Catholicism no longer relevant	3
the church diminishes in the future	3
Caholism at risk as lots of churches closing	3
Selfish people getting worse with each generation	3
being led astray by greed, being blinded by vanityand ego	3
the loss of Christianity in the country	3
modernism	5
The church is deviating from the original teaching because of the need for incusivity	5
Older parishioners feel the established church is becoming too modernised	5
If all the churches are combined it too large and you could end up sitting next to a different person each week	5
In a larger shared parish it will feel less like family	5
Too many people at Mass - would lose the intimate feel of church now	5
churches closing and becoming mosques	5
We may become too big - a massive conglomerat - meaning will all be lost	5
Our parish could lose it's sense of identity/ sense of community	5
feel threatened by the authorities - experimenting could break the community	5

Fear of change		5
no continuity - losing what we have if other parishes have their own ways		5
loss of identity		5
changes made if we get a new priest		5
the loss of identity		5
If all parishes wanted to stay as they are, is that even an option?		5
Resistance to change		6
No new Church because of cost		6
How will we resource the changes?		6
Personality clashes make for disruption		6
If we are going to have one church for so many parishes where will it be		6
Traditional Masses turn people away. * should be used as an example of how it can be done		6
Catholic Mass needs to be modernised and readings translated - people don't understand what they are reading		6
Don't have fears just trust that the process is guided by people with similar aspirations		6
No fears just opportunities		6
We are a vibrant parish and could include other parishes that are not so within our modern building		6
Can we afford to keep going		6
Natural fear of change		6
Maybe we have more hope than fear		6
The unknown (Where are we going? Am I going to like it?)		6
People being too insular – not just about 1 parish – not focusing on families of parishes		6
Holding onto disagreements		6
Resistance and avoidance		6
Lack of imagination/vision (aim/objective)		6
what succession possibility is there (individual parishes/across the diocese)?		6
That people will be frightened – if we work together and that means closing churches		6
Fear no lay training		6
Will we be able to achieve what we plan right now		6
- Lack of resources		6

Working in isolation form other denominations (CofE, Methodists, URC, ...)	6
things being diluted / watered down if too much is expected from one parish	6
the not knowing how to work with the fear of church closures / or change	6
church shouldn't just be reliant on volunteers - need to INVEST in people	6
Fear of the unkown	6
the loss of vision and creativity	6
the challenge of change	6
Mass will be too big	6
Not being able to pay bills, eat, live, working long hours	7
Modern lifestyle is contributing to the dying out of the church we have to modernise to keep up	7
Violence	7
Cost of living crises getting worse	7
lack of understanding of local issues/ needs	7
Gloabal warming gets out of hand	7
Transportation issues	7
transport to other churches will prevent people getting to church	7
Social media and AI will wipe our mankind	7
crime, anti-social behaviour, loss of faith	7
physical distance prevents attendance	7
Dowanward spiral of crime, no prosperity in the area, not a nice place to live	7
insecurity, unemployment	7
Poverty and law breaking just to stay alive, NHS lost and privatised	7
People will be without basic needs	7
war	7
influence of government on morality	7
I pray for peace in the world everyday	7
loss of community spirit	7
Lack of archdiocese support stifles our Parish and drives peope away	8
Hierarchy are slowly winding things down	8

Too clerical centered	8
That the archdiocese will break apart our community if the church is not replaced and demolished	8
New Priests have traditional ideas or our extreme driving down church numbers	8
What are the archdiocese's intentions?	8
Priests will have a louder voice than the people	8
people are scared to express their thoughts and ideas	8
No investment by diocese	8
resistance to change for clergy	8
blocking of new ideas	8
This process - what is the agenda?	8
That the people in charge won't listen to the people	8
conversation topics stifled by the hierarchy	8
distance from the Archdiocese leaders & parish participation - directives not discussion	8
lack of transparency - power remains with the hierarchy	8
don't listen to the prisoners voice because of fear of change	8
Priests 'own little kings' scared of change	8
That priests would be able to come into a parish and demolish what has been built	8
Does the Archdiocese have a vision?? Are they too reliant on individuals making decisions - does it align with parishioner needs	8
church is only as good as the priest	8
the process isn't open and transparent - don't want to be on a journey where people have already decided the outcome	8
other priest are not on the same page	8
clergy too frightened to change	8
The priest is in charge@ - this attitude must change	8
decisions have already been made!	8
What is the point in us being open and honest but don't get the same from those at the top?	8
Lack of vocations	9
Shortage of Priests	9
That we will lose Priests and parish will decline	9
That Priests will not support each other without bias or prejudice	9

That there will be no priests for Requiem Masses	9
Eventually there won't be enough priests for regular services	9
Not enough priests to serve the community	9
Loss of dedicated parish priest	9
Lack of priests in the area	9
Lack of priests	9
Lack of people prepared to enter the priesthood	9
that there won't be enough priests	9
That there aren't enough priests. No priests means no church	9
Not enough priests	9
Lack of priests and churches closing	9
That we won't have a priest and we won't hear the bells in *	9
Things get worse with fewer priests	9
less priests and a lack of mass & sacraments	9
priests spread out too thinly	9
number of priests and parishioners fast declining	9
the churches will close due to lack of priests	9
not enough priests	9
lack of priests, especially good priests	9
no priests	9
losing your priest	9
Falling numbers (priests/parishioners)	9
young priests coming in with poor seminary formation - people skills	9
no churches - no clergy to be involved with parishioners	9
priests not working/ not being able to work together	9
Young People not interested	10
Concern there are more elderly people than younger	10
Nest generation not involved in Church matters	10
That school children don't come to Mass after their first holy communion	10

Non-involvement with the younger generation despite the efforts of the church	10
Catholic church does not keep up with life as it is today especially the young	10
Young not being nurtured along with right path	10
Young think going to Mass is boring	10
Community becomes more isolated and irrelevant to younger generations	10
the next generation aren't encouraged to attend church - do we encourage them enough?	10
A dying church with no young people	10
We become so disconnected from modern life that we lose any appeal to the next generations	10
limited input from a variety of groups - age, diversity etc...	10
Young people not supporting the church	10
loss of the younger generation	10
youth not participating	10
Young people don't want to come to church	10
the young reject religion	10
Young people leaving religion	10
Church will get less busy. Children don't seem to be at church	10
I fear for the young of today	10
I am very worried about the young people's future (dependencies on drugs and alcohol)	10
the younger generation is not growing in faith	10
fear for the young growing in the world as it is now	10
children and youth falling away from the faith	10
next generation not interested in continuing with the faith	10
we do not leave a catholic church for the children	10
the community loses its influence on young people	10
younger generation not getting involved	10
catholic education not being taught in schools	10
No sufficient renewal of youth – who are the next set of volunteers? –	10
younger people - our future - don't want to be involved	10
the future of the children in the development of their faith	10

Loss of catholic/christian values in schools		10a
the parsih school is non-denominational - no real connection, only first communion		10a
School RE not a priority		10a
Closure of Churches		11
less services and Masses		11
That our Church will close		11
That St Agnes church is demolished and not repaired		11
Falling numbers mean churches will close		11
Amalgamation		11
Community spread even thinner		11
Churches will eventually close		11
That our community no longer exists		11
Each parish ends up smaller and insignificant		11
Loss of identity from the parish social outreach		11
Parishes become fewer, communities disintegrate, schools close		11
People will leave because they cannot cope with change		11
Church buildings will close		11
We will lose *		11
Individual parishes lose their identity		11
Loss of community in the parish, loss of parishes		11
More churches closing		11
That we lose this community.		11
We lose the influence of our own PP		11
Church will close and parishioners will not return		11
Services will be too far from home to access		11
That we can't access the church		11
That we lose everything we have achieved to make this a real family parish		11
Losing a church building and as a consequence, people		11
no mass to go to		11

no community gatherings	11
That the church closes	11
Losing PP	11
That the work in * will be diluted	11
churches closing and our faith being lost	11
The closure of churches and people	11
Dwindling parish numbers churches to amalgamate- already happened with * closure	11
that our church closes	11
Loosing our church and all the present parishioners	11
loss of our community	11
That there is no where local to attend church	11
Church closures	11
Others may 'take over'	11
Other churches may be too reliant on stronger voluntary groups in other parishes	11
We won't have a church at all	11
That we lose our community and churches	11
Church closures and unable to travel to open churches	11
People drop away if changes are too big and original identity of parishes disappears /	11
With the number of churches involved we could dilute the dedication of many parishioners	11
Church closure	11
The closure of our church or the loss of our identity	11
That we lose our community spirit	11
In coming together as a family of parishes, individual churches will lose their own community.	11
That we will lose our community	11
What if we lost the connections that we have already made?	11
loss of our church	11
that there is no church	11
Closure of Churches	11
not being able to get to church	11

church closures		11
church closures		11
We lose our sanctuary		11
That i will not be able to access a church if mine closes		11
church closures		11
Closure of churches in our community		11
People will not speak out and people will drift apart, weakening our community		11
People won't travel to other churches		11
People will rely on online Masses if churches close		11
Our church is demolished and houses are built on the site		11
Our church closing		11
Our church closing		11
That there may be no churches left in the area		11
That our church could close		11
Closure of churches - how do people access church if local one is closed?		11
closure of churches, number of priests, schools		11
closure of churches		11
more churches will close down		11
churches close, faith waivers, breakdown in community		11
losing our church		11
Churches closing down		11
The closing of our church		11
That * will close		11
closure of churches		11
Less engagement leading to closure		11
Losing our local church		11
That we will lose our church in this area		11
Churches get shut		11
Lack of support resulting in a closure of churches		11

Only having Mass once a month	11
more closures	11
That churches close	11
My church of 67 years closes	11
That the church will close	11
That the catholic church closes	11
Church will close down	11
That parishes will lose their church	11
For our church to close - what would our school do without a church?	11
More churches will close	11
church closures, loss of Mass/ sacraments, loss of priests	11
Amalgamation	11
Church closes and there are no masses	11
Churches will close because of a lack of members	11
closed churches	11
That churches will close and be turned into housing	11
fewer churches will lead to people leaving the faith as can't attend Mass which means no support for future generation	11
The church closes	11
Church closes	11
Our churches will close and communities will be lost- older people have difficulties getting to church	11
Loss of chuches	11
churches will close.	11
closure of churches	11
family of * will be lost	11
Many churches will be sold and communities dispersed - a huge loss waiting to happen	11
The church will close and we won't be able to get to church	11
We will lose our church	11
Closing * - difficult for elderly who the can't get to mass	11
We lose churches and our faith	11

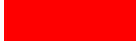










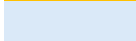
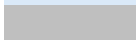
Churches closing and faith diluted		11
Churches merging due to fewer priests and no longer having daily mass		11
Churches closing and having fewer Masses		11
That the church may close		11
we will end up with no parish or priest		11
church closing		11
this church will end or disappear		11
Someday 9am mass at * will be no more		11
Masses will be cut		11
the church will close - no access for elderly/ vulnerable families		11
church will go - over the years feels like last remaining community building		11
We lose * parish		11
our church will close		11
the church closes		11
churches closing		11
churches closing because ther aren't enough priests		11
the church will close		11
church closures because of fewer priests, lower numbers, etc...		11
church closing		11
the church may close		11
churches closing and people not being able to attend because of distance and transport		11
churches closing due to lack of involvement		11
closing of churches		11
What happens to older people if the church closes		11
fear of losing the older generation		11
churches closing		11
Church closing down		11
People feeling left out		11
churches might have to close		11

people will forget about public transport links and ease of travel	11
church closures	11
we lose the church building	11
no churches - no clergy to be involved with parishioners	11
loss of community s[pirit	11
the building will close	11
churches closing because of falling congregation/ elderly congregation and no youth	11
church closures	11
Our own church will fall down around us, building not feeling safe	12
Abandoned buildings	12
The church falls apart - structurally and metaphorically	12
Closure of churches dues to financial difficulties for maintenance	12
having no church due to financial hardships	12
That people don't get involved and we suffer as a result	14
Things will continue as they are	14
No change or williness to change	14
Selfish people who ignore the needs of others	14
Good intentions lost	14
Loss of lay involvement and leadership	14
Louder negative voices will overpower	14
That plans for the new church and community come to nothing	14
Talking instead of doing	14
Being afraid to take risks	14
Being swamped by unimportant details which prevents growth	14
People don't like change	14
Going backwards in the Catholic Faith	14
Progress is slow we are asking the same questions we did in 2020	14
People set in their ways and don't want their parish/Priest to change	14
Hopes and ideas we are powerless to initiate	14

After all our efforts we are going to be passed over and nothing will happen	14
Opinions that our out of date and not welcoming	14
Not recognising the current 21st century church and going backwards	14
Lack of forward thinking	14
Encountering resistance for growth and renewal	14
No change and people only speaking to each other	14
This is just a paper exercise with no purpose or progress	14
this is just a hopeless exercise	14
Is anything EVER GOING TO HAPPEN	14
loss of control/ accoutability	14
That nothing happens	14
more surveys - no action	14
too many hurdles and challenges cause people to give up	14
We stay in a cpiral of diminishing hope and engagement	14
that nothing happens or ever changes	14
Some arishes will work against the ideas and proposals of others	14
Promise of a new church abandoned	14
Things get worse	14
That nothing changes and there is no growth	14
Things stay the same or get worse	14
People lose interest in this whole process	14
After all this consultation nothing will move on	14
Nothing happens	14
That churches do not close	14
People don't want to help and are afraid of youger generations	14
do nothing and the church disappears	14
If things don't improve, it will be harder for everyone	14
Priests and parishioners not wanting change or to work together - it's hard when people have different ideas	14
All prayers and no action towards bringing people together	14

People remain closed in their own ways	14
Stagnation, stay as we are	14
Fragmentation – all go our own way – remain in our comfort zone	14
That fear itself will keep us immobilised	14
Fear of risk	14
Fear of not thinking outside the box	14
Fear of change	14
Missed opportunities	14
Being no more forward than we are now	14
Fear that this will be the same as all the other ‘programmes’ – we work so hard and then it gets killed	14
we will put a lot of energy into this when we’re already working flat out at parish level – and it might be wasted energy	14
losing hope and energy in this whole process	14
there is no end in sight	14
apathy/ too fearful	14
That we will end up like other struggling parishes	14
nothing changes	14
disinterest / resistendce to change	14
the church returns to being inwards looking	14
in 10 years time there will be no change	14
that this goes the same way as most things - begin enthusiastically - nothing happens - all disapates	14
That we don't have the outcome we are hoping for	14
parochial protective fatigue	14
that we do nothing	14
clergy putting up obstacles	14
not moving with the times	14
Still wondereing and bewildered about what the future holds - never see any results form these surveys!!	14
Will there ever be any decisions made?	14
i have no fears	
if parishioners are not corrected enough in church and show humility, they will remain ignorant	

What are our Fears?

	Numbers don't increase/ get worse	28
	We can't work together	18
	Faith doesn't surface as a priority	30
	Social/ Political issues don't improve	19
	Heirarchical Obstacles aren't broken down	27
	Even fewer priests	29
	The youth don't return to church	33
	Our churches close/ we can't get to Mass	152
	Our buildings are not fit for purpose/ finacially not viable	5
	There is too much resistance to possibility of change	31
	Too much change happens	16
	Things remain the same / get worse	72
	Schools not interested	3

WHAT FUTURE ARE WE WORKING FOR		
Bigger friendlier Catholic Church		1
That we continue to have so many volunteers as the church cannot survive without them		1
Full churches		1
To build our church up to bigger numbers		1
A bigger catholic community		1
to bring more people to church		1
A community that thrives and brings in parishioners and younger generations		1
Increased congregaation and more youth		1
continue and grow - a church accesible for all		1
Collaboration between parishes		2
Good Community		2
Everyone can unite		2
That the good achieved in each parish can grow to include the whole group		2
Family BBQ for the wider community		2
All local churches become closer on a day to day basis		2
Work together with other parishes and get to know their congregation		2
A community that can come together		2
A more vibrant community across the area		2
Look at what units and not divides us		2
Come together to support each other		2
More kindness to one another		2
Work and pray together to communicate better with each other		2
Better communication and more resources.		2
A future where we are all truly working together		2
All parish communitis are able to work together		2
Welcoming church with better connections between parishes		2
To all work together		2
Togetherness across the family		2

Collaboration between parishes		2
Coming together - welcoming church		2
Better community		2
More co-operation		2
A more co-hesive community		2
Find a common ground between parishes		2
Communication		2
Build on our current community spirit		2
encourage others to participate		2
Woking together		2
All work together		2
Everyone working together and helping each other		2
More communication between parishes		2
help each other and be kind to each other		2
Bring people together		2
Bringing young and old together as family		2
Everyone working together peacefully		2
A good, friendly community		2
A stronger community		2
more togetherness of churches		2
Bring communities together from other parishes		2
Togetherness across the family		2
A stronger community		2
Community.		2
More joined up work across parishes		2
All one family		2
More community spirit		2
I was invited to an event at * - I could invite my daughter who no longer goes to church because it does not meet the needs of her son		2

Stronger community; practicing faith in the family		2
Working to unite the community		2
Neighbours and communities to join in with each other		2
Really don't want any church to close, but would like everyone to unite. Will pray!		2
Close relationship with out church families		2
union - parish - love		2
a stronger more united community		2
a more engaged community		2
unite together to share our faith		2
work together as one big community		2
loving community		2
unity in church		2
Everyone together		2
more unity		2
a catholic community working together		2
a collective community spirit - togetherness		2
for our local churches to join together		2
more openness between each church		2
building our communities		2
create unity and fellowship		2
more sharing of information between parishes		2
sharing resources		2
we need to join with other churches - some more active- need to help those who are struggling		2
Vibrant parish communities working together as family		2
Teams of parishioners to organise across Huyton (social events)		2
- Whatever is achieved to be achieved with ALL the people (not small group orientated)		2
Synodal		2
More sharing		2

Give people a sense of security in their place and develop that sense of family across churches at the same time	2
Strength in working together and sharing resources	2
teamwork - building a living family of parishes together	2
everyone in the family of churches getting involved	2
to work as a cohesive working group	2
find the common ground	2
socialise with other parishes to get to know each other	2
collaboration with other parishes - rotation of venues	2
collaboration and better community	2
feeling of togetherness - events to bring people together	2
Bringing God's people together in peace	3
friendship to the glory of God	3
Help the community to see the beauty of faith	3
Working with faith in the 21st Century	3
We have to go home by home and explain to people who is Jesus and what he said and gave to society	3
Religion for all	3
Our faith does not die with the materialism of the world we live in	3
A future where God is our guide	3
Show and teach the next generation Christ taught values - to love and serve one another	3
To be full of the Holy Spirit in each parish	3
have Sunday Service again to allow children to access their faith	3
Collective worshi about the Family of Parishes	3
reaching out to the 'unchurched'	3
Obedience to God - God's will not man's	3
A happier Holy world	3
Our community has to come together and stand up for our faith	3
Group prayer meeting - face to face/ online	3
A parish united in faith	3

peace and love		3
a community where love and fear of God leads		3
for people to see the joy of belonging to a collective faith		3
more people to realise what is happenign in Mass and sharing humility		3
- Faith becoming a priority		3
- Reaching out to those not churched		3
Recognising and building on existing strengths – not about a rupture with the past – maintaining core values		3
banish fear of God relpace with love and kindness		3
Skills sharing		4
Shared ideas, plans and services		4
That everyone in the community and imigrants are treated the same		4
More events like Bellevalle Session so people can get together in larger groups		4
There will be a real integration where possibel to share ideas and resources		4
One where the churches in the area come together through prayer and activities		4
Getting to know each other - even knowing someone's name brings down barriers		4
A space where evertone feels they have something to offer and is accepted		4
That we share what we do well		4
Shared skills, experience, talents of all communitis		4
Share what is happening, share gifts and talents		4
More sharing		4
To share all aspects of parish life		4
A welcoming, nuturing community for young and old and everyone inbetween		4
To bring a community together; to build together		4
real community, shared ideas, shared love of God, bible study groups		4
be more tolerant and seek each other		4
Community linked events to encourage people to engage across the parishes		4
Places to contemplate and think in peace		4
Better more inclusive future		4
Commuity of support and positive views and what Catholic Community is doing for the area		4

Resilient church		4
Unified community with local Priests		4
More openness to ideas from others		4
A church that brings us all together		4
A place where faith can flourish and everyone is treated equally		4
Shared time, resources, skills and ideas to build a community that will continue		4
Harness the creativity that is there amongst people		4
A new community hub that can be accessed by many community groups where heart speaks to heart		4
Church activities to be people centred and compassionate in nature.		4
All the churches put their good ideas together to make everyone happy		4
An open church all working and praying together		4
Even stronger parish than we have now to welcome our grandchildren regardless of race, gender, sexuality		4
More community services		4
A place we can come to at any time to pray and a place we can meet together		4
Everyone working together - an understanding of each other despite differences		4
Barriers to working together dissipate		4
I just can't envisage what the answer is to create a large family of parishes successfully		4
A caring happy community		4
A place where you can feel at home		4
A future where parishes work more closely together and develop more community based projects		4
Inclusivity and a place to belong		4
A community who comes together regularly		4
A community that comes together to share prayer, services and friendship		4
For the church to grow and thrive for all ages and diversities - to move forward with changes in a positive way		4
To be a proactive community - inclusive of people from other parishes		4
Old and young people to feel that they are one together		4
interest groups		4
A community that comes together in love		4
Joint international Mass days or other events-		4

Smiling at each other would be a start		4
Happy future, great opportunity, Godly togetherness		4
Everyone will be happy		4
Commitment from everybody		4
I want to be more involved in church activities - all different ages involved		4
an outgoing church that is wecoming to all		4
have prayer days for each ministry in the parish		4
more approachability - the church is here for everyone		4
parishioners bonded in faith and love		4
work as a happy place where people want to come - spiritually and socially		4
a more tolerant and giving community		4
build back the social community that once thrived		4
A welcome and open church		4
inclusivity		4
integrated vibrant community - creating harmony and inclusion for all		4
inclusive, welcomg, open, sared resources, collaboration, younth		4
more open and inclusive churches		4
a community of love and welcome and outreach - all feel welcome and gifts are used		4
all encompassing, outward facing church and parishioner - vibrant, accepting church		4
strong leadership		4
a community where everyone feels welcomed and respected		4
all going in the same direction, listening to each other, validating concerns. A place of safety & support		4
Keep all churches open, get more children into church and be aware of sick people so they can be visited		5
No new changes		5
Bring back what we have lost - benediction, legion of St. Mary		5
A vibrant faithful church full of age old traditions and honour of our Lord, Our Lady & the saints		5
It would be nice to have the community we had years ago		5
We don't want to work togeher - we are happy as we are		5
there are too may churches in the family of parishes for it to be cohesive		5

Shared knowledge, newsletters, FB, website	6
To build a stronger community for one and all	6
Knowsley and surrounding areas work towards a hub of Catholic community	6
If we centralise we will have more people in the churches	6
A new church might encourage more people	6
A new church that is carbon neutral	6
How about building a new church that can be used by RC, Anglican etc combine building, events, services	6
Greater involvement and recognition of the laity	6
That we become a wider ecumenical christian church celebrating faith together	6
A new building and community centre	6
A central hub taking into account different views	6
Shared understanding and a more relevant church for the times we are living in	6
A church hub that is easily accessed	6
A church community that is outward looking	6
A relevant church that is welcoming to all	6
A church that reaches out to ALL generations	6
Identify what works in the community and prioritise needs of parishioners above the clergy/ diocese	6
Support for those reluctant to change	6
All inclusive church where we all feel welcome no matter where we go	6
A vibrant, hopeful and fully engaged, enthusiastic church where people work together	6
With there being a chronic shortage of priests, I urge meaningful co-operation for the greater good	6
Be prepared to change	6
A community hub for people to use and brings people together	6
more involvement of the laity	6
training more priests including women	6
less old traditions	6
For women to have a more equal role in the church	6
A greater number of lay people organising events to come together	6
new website to enable mutual knowledge sharing	6

To all be on the same page, helping people, being a community		6
Celebrate being human, alive and live the Gospel values not just in church		6
More inclusion with a changing world		6
A spirit of optimism and collaboration that delivers an impact in the wider community		6
greater inclusion		6
greater role of the church in lie of parishioners - especially people having to cope with relocation		6
we keep an active church open and alive		6
an adult (priest/ deacon) instantly accesable to those who need it		6
Try not to be territorial		6
Brave to move where people gather		6
Building a community – better relating with other parishes and other denominations – help one another		6
Church building that is a community hub		6
Offering other kinds of liturgical services		6
Where we give the space but others run it		6
Develop skills among lay people		6
Encourage laity in leadership		6
Set up mutual support systems for lay people		6
Something coming from this process		6
embracing the uncertainty of change and supporting people with their fears		6
An investment in people - no longer just reliant on Volunteers		6
No place for ego		6
All parished to share responsibility - know own strengths and weaknesses		6
more lay led liturgical celebrations and prayer services		6
all embracing church in the best location for all		6
create open-mindedness - not just what we do, but how we think - then things can develop and grow		6
priests allowed to marry		6
more echumenical working		6
development of lay ministers		6
more echumenical connections		6














more training for the laity from the archdiocese		6
redefine word 'church' - not just a building		6
All the churches working together to help those in need		7
Kinder society		7
Care for the elderly		7
Continue to work for the benefit of everybody especially the poor		7
Transport for those that don't drive. Circular bus to all parishes		7
Support and groups for disadvantaged, vulnerable youths		7
Help for families to ensure all children are not in poverty		7
Church that lives out its faith and caters for the different needs of the community		7
Better life for young and old		7
A catholic community that meets the needs of the area within it exists		7
Involvement with and visibility in the community		7
improved links to wider community including those who do not go to church		7
The church to be seen more in the community - to go out and be love in the community		7
A continue commitment to the growth of a caring community		7
a family of churches that is integrated and relevant to the local community		7
more people are kind and respectful towards each other		7
more consideration towards each other		7
respect for our neighbours		7
More harmony, less fear and crime		7
better healthcare freely available, as and when required		7
to create a better place		7
to help support and raise funds for church and the local community		7
community and church come as one		7
Reaching people on the edge (practical/spiritual)		7
- Forward thinking church – service to all people		7
Offering what people may not yet know they need/want		7
Mission orientated – encouraging/developing		7

Outreach to the wider community		7
Offering other kinds of social etc care		7
Church that is at centre of the community		7
Where people of all backgrounds can find a home		7
draw in poelp from the community with church project involving the community		7
continue working together - making the world a better place		7
happy growing community witht the church at its centre		7
serving the local community - not just church goers		7
Real collaboration and not suppression		8
Lay led parish core		8
Diocese needs to invest in lay training to give people confidence		8
Elected parish councils and less control by clergy		8
A future where we all feel part of all parishes in our area BUT also part of the diocese		8
Face the blocks of unresolved conflicts		8
An Archdiocese that LISTENS to the people and makes pastoral decisions - not purely 'buisness/financial' ones		8
transparency		8
all priests work to the same standard and agenda		8
A move away fom clericalism - value the laity		8
have we got any say in this? We have been workign for years with no fruition		8
One or two parishes will close so the personality of the Priest needs to appeal to the majority		9
More Priests, fewer churches		9
Share priests between parishes		9
The priests need to connect more with the people		9
Our priests are able to help each other out.		9
Promote vocations through bringing speakers to parishes to talk		9
encourage the youth t be open to vocation		9
to support the priest		9
Working together with and supporting the priests		9

Priests finding common ground on which to work together	9
recruitment of priests / married priests??	9
priests rotate so that parishes get to know them	9
Bring more young people back to the Church	10
Animate does great work	10
Happier community for children to grow up in	10
Encourage young people to be more involved in church	10
Respect for the young	10
Safe future for our children	10
Involve young people and see what they would like to do	10
Church club and community to encourage younger generation	10
Encouraging parents to become church goers and bring their children	10
Co-ordinated approach between school and church	10
Happy kind friendly environment for our children	10
Priests with modern views to inspire children to embrace the church	10
Children are the future and together we need to show them that the church can help	10
A place where people feel safe and wanted. Treated with respect and taught to our children	10
That we work together for the sake of the children and future generations	10
More youth services	10
Encourage young people to come to Mass	10
more for the youth	10
Encourage children and young families to be more involved	10
more young families and youth involved	10
Hope that the younger generation will be a support for the aging congregation	10
Engagement with young people and families	10
Connect more with young people	10
We need to be doing more with young people	10
Working closer with schools and more social events	10
More and more activities for children so they grow up knowing their faith is important	10

loving community that caters to the youth to help grow our church		10
A future where the younger generation grow in faith		10
Encourage the younger generations to believe in Christ		10
More [people to communicate with the young and elderly		10
People being more involved and younger generation helping out in churches		10
young people need to feel that church is place they want to go to - make things relevant to them		10
A church wich is open to all and inspires all ages. We need to encourage younger people to aprticipate		10
Thriving, welcoming church with more young people		10
more youth involvement, little church, more eucharistic ministers		10
More involvement of yuong people		10
Catechism for children to grow in their faith		10
more youths to come forward - they are our future		10
youth engagement sessions, formation of catholic youth		10
More people and young families coming to Mass		10
Bring back Little Church for children		10
Spread spiritual beliefs in young adults - try to engage them in Sunday prayer		10
toetherness with our church and school		10
better oppourtunities for youth churches with more families		10
i want to be happy to go to this church with my family		10
encourage more children and families to come to church		10
become more attractive to younger generation		10
prepare the children to have a positive impact on the world		10
more togetherness, more community activties, engagement for the youth an children		10
see the youth come to church		10
more ways of building a younger community		10
let the children have their say		10
provide opportunites for the youth to be heard and participate		10
younger generation getting involved		10
younger gerneations attending mass and taking part		10

better communication with the youth - youth groups / schools		10
Church more involved with Schools		10a
Schools and parish work together		10a
Liaise with schools to engage future generations		10a
more youth volunteers - reach out to catholic secondary schools		10a
Mass in Schools once a week - positive links to encourage children to have an active part in parish life.		10a
Better Catholic schools		10a
make schools teach children to come to church		10a
Schools more involved to bring children into the church		10a
to have a school choir to come into church on Sundays		10a
involvement of schools and young people - they are our future		10a
More lessons in school on religion		10a
Work together without surrendering our parish identity		21
United welcoming parishes with their own identity		21
Closer ties but stay independent		21
A shared resource without losing the individual ethos of our parish		21
Sharing of talents without leaving everything to the same people		21
Unsure about amalgamations - people will want to hold on to their own parish identity		21
Fewer bigger churches		12
for the buildings to be used		12
a new safe building/ church to worship in with it crumbling around us		12
don't be afraid to be yourself		

The future we are working for?		
	Increased Numbers	9
	More co-hesion and working together with other churches	86
	Faith is a renewed priority	26
	The ideal community?	72
	Help to improve social/ potitical influences	35
	Heirarchical support	11
	We address the issue of fewer priests	12
	Improved youth engagement	56
	Our buildings are safe	3
	Possible big changes come to fruition	60
	Remain traditional	7
	Better communication but keep own identities	6
	Improved School involvement	11

WHAT STORY WOULD WE LIKE TO LEAVE	
Encourage God's justice to prevail	1
Life without God is empty and pointless	1
Our future is in the hands of God	1
religion is man made. Church a place to worship God, but God's love should be the focus	1
The Liturgy is at the heart of what is done	1
That we withstood the storms	1
My prayers were answered	1
Be brave and carry on. We trusted in God being with us in the process	1
We had hope and we cared	1
That we tried to do what Jesus asked of us	1
That we are proud to be catholic	1
We strove to keep our church community with hope and enthusiasm	1
Faith is important. Faith gives us hope. but we must do something - together	1
Faith was always there for me in my toughest times; church was there when i needed it.	1
pray daily	1
Prayer	1
Always keep your faith and believe	1
Keep the faith	1
We acted as true followers of Christ	1
People need to pray together	1
That we encourgaed christian morals	1
We stood up for our faith	1
We stood up for your faith, like the martyrs stood up fo ours	1
This parish helped me to keep my faith alive and remain stronger in practicing my faith	1
Believe in God an yourself, help one another the way Jesus did, spread God's love, listen to one another	1
Our faith is worthwhile; Gospel values underpin everything no matter your religion.	1
Respect God- God's creation and people	1
shared love of God, togetherness, closeness	1

The love of our church carries on forever	1
exhibited exemplary behaviour worthy of emulation which hopefully future generations will cherish	1
Pass on the knowledge of God to the young ones and to better the future generation	1
Even though my kids are young I am doing my best to give them an awareness of God and the church	1
i always attended Mass and kept my faith	1
i helped keep my faith alive	1
i practised my faith by going to church and church activities	1
How my faith guided me and the beauty of my faith	1
i always did my best and tried to be kind and prayerful	1
i have strong faith and support the church and parish priest.	1
Showing and sharing Love	1
Use the Church as a place to go when you need to	1
To tell a story of kindness and support, family values	1
Conversion	1
We wanted to be part of our church and pass on our faith	1
To see more youth in priesthood and other vocations	1
legacy of hope	1
we are baptised to be disciples and keep the living body of christ alive	1
We recognised limitations of present structures and risked that God was doing a new thing	1
We trusted – to let go and think big	1
We listened and learnt from what the Holy Spirit told us and the Holy Spirit won	1
We refocused ourselves on Jesus words - 'Love one another, as I have loved you.'	1
Still believe in the unity of the church	1
We took time to reflect on the present reality and asked ourselves - how we could lay foundations for a solid future	1
support and encourage others and keep your faith	1
Create a strong parish community	2
Asylum seekers welcome and supported	2
Educated and supported a religion that is for all	2

I came here as an imigrant and the people of the parish made me feel welcome and not not in fear		2
Kindness, help others, stand up for your rights		2
That the children of today come to church and be the future of the new church		2
Everyone works together for the better or all people of faith in our community		2
Openness, togetherness, tolerance values that are highly regarded and nourished		2
That we come together to build a strong community for people to worship God		2
An example of a lived unity - by this the world will know that you are my disciples.		2
Promote equality for all		2
Help people less fortunate		2
Churches combined their opinions and ideas to make a great church for everyone		2
Share what resources we have to ensure the future is positive for next generation		2
That everyone is welcome		2
Build a strong parish where everyone feels welcome		2
That we worked together to sustain the Catholic Church		2
Pull together for the common good the the community and church		2
Welcoming new people and ensuring they are safe		2
Sometimes when I attend church a friendly smile is all I need		2
That we created a community that feels catholic in EVERY sense		2
That the church is always here for us		2
That the church is seen as an assset for all to access social and spiritual support		2
We created a wider network to grow worshippers and encourage others to participate		2
We had a vision and zest to change and modernise the church		2
That we learnt from each other		2
That people made decisions for the benefit of all		2
We are all part of one community working together		2
We created a place for everyone		2
We consolidated what we have. We are a caring parish		2
We helped people in need whether they went to church or not		2
We came together		2

We worked together and made a plan to make our parishes viable again		2
We took on board the future of all parishes and worked together		2
More interactions of parishes together		2
That we created a better safer world		2
We all got together in events to support eachother and grow in faith		2
provide a positive future for our church communities		2
I was made welcome		2
Everybody worked together for a better place for their families		2
Youth clubs, pensioner's clubs and better communities		2
Helped improve the togetherness of the community		2
We worke hard without hurting anyone for our own needs		2
I would love to say that the church is welcoming and helped me become who I am today		2
we tried to make a better future for the young		2
for my kids to be proud of being part of the catholic community		2
How community was brought together		2
Local people feel an important part of the church community		2
elderly feel safe and protected by church and local community		2
a better catholic community		2
The community came together for the good of all		2
looked after our community		2
unity amongst other parishes		2
we came together for the future of the church		2
This was where we began to create vibrant parishes that work together as a family of churches		2
That we considered everyone's needs		2
We all felt comfortable and happy and supportive of the decisions taken		2
We tried to create a solution for the younger generation		2
A church where everyone feels values		2
We facilitated better attendance by shared community		2
We worked and discussed for a future you could enjoy		2

look for ways to encourage children and their parents to be more involved		2
we brought the community together		2
We did this for you		2
That we came together and kept our church		2
Being an active member of the parish		3
we listened		3
That the Catholic church became a listening organisation where people came and understood		3
Listen to others and their ideas		3
We prayed, we listened, we discussed		3
I wasn't controlling in my ideas - that I listened		3
That we lived in hope. That we worked together and we listened		3
Attempted to spread the word of God by communicating and listening to people		3
We listened. We were open about our fears and we showed up to contribute to the process		3
somebody listened		3
We listened – we communicated		3
We looked for SOLUTIONS – better place for the future		3
We listened genuinely		3
Listened		3
An understanding of why we did what we did		4
Flourishing Catholic Community		4
We tried and we succeeded in our quest		4
A community drawn together, a successful joining of parishes		4
We were effective in creating a solid & successful catholic church to serve the needs of our parishioners		4
I overcame my fears		4
everything was a success		4
that the church is a wonderful church filled with wonderful people and followers of Jesus		4
churches are being used		4
We worked together to create a family of parishes and achieved most of our goals		4
We weren't afraid of the challenge - we were part of it - we made it happen		4

I helped create a church for future generations	5
We did our best to improve things.	5
We tried to make a difference with the resources we had	5
That I helped with the success as we are all part of the same Catholic Community	5
Helped to grow the church and reach out to people to come back to Church	5
At least we tried	5
That I have done something to preserve our faith	5
When religion was on the decline I was part of the movement to bring it back to life	5
I played a part in improving and strengthening the church	5
I tried to help in bringing the churches together	5
We tried	5
Children will look back and say my parents helped to build that community safe and caring	5
I tried to facilitate and encourage to draw people together no matter what colour or creed	5
I cared and tried to participate in the future	5
Proud to be part of something which was created to uphold Gospel values in 21st century	5
That we pulled together a strong united Catholic community seen as welcoming to all	5
We collectively made the right decision so our children will have a place to worship	5
Set alarm bells ringing now so that faith lives in this area	5
That I participated to keep the church relevant	5
That we pull together, we grew together, reach out and held on to each other and survived to honour God	5
We made a difference	5
That I was part of a parish community that lived by example	5
That we were understanding of problems/ issues in other parishes and helped to solve them	5
That I was part of the progression towards a more community based church focus	5
That we were able to share the vibrancy of our parish across Huyton	5
That I helped to create a church that will continue to grow -	5
I was part of an attempt to overcome the endless challenges,	5
I was part of getting the archdiocese to realise its lack of ambition is a drag on the future	5
That I helped	5

That we did what we could to keep our community together	5
Our action led to people being helped	5
That people hear of the wonderful work done by an army of dedicated volunteers	5
That I made myself involved at every opportunity throughout my life in the parish.	5
The work we did helped to strengthen what is happening	5
We created a community with opportunities for young families to get involved	5
I helped to bring people together	5
I helped in any way I could	5
We tried to make a difference	5
i was part of the improvement	5
I did my part in building the future, i made suggestions and got involved	5
I was included in the decision making process	5
We didnt give up to become more involved	5
We tried to keep our churches alive	5
I helped build strong connections with those around me by helping where i could.	5
I tried to show by example	5
We tried to rebuild the Catholic community	5
We cared enough to take action about the future of our churches	5
We tried to make catholics come together	5
I lived my faith	5
Stand up and be counted and help make a change	5
I prayed for everyone	5
courage to listen to the holy spirit, get out of our comfort zones and invested time to build up our church	5
I tried to encourage people to accept change	5
We have failed miserably to have more priests, families and youngsters, but we will work hard to do something now	5
Come to Mass, help others	5
Come to all of the services and encourage those in the parish	5
Helped to continue the church running consistently for everyone to attend	5

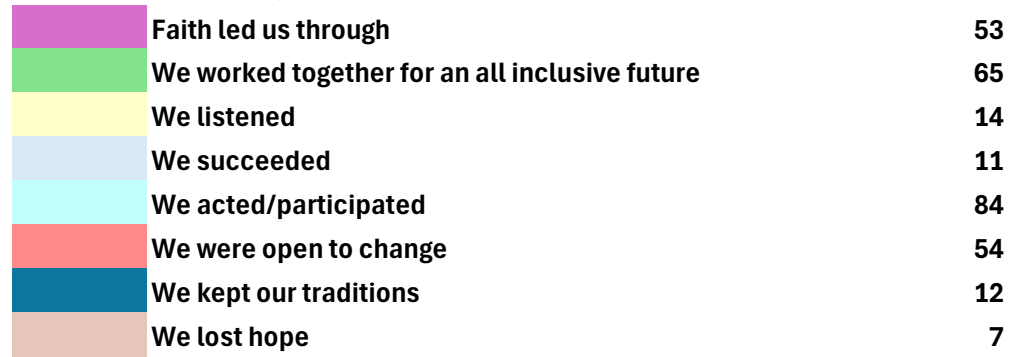
I aired my opinion	5
to have been an instrument for spiritual and social improvement	5
Saved a church community that was at the brink of being broken and not fit for purpose	5
Everyone took part and gave their thoughts and ideas	5
getting involved for a better future	5
we were involved - went to mass, brought ou children up in the faith, helped, volunteered, now we need new helpers to take over	5
I participated in shaping the future of the church in Huytonand played my part in the growth of the church	5
i helped in building an amazing community	5
We made a difference as a community	5
i was able to speak up	5
i helped build a strong and proserous catholic community	5
how we fought for the life of the church	5
we voiced our concerns for future generations	5
being a role model	5
volunteer for our parish church	5
building a church for continued worshop	5
Tried to face the challenges	5
That we faced the challenge	5
We were engaged and invoved	5
we were instrumental in bringing about a church that is vibrant, alive	5
If you don't gwet involved and play a part, use your voice - then you can't complain	5
we were instrumental in the progression of the familiy of parishes	5
We did our very, very best	5
we tried.	5
Attended meetings, gave opinions and ideas	5
we tried!!	5
we made a difference	5
Work done now will lead to more welcoming and relevant group of parishes	6

Envisaging a church of the people as they are the church and not the building	6
We modernised the church to become more inclusive and save it from dying	6
New church to be built for present and future parishioners	6
That the faithful took this time of great change seriously	6
We were prepared to embrace change	6
That we tried to engage with change and be welcoming to other parishioners/people/priests	6
We recognised the need for radical change and responded with enthusiam and courage	6
Creating a real hub would be a legacy of real community and solidarity	6
That future generations will see a new church for all	6
churches in the area developed the youth section to give solid base for the future of the church family	6
That we did not let a church close for lack of Priests	6
That we worked alongside other faiths	6
Church needs to look at itself through the eyes of how the children view it	6
We facilitated a transition from old church to new church by relaxing some rules	6
We had the vision to accept change and secure a future for the church in our area	6
A legacy that we can proud of - one that the younger generation WANT to continue	6
That women were given a proper role in the church - ie priesthood.	6
Women make up large part of congregation but need to be given a recognised part in the church	6
We embraced this process to make a better future	6
That change is inevitable and HOPE is never far away	6
A community focused church that is a safe hub for everyone to engage in	6
I was part of a revived church	6
We were brave	6
We made the church more accesible	6
We were bold, imaginative and we tried to make things work.	6
We implemented a timely intervention to save our churches from closing down	6
We re-built a strong community	6
Lay involvement is essential to the lifeblood of the parish	6
Co-operation won over apathy	6

We need to save the church and together build a community where all are welcome	6
That we thought creatively about building one community out of many	6
Tried to break down barriers	6
We were BRAVE – had the COURAGE to make radical decisions	6
We were RADICAL – to allow new growth and vibrancy	6
Offer an example of ‘how’ to grow and change	6
That what we talked about is what you’re living	6
We were BOLD – we were OPEN to possibilities	6
That we took the risk	6
That we gifted a future	6
And now it’s up to you – what next?	6
We build a community in Hyuton that visibly lives the gospel, reenergised, revived Catholic teaching within the wider Christian community	6
We created a new hub – a centre of love and care – for the ‘churched’ and ‘unchurched’ in a central location	6
Ignation discernment with the whole people of God (laity/clergy) is being shared with the whole Church	6
We accepted the challeng and rose to the need for constructive change	6
We refashioned the remnants of the old church into a church for all the people of God	6
we rescued the esesnce of the christian faith from the trappings of Rome and ceremonial emphasis	6
A new pentecost	6
We triend to change for the better and good of others	6
We shared our ideas and hopes for a future church that built on the positives and met the needs of the time establishing a vision for future generations	6
We made an effort and tried to change things	6
We recognised that change needed to happen	6
tried to effect change - even though not sure we really have an input	6
we talked and created changes for the benefit of Hutyon parishes - like a central church	6
we rode the storm of modernism	7
We supported our own local church	7
We worked together as a closeknit parish. We believed in out church	7

I was able to attend Mass at my local church	7
We tried to uild a family in St. Aloysuis church	7
People worked together to create a close catholic community in their respective families	7
Fight for the spirit of St. Aloysuis not to be lost if so many churches join together	7
It is like it was	7
The church went back to its roots and traditions and spread and grew	7
Security for * church and school	7
this parish means a lot to me - we need to keep this parish open	7
Able to walk into a church and feel safe and included. Fr. Ealy celebrated my daughters first communion and confirmation. I have fond memories	7
Tell them the truth there is a decline of Priests	8
What if we can't tell anyone anything, because nothing happens?	8
People did not try, so we lost a lot	8
the church was very full, but not anymore	8
we have failed our grandchilren, because they have not followed us in the catholic faith	8
we tried to solve our problems, but didn't follow it through, we need to be more committed	8
Don't blame us	8













6. The story we would like to leave















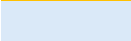

Faith led us through	53
We worked together for an all inclusive future	65
We listened	14
We succeeded	11
We acted/participated	84
We were open to change	54
We kept our traditions	12
We lost hope	7

RESULTS










1. What do We See?


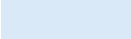

	Dwindling Mass Attendance	90
	Lack of unity/ cohesion/ communication between parishes	101
	Faith no longer a priority	31
	What we feel works well	74
	Social & Political influence	43
	Heirarchical Obstacles	9
	Lack of Priests	16
	Lack of youth/ young people	26
	The Closure of Churches	13
	The Buildings	9
	Uncertainty/ looking for change	17
	School involvement	6

2. Words and Phrases

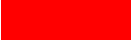









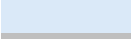


	Dwindling Mass Attendance	29
	Lack of unity/ cohesion/ communication between parishes	74
	Faith no longer a priority	55
	What we feel works well	79
	Social/ political influences	32
	Heirarchical Obstacles	13
	Lack of priests	14
	Lack of youth/ young people	24
	The Closure of Churches	15
	The Buildings	11
	Uncertainty/ Looking for change/ acceptance of change	56
	We are not looking for change	9
	Things we would like to see happening	15
	School involvement	4

3. Our Hopes

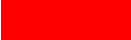












	Improved Mass attendance	36
	Suppotive working relationship between parishes	118
	Faith becomes a renewed priority	44
	Improvement politically and socially for the local area	21
	Breakdown of Heirarchical obstacles	16
	Inreased number of priests / improved support for priests	15
	Increase in Youth/ young people's involvement	66
	Amalgamation of churches to benefit of community	10
	Improved building	3

	Big changes explored creatively	110
	Tradition and what we know remains	33
	School Involvement	10



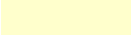
4. What are our Fears?

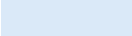
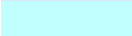



	Numbers don't increase/ get worse	28
	We can't work together	18
	Faith doesn't surface as a priority	30
	Social/ Political issues don't improve	19
	Heirarchical Obstacles aren't broken down	27
	Even fewer priests	29
	The youth don't return to church	33
	Our churches close/ we can't get to Mass	152
	Our buildings are not fit for purpose/ finacially not viable	5
	There is too much resistance to possibility of change	31
	Too much change happens	16
	Things remain the same / get worse	72
	Schools not interested	3

5. The future we are working for?

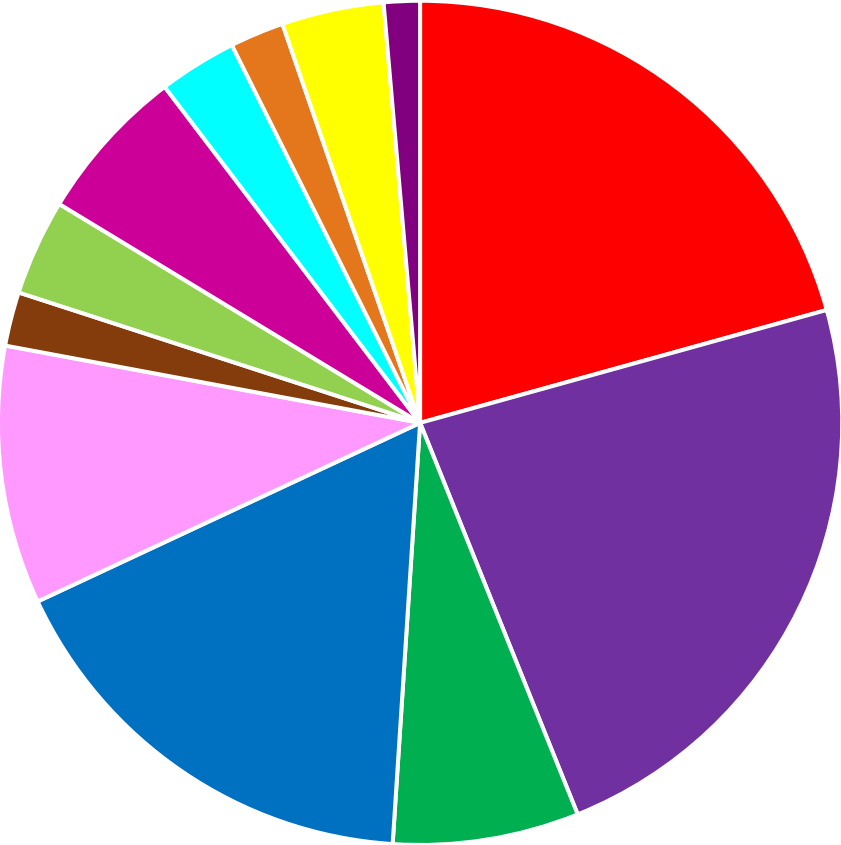
	Increased Numbers	9
	More co-hesion and working together with other churches	86
	Faith is a renewed priority	26
	The ideal community?	72
	Help to improve social/ potitical influences	35
	Heirarchical support	11
	We address the issue of fewer priests	12
	Improved youth engagement	56
	Our buildings are safe	3
	Possible big changes come to fruition	60
	Remain traditional	7
	Better communication but keep own identities	6
	Improved School involvement	11

6. The story we would like to leave

	Faith led us through	53
	We worked together for an all inclusive future	65
	We listened	14

	We succeeded	11
	We acted/participated	84
	We were open to change	54
	We kept our traditions	12
	We lost hope	7

1. What do you see?



■ Dwindling Mass Attendance

■ Faith no longer a priority

■ Social & Political influence

■ Lack of Priests

■ The Closure of Churches

■ Uncertainty/ looking for change

■ Lack of unity/ cohesion/ communication between parishes

■ What we feel works well

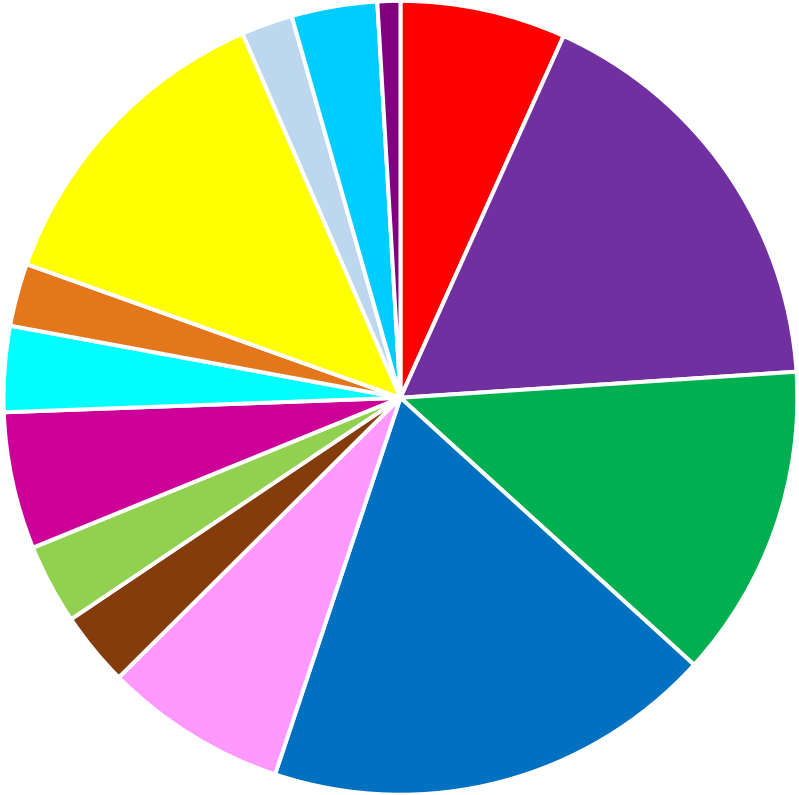
■ Heirarchical Obstacles

■ Lack of youth/ young people

■ The Buildings

■ School involvement

2. Words and Phrases?



■ Dwindling Mass Attendance

■ Faith no longer a priority

■ Social/ political influences

■ Lack of priests

■ The Closure of Churches

■ Uncertainty/ Looking for change/ acceptance of change

■ Things we would like to see happening

■ Lack of unity/ cohesion/ communication between parishes

■ What we feel works well

■ Heirarchical Obstacles

■ Lack of youth/ young people

■ The Buildings

■ We are not looking for change

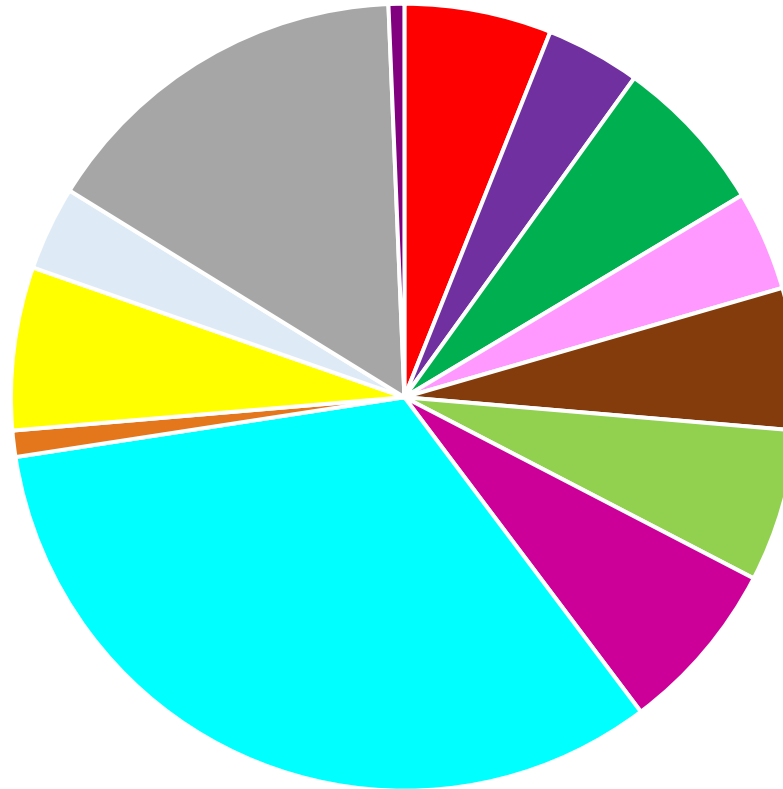
■ School involvement

3. Our Hopes



- Improved Mass attendance
- Faith becomes a renewed priority
- Breakdown of Heirarchical obstacles
- Increase in Youth/ young people's involvement
- Improved building
- Tradition and what we know remains
- Supportive working relationship between parishes
- Improvement politically and socially for the local area
- Inreased number of priests / improved support for priests
- Amalgamation of churches to benefit of community
- Big changes explored creatively
- School Involvement

4. What are your fears?



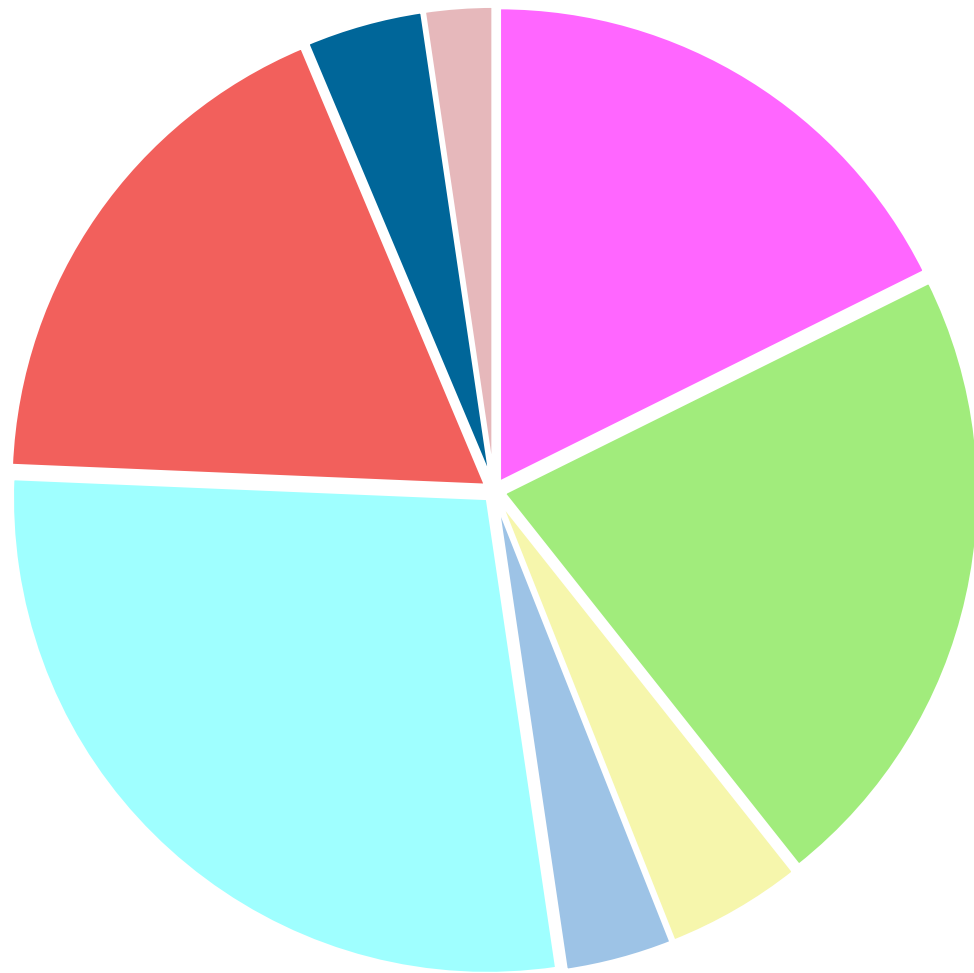
- Numbers don't increase/ get worse
- We can't work together
- Faith doesn't surface as a priority
- Social/ Political issues don't improve
- Heirarchical Obstacles aren't broken down
- Even fewer priests
- The youth don't return to church
- Our churches close/ we can't get to Mass
- Our buildings are not fit for purpose/ finacially not viable
- There is too much resistance to possibility of change
- Too much change happens
- Things remain the same / get worse
- Schools not interested

5. What future are we working for?



- Increased Numbers
- Faith is a renewed priority
- Help to improve social/ potitical influences
- We address the issue of fewer priests
- Our buildings are safe
- Remain traditional
- Improved School involvement
- More co-hesion and working together with other churches
- The ideal community?
- Heirarchical support
- Improved youth engagement
- Possible big changes come to fruition
- Better communication but keep own identities

6. What is the story we want to tell?



- Faith led us through
- We listened
- We acted/participated
- We kept our traditions
- We worked together for an all inclusive future
- We succeeded
- We were open to change
- We lost hope