

SURVEY QUESTIONS FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE OF MELBOURNE

Survey Open: Sunday 21 September 2025

Survey Close: Sunday 5 October 2025

As we commence a process of consultation in the stage of Listening and Sharing regarding the joint communication from *Holy Spirit, Parish of St. Gerard and St. Anne – Looking to the Future*, please read the following details:

Instructions:

Please answer the questions as below and return to your Parish no later than the last Mass on Sunday 5th October 2025.

If you have more to say than space allowed, please attach extra pages and make sure that you note the question number to which your comments apply.

To maintain the privacy of your answers, envelopes have been provided in the Church. Please make sure you write “Survey Response” on the outside of the envelope.

1. Which parish do you currently belong to? Warrandyte and Park Orchards or Ringwood North

2. What do you value most about your current parish?

- Sense of community and belonging
- Parish Priest and pastoral leadership
- Opportunities for worship and liturgy (Mass, sacraments, prayer groups)
- Homilies and spiritual guidance
- Music and liturgical life
- Engagement in social justice and outreach activities
- Opportunities for volunteering and ministry involvement
- Support for families, children, and youth

- Sacramental preparation and faith formation opportunities
- Welcoming and inclusive atmosphere
- The parish's history, heritage, and traditions
- Other (please specify)

3. **What has worked well in our partnership so far?**

- Shared liturgical celebrations (e.g., Triduum, Christmas, joint feast days)
- Opportunities for parishioners to meet and build relationships
- Combined ministries (e.g., Sacramental, Liturgy)
- Effective coordination of administrative tasks and office functions (Sharing of information)
- Volunteer engagement across both parishes
- Support for families, youth, and children through shared programs
- Respect for each parish's unique identity and traditions

Can you identify anything else that has worked well? Please list:

4. The following are some advantages that formally coming together would bring. Please tick all that you think might apply to us:

- Larger, more vibrant community
- Greater opportunities for formation, fellowship, pastoral care
- Access to a broader range of skills and expertise
- Shared administrative burden
- Shared operating costs
- Optimisation of assets for mission
- Future sustainability of the community

Can you see any other advantages? Please list:

5. The following are issues that are sometimes of concern for parishes considering amalgamation. Please tick the things that concern you:

- Loss of our own, separate identity
- Having to share our assets and resources
- The two communities are different to one another
- Things will change
- Worried our legacy will be lost or overlooked
- Our voice may not be represented or heard in a larger community
- It takes time and effort to create a new sense of community

Do you have any other concerns? Please list:

6. **On balance, do you think the advantages outweigh the disadvantages? Yes / No**

7. **Is there any other feedback you would like to provide us with?**