

St. Mary's – What do you think? (2017)

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Thank you for participating in this survey.

This survey can also be completed online:

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/stmarys-2017>

In 2016 St. Mary's collected feedback from the congregation. The response was wonderful and has helped to shape decision making throughout the year (please see the report in church or online here: <http://stmarys-bromley.org.uk/current-news/feedback/> for more information). The response included a wish that an opportunity for feedback could be offered regularly in future, and with this year's APCM (Annual Parochial Church Meeting) coming up on April 30th, it makes sense to collect your thoughts and concerns before that.

This survey has 5 short sections: 1. Communication, 2. How well St. Mary's supports and encourages you in your faith, 3. Mission, 4. the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) with an opportunity to put your questions to that, 5. Any other comments. Please feel free to provide as much or as little information as you like.

The responses are collected anonymously, but you can provide your name on the last page if you would like to. This will be essential if you would like personal answers to any questions you have raised.

The deadline for responding is Easter Sunday, 16th April.

Please return your completed survey to any member of the Communications Team: Rachel Archer, Ruth Peet, Liz Sykes, Elaine Wakefield or Stevyn Walder, or leave it in the collection box in church.

The responses will be collated by the ministry team. APCM related feedback will be covered at the APCM. All other feedback will be presented to the PCC in May and June, and then shared with the congregation.

Thank you again for your response last year. The PCC looks forward to receiving and responding to your feedback this year.

## Section 1 - Communication

Last year's feedback exercise showed clearly that communication at St. Mary's was not good enough. Over the last year we have attempted to improve communication in a number of ways, including the following:

- Set up a Communications Team, reporting to the PCC.
- Published an eNewsletter.
- Renewed the website, which now includes an up to date (as possible) central calendar and clear details of groups, teams and contacts.
- Improved advertising of special church services and events e.g. Easter and Christmas services, Mission Course.
- Followed through on promises to communicate e.g. the results of congregational feedback.
- Set 10 day deadlines on the PCC agenda and minutes.
- Thanked the parish for Christian Aid contributions over 10 years.

More information about progress with communication can be seen at

<http://stmarys-bromley.org.uk/about-us/teams-and-meetings/communications-team/>

1. Do you feel that communication at St. Mary's has improved over the last 12 months?

- Yes
- No
- Not sure

2. On a scale of 1-10, how well do you think St. Mary's is now communicating with **people who come to church regularly**?

*Please circle your answer*

1 Not at all    2    3    4    5    6    7    8    9    10 Very well

3. On a scale of 1-10, how well do you think St. Mary's is now communicating **with the wider community** (i.e people who do not come to church or only occasionally)?

*Please circle your answer*

1 Not at all    2    3    4    5    6    7    8    9    10 Very well

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4. On a scale of 1-10, how well informed do **you** feel about what is going on at St. Mary's?

*Please circle your answer*

Completely  
uninformed

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

Very  
well  
informed

10

5. If you feel that we are not doing well enough with communication, what would you suggest to improve the situation?

6. Do you have any further comments about communication?

## Section 2 – Your Christian Faith

The church exists for two closely correlated purposes: to worship God and to work for his kingdom in the world. The church also exists for a third purpose, which serves the other two: to encourage one another, and to build one another up in faith (this mutual encouragement and support is all part of what is known loosely as fellowship).<sup>1</sup> These questions are about St. Mary's part in encouraging you and supporting you in the growth of your Christian faith.

<sup>1</sup>From N T Wright in *Simply Christian: Why Christianity Makes Sense*.

7. How well do you feel St. Mary's encourages you and builds you up in your faith?

*Please circle your answer*

Not at all										Very greatly
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	

8. If you don't feel encouraged and supported, please say what St. Mary's should be doing differently.

9. Do you have any other comments about how we, as God's people, may encourage and support growth in faith, either among churchgoers, or in the wider community?

## Section 3 – Mission

Last Autumn, as a church, we completed '*mission-shaped intro*' - a course to help us look at the ways the world is changing, and to explore how we, as a church, may change, so we may be relevant to our wider parish community, in that changing world.

We saw clearly that there is a lot we don't know about our local community and therefore that it is important for us to start by 'listening' to those in our community. With listening in mind, we are exploring the possibility of starting:

1. A Monday-morning drop-in. The details have to be discussed and agreed between us all, but the idea is that the church is open for anyone, coffee/other drinks and refreshments are available, we spread the word, we see who turns up, we hear their stories and from our conversations we learn about our community and how we may more deeply engage with it.
2. A street by street introduction and visiting/prayer programme. This would be following a tried, tested and successful pattern, taking place in a parish not far away. The idea is that it would be a well-managed programme – sending a letter introducing ourselves and saying we will knock on a certain day, calling as promised, always giving people the option to have nothing to do with us, but where conversation becomes possible, offering a relationship with St. Mary's, whether that is through prayer for them or some other form of contact or support.

More information about progress since the Mission Course can be read at:

<http://stmarys-bromley.org.uk/current-news/mission-course/>

10. What do you think about these ideas?

- Good
- Bad
- Not sure

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11. Please give a reason for your answer to Q10.

12. Do you have other ideas about how we may listen to, and show the love of God to our community?

13. Do you have any further comments about mission and outreach?

## Section 4 – APCM

The APCM (Annual Parochial Church Meeting) will be held on 30th April, following the morning service in St. Mary's.

At the APCM there is an opportunity for 'Any Other Business'.

14. What, if any, are the issues you would like to raise at the APCM?

*Please note that questions can still be raised at the meeting.*

15. Do you have questions or issues, not essential for the APCM that you would like to raise with the PCC?

16. Any other questions or comments about the APCM?

## Section 5 – Anything else?

17. Is there anything else relating to life at St. Mary's that you would like to comment on?

Thank you for completing this survey.

You may give your name if you would like to. (Your name is essential if you would like personal answers to any questions you have raised).

Please return your completed survey, by Sunday 16th April, to any member of the Communications Team: Rachel Archer, Ruth Peet, Liz Sykes, Elaine Wakefield or Stevyn Walder, or leave it in the collection box in church.