

**St Margaret's What three actions do you think parishioners could take in the years ahead to make your parish better?**

Social Events

1. Hall used for community events – not all want to go to Centre 81
2. Bring back parish dances
3. Have a meeting like this every month
4. Parish barbecue
5. 'Open mike' night
6. Organise more parish fundraising especially family events
7. Yearly church barbecue with events
8. More events, more social events – but more people need to be involved, somehow more people need to get involved
9. Parish dances
10. Family nights
11. Summer fete
12. Parish dances
13. Parish fete in parish grounds
14. Get together monthly for older people
15. More community events
16. FUN in the parish i.e. bus runs, parish dances, etc.

For Young People

17. Ways to encourage teenagers to attend mass and take part in groups through the parish
18. More active older youth group
19. Older youth club
20. Encourage children at youth groups to tell how good it is to be part of, maybe help to bring more youth to church
21. An opportunity where the youth can ask openly about the church, faith and all other aspects of our religion – hopefully where they can be more open and honest in their questioning to allow a deeper understanding, allow them to challenge
22. The youth clubs continue
23. Encourage the young people of the parish back to mass
24. Re-start discussion group to talk about difficult questions and develop faith – particularly aimed at teenagers and young adults, priests could go into secondary

schools to give a taster session during RE

25. Build on youth events and involvement
26. Younger people involved in liturgy
27. Try to get some younger parishioners involved in readings, music groups, etc.
28. More engagement with schools – to enhance religious awareness and learning at an earlier age, not necessarily by the clergy but perhaps with / by pastoral team and not only at preparation of sacraments

Communication

29. Introduce a parish newsletter to be put through the doors of parishioners letting them know what is going on in the parish – twice a year
30. Welcome to new members
31. Keep the parish community informed of all the different things that are on going
32. Display and promote awareness at areas people visit i.e. health centre, Post Office, shops, etc.
33. Why are parishioners not told of weekly income of church collections and how it is implemented?
34. Informed regarding repairs to church, hall, road, etc. and maybe more would be put into the collections if they knew how much was required
35. Deliver bulletins to non-church goers
36. Be kept up to date about improvements in the hall and grounds outside which are dangerous to walk on
37. Mail drop to householders in the area to cascade information and awareness
38. Noticeboard at St Margaret's with mass times, etc.

Liturgy / Opportunities for Prayer

39. Youth mass – maybe monthly?
40. Parish day retreats / overnight

41. More rosary in months of May and October
42. Parish retreats
43. Encourage the parishioners to participate in the services
44. Day retreats
45. Praying
46. Good singing
47. No chattering

Getting More People Involved

48. More people encouraged to join and support groups
49. Recruit new volunteers – best approach might be to ask people directly to become involved with a certain group or task
50. Encourage more people in the parish to take a more active role
51. More volunteers / members for St Vincent de Paul, UCM, etc.
52. Register kept at the back of church for people to sign up to voluntary events / groups
53. The women run most functions to improve finances - encourage others to support us
54. More helpers would be an advantage
55. Parishioners encouraged to volunteer (in small things / ways) – involvement encouraging ownership
56. Might be helpful for representatives of groups to give an insight to what's involved to encourage participation from other parishioners (for consideration for next event?)
57. Encourage and support young people to get more involved

## Trips and Outings

58. Run trips to Lourdes and parish retreats
59. Parish bus runs
60. Parish outing –Carfin?
61. Annual parish family outing and/or barbecue
62. More socials for the older community e.g. dances monthly
63. Have more social activities in the parish hall, dances for example which were always well attended
64. Parish summer trips
65. Parish bus runs

## Home Visits

66. Home visits by clergy to families that rarely make it to church – perhaps 2 visits per clergy per week
67. Have a committee who could visit the sick especially ones without close relatives
68. Parish priests to visit peoples' homes! What happened to that? Getting to know your parishioners
69. Parish visits by parishioners to those unable to go to church

## Clubs (sports)

70. Football team to involve men and young men
71. Maybe start a parish sports club for young people i.e. football, swimming or zumba, etc. Make the community more fun!
72. Organise more clubs involving recreational activities, table tennis, football, etc.

## Men

73. Maybe some of the younger men would offer to assist the older passkeepers who work so hard every week
74. In winter time could men of the parish spread salt outside the church to help easy walking?
75. Women of this parish are the workers who raise money yet if there is anything official in the hall they are left to remove furniture and sort tables, etc. – no men ever volunteer

## Fundraising

76. More people signed up to gift aid

77. Fundraising
78. Fund raise for parish hall, sponsored activities including the whole parish

## Adult Formation

79. Offer more adult formation e.g. along the lines of RCIA but for those who are already catholics
80. Religious discussion group or suggestion box at back of chapel to put ideas / topics they would like to be covered

## Parish Befriending

81. Parish befriending club, between older parishioners who live alone, who would benefit from a visit from young people in youth clubs / parish
82. Parish befriending scheme involving older adults and youth groups

## Women

83. Women priests
84. Younger Catholic Mothers, but rename it to entice younger women to join, even to include unmarried women

## Hall

85. More use of the hall for private functions, kids parties, etc.
86. Improve our hall which would, in turn, allow us to provide more events and services for the parish

**Our Holy Redeemer's What do you feel is the most positive thing about your parish?**

For Young People

1. Vigil mass in OHR – youth mass 5pm on Sundays
2. More young people and other people from St Margaret's coming to OHR
3. More young and gifted musicians up in the choir loft
4. Youth work
5. Encourage 6<sup>th</sup> year pupils
6. Get younger people involved in organising e.g. functions, dances, events
7. Get kids events to encourage parents

Liturgy / Opportunities for Prayer

8. Weekly novena
9. Regular confession (longer than 10 minutes)
10. I think children having made first communion, parents / teachers should make them attend mass on Sunday morning at 10:00am
11. Regular benediction
12. Choir / music
13. Children's liturgy / Sunday school

Social

14. We need a good committee
15. More meetings like this to encourage parishioners to meet each other
16. Maybe a lot of younger people to run social side for the parish with good ideas
17. Parish needs to run more dances to raise money for the upkeep of the parish

Formation

18. More lay services and lay groups and lay formation