

The Insights Process

Comments and Questions

What is going to happen from here with all this information?

Acknowledgement that some of this is taboo and some of us are not ready.

For some the hurt is so raw this process hasn't been productive.

Personal sharing in a safe environment is really valuable and we would like to ensure the opportunity for others to come as well.

Tonight has been an experience of community, of church offering the opportunity to hear peoples' pain.

The church bulletin could have a report on how these Insights sessions have highlighted some of the hurt and what has emerged to show that it is OK to speak about this.

It is a relief to be able to talk about this.

Importance of communication: groups such as this are able to share thoughts and move to actions.

Opportunities for small group sharing what is touching our lives - this MUST continue.

Given the sense of pain and suffering within parishes we wonder why more people did not attend the gatherings. In some cases perhaps they were not adequately promoted. Perhaps those who are affected are not attending Mass these days: Is there another way to give these people a chance to express how they are feeling: eg Sunday celebrations in anticipation of Eucharist? (Where a priest doesn't lead).

Perhaps the gatherings could have been promoted a little better. A member of the parish council could have spoken at Mass if the purpose of the meeting had been clearer.

This is the beginning and not the end of the process of change.

Where to From Here: Emerging Needs and Suggestions

Need for more meetings to provide a forum for conversation on these topics.

Continue the operation of the Insights group. Is it possible to have something set up in individual parishes?

More safe forums where conversation can take place.

Need that some support be offered to the parishioners right there and then after the news relating to the abuse issue has been publicised; that a variety of responses be offered, including a forum almost immediately where some professionals could address the forum for those unable to speak in a small group.

Need not to neglect this kind of forum.

Support individuals and communities if accused are found guilty as this will lead to more distress. How ready are we for that?

Resources such as those given out at the sessions should be available: who can I talk to?

We need to take this process to our children especially Yrs 10 - 12 AND listen to them.

Need for opportunities for small group sharing about what is touching our lives - this MUST continue.

We have lost younger generation as a result of scandal. Set up a process that would include them as well.

Meet with staff, students and parents from our schools to see if we can come up with a similar process to Insights so that people connected with schools can share their feelings and thoughts to help find a way towards healing and towards a more open and humble church.

Conscious that we are missing a generation in the church: the young need an opportunity for a process such as this.

Bullying in schools needs urgent attention.

We need to have Insights groups for the community for people who feel pushed away from the church due to divorce, separation, homosexuality, IVF, in their families in addition to the issue of sexual abuse by clergy. People or their families may have felt condemned.

Need for members of the Insights Team to go to masses and talk to people and offer help.

It was suggested that priests may benefit from the Insights process and that it should be offered to them specifically. It is difficult for them to speak of their personal needs. This would be an opportunity for priests to be supported.