

## ST FRANCIS PARISH CONSULTATION 29 JAN 2022

### FEEDBACK

*St Francis said, "Start by doing what's necessary; then do what's possible; and suddenly you are doing the impossible."*



*With this in mind and with the*

*RELINQUISH, RESTORE AND REIMAGINE as guidelines this offers a guiding reflection of what emerged.*

### Relinquish

*2 Sunday services – one service seems to be working and people are enjoying the mixed community of parishioners that used to identify with only one service.*

*Only being in person – our online community is significant and will remain so and people always have an option to attend if online if they are away.*

*Only organ music – can be both piano and organ, traditional hymns and choruses.*

*Friday service being in person – remain on Zoom except for 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday when in person.*

### Restore

*Parish Ministers and Servers – so more people at the altar.*

*Welcomer's and sides people.*

*Conscious dedicated giving reminders and fund raising.*

*Lady Chapel prayer/prayer box/votive candle stand.*

*Conscious Pastoral Care – restore this care and communication now that we see people more and can get out and about – especially to Darrenwood/ Garden Village communities and touching base with people we haven't seen for a while but come to mind.*

Restore home communion.

Tea after the services with different people acting as hosts – pouring/ biscuit donation.

Community events in relation to music festivals, markets and other gatherings like Parkviews. Maybe Bart could even be back for a bit as we restore the monthly Parkview gatherings? Also Koppie Eucharist and more intentional Eco ministry events from clean ups (even at Zoo Lake), hikes and more members as part of the ministry.

Children's Church/Sunday school as an active in person ministry with a focus on encouraging more teachers and volunteers to assist. Children to be part of the main service – gathering song to be “child friendly”.

Singing parts of the liturgy – Gloria, Lord's Prayer, Prayer for Africa, Sanctus, Mavana kaTixo.

Restoration of South African hymns and different languages.

Music ministry to involve more members of the congregation again whether as a choir or music group. Children to come into church and share their songs with all of us.

Two communion points for bigger services.

Contact with Parkview Police – reclaiming the impetus of the Divinity Project which was evident before Covid.

Opportunities for Bible Studies, open discussions of all ages around gender, sexuality, being “woke”.

More Quiet Morning and retreat opportunities...growing the contemplative ministry – the idea of Spirituality as a lived expression of the faith of every day in all its messiness.

Reclaim weekday service.

**Reimagine**

*Social Concerns – involve other churches, employ a social worker, return to week day feeding as opposed to weekend feeding, trying to get the JSA functioning again so we offer a more extensive and “deeper” social concerns ministry which aims to assist in ongoing and restoring ways. While feeding great, there is a need to assist those on the street with opportunities to get their paperwork in order, CV’s on track so they get jobs and dream again.*

*Family Ministry for families with young children.*

*Idea of Ministry Champions for different areas of church and community life.*

*Art, music, poetry and performance as a way of involving more of our community, extending our understanding and opening eyes to the broad stretch of ministry in different heard, visual and spoken forms.*

*Dirkie and co to make a CD of worship music that could act as a fund raiser (with Emma Jean and Adrian Gaillard).*

*Extending online ministry with rector’s monthly “chat” and weekly morning or evening prayer recordings – maybe instead of weekday service?*

*Share what our online numbers have been like – so maybe allow there to be a connection between those online and in person by sharing something of the crossover with both.*

*An anxiety support group to cope with the marked increase in anxiety at all levels of society.*

*How to make new members and visitors feel welcome whether in person or online. How we follow up and that we do is important.*

*Reimagine funeral ministry in terms of online, what we offer and are able to do....maybe weddings, baptisms too.*

*Relational focus in everything...*

*(As you read and reflect on this, please feel free to keep the conversation going – community restoration, gathering and belonging is vital to our faith journey)*