

Church Community “Journeying together”

- Activities for the church
- Collecting money to send home
- Difficulty to attend Mass, unsure about restrictions
- We could not socialise or pray together
- Regulations within the church when we came back, social distancing
- On line Mass
- Because of strong faith we survived
- We learned to be more patient and humble
- We built more relationships at home with family
- We pray more for people because of our experiences we know more people need prayers
- A wider sense of appreciation for community and faith has resulted
- We should have some form of “worry box” to allow people to put their name and number in the box and have someone call them to talk over their problems, we may have some solutions or just a friendly ear
- 1:1 counselling communal actions to support mental health
- Made an opportunity for the Church to create a support system within the church to combat loneliness, depression and emotional struggles
- Create a system for people within the church who cannot afford time to visit but would happily spend some time on the phone talking to the housebound or lonely
- An “idea box” for parishioners if they want to suggest ideas they would like to see the church change going forward
- On going events could be further promoted and marketed to members through different methods
- Comfort in knowing mass was still be said daily, knowing our mass requests were still being honoured
- Housebound had no one, left on their own. SVP and others stopped due to restrictions
- The youth didn’t have a voice restrictions hit them hard, schooling, friends etc
- Build up the youth club again, get parishioners to take turns in helping out
- Have a picture of the deceased when informing the parish, may not know name but would know the picture
- So thankful for on line Mass, would have been so different without technology
- Missed sacraments especially communion
- Being homeless during covid very difficult, no one to help or talk to
- Thankful for charities feeding the homeless and food banks
- Photographs of deceased parishioners – knowing people but not knowing their name
- Food bank charity work
- Social clubs, drinks – get to know people on a deeper level – bingo nights etc
- People who are knowledgeable to teach the youth
- Learning from other churches
- Live simply campaign
- Confirmation groups can fund raise

- Grow plants and vegetables
- Parish youth club meet weekly, sharing articles and bible stories
- Parish council social media
- Communication strategy
- Community youth, school etc
- Contact with other churches
- Difference in faith journeys
- Church – the Vatican, all people involved in Parish, the Body of Christ all those baptised
- The priest and lay people, young and old, the poor and marginalised, family and community
- Inclusive, diverse, welcoming, charity, hospitality, caring friendly approachable, feeding the homeless, encouraging and giving knowledge and awareness
- More activities to be done
- Celebrate diversity
- Reach out to everyone culture
- Everyone from our faith and those wishing to join or find out more about our faith

Wider Journey

- It brought pain and sadness to see everything close down
- People lost jobs and homes
- Unable to comfort those who lost loved ones
- Did not know the people who had lost love ones due to isolation
- Restrictions made people unable to visit love ones
- Celebrations were cancelled
- Hindered sacraments
- Housebound contacted by Father throughout restrictions
- We learnt multiple virtues giving us joy
- Automatically Email the newsletter out to parishioners
- Grateful to be able to come back to church
- Nice to have steward to still greet you into church
- I was found shelter in a hotel in Luton for 5 months after difficult homeless time
- When I was sent to Hornchurch I came to St Albans everyone was helpful and nice

Mission

- We need to encourage non believers
- Commitment and faith – can we improve – more reverence to serve our Lord eg Reflecting, genuflect
- Encourage Catholics that no longer attend Church
- Encourage young people, people from different languages
- Should not stereo type
- Welcome out cast people
- Open church doors to non-believers so we can share our faith
- People who cannot come to church
- Participate in church activities
- Promote more general activities
- Knock on doors and spread the good news
- Reaching to people outside the parish
- Giving out cards/ posters for special occasions
- Baked goods for the kids
- Sunday school
- Census – weekly form to see who is in the parish
- Makes you feel you have a family
- St Albans school involving them in the church more regularly
- Supporting the community – Catholic Church
- Giving people a voice – who should be heard? The young, elderly, house bound
- Supporting needy in the area
- Encourage those who feel unwelcomed because of their beliefs
- The curious to be encouraged
- Youth – Restart the Youth Club – this will let the youth have a place to mix with their peers outside of school and meet where Christ is present and at the heart
- Parish questionnaires
- Hold more fundraisers
- May Procession to restart