

Kate Andrews, a parishioner at St Aloysius Redan comments on the discernment paper - HOW IS GOD CALLING US TO BE A CHRIST-CENTRED CHURCH IN AUSTRALIA THAT IS Missionary & Evangelising?

After reading this paper, what gives you hope?

Our Schools – being present with the school community at Mass and feel their warmth and smiles at the sign of peace. I listen to the way they are learning to have a relationship with Jesus.

A garden where children plant, care and reap the benefits of their labour, caring for creation.

Our school and church are inclusive of other cultures. People of all different backgrounds work to keep our church maintained and our parish alive.

A parish priest who humbles himself to clean the pews during COVID-19. During this time we have found so many ways of being together – Phone calls, daily reflections from our pastoral worker.

People have expressed that during this Pandemic – they have found the peace and beauty of creation, time to connect with family as they are not running off to meetings, sport and the busyness of life.

I gain hope from hearing of people listening and listening again to victims of sexual abuse – their healing is paramount and takes time, and the care of these people is a sign of hope.

What do you find challenging?

Not to be disheartened by the negativity and lack of hope.

To listen with the heart as well as the ears.

From criticising our youth. See the way they live out the message of Jesus, with their helping and caring. Respect and listen to their views.

To once again trust in God's healing to make prejudices crumble.