

St Mary's Church, High Crompton

Summary of Feedback from Congregation: Part 1

On Sunday 7 May, our congregation gave some initial feedback on St Mary's Church relating to the first two "Marks of Mission" of the Anglican Communion:

1. "To proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom";
2. "To teach, baptise and nurture new believers".

These are some of the main themes that came out (mentioned at least 4 times):

What We Do Well

- Overall, we received 67 positive comments relating to these first two Marks. The most notable patterns included:
 - 20 comments mentioned the **provision for children**, of which 8 praised our **Sunday School** and 7 mentioned the **uniformed organisations**;
 - 18 comments were grateful for the **sense of community**, with 6 specifically mentioning the **mutual pastoral support** within our church family;
 - 11 comments discussed how the church was a **focal point for the local community of High Crompton**
 - 10 comments talked about the **welcome for newcomers**;
 - 6 comments referred to opportunities to **grow and develop our faith and spirituality**;
 - 6 comments mentioned the various **opportunities to be involved in church life**;

Things We Could Do Better

- In total, we received 44 comments which suggested areas where we could do better.
- There was far less agreement here (many areas only commented on by one or two), but certain points came up repeatedly:
 - 12 comments discussed feelings of *not* being **welcomed or included**;
 - 2 of these specifically mentioned **lack of welcome for families with young children**;
 - 11 comments related to the **lack of participation in church life**, with relatively few volunteers;
 - 7 comments were concerned aspects of our **worship**, 4 of which specifically with **difficulty for children to engage with / participate in worship**;
 - 4 comments talked about **reluctance to take part in faith-based events**.

New Things We Could Do

- Altogether, we received 18 comments making suggestions of various new things we could try - some more practical than others! We will be taking these forward and consulting on them.

Do these reflect what you think? These are only the first steps on our journey to the St Mary's Mission Action Plan. For the latest updates and opportunities to have your say, keep an eye on the weekly sheets, join our Facebook Group or visit our new website: www.stmarys-stjames.org.