



## Searching for Parish Engagement Scale (SPES)

*The parish is not an outdated institution (Pope Francis)*

The parish is called to have *great flexibility* in determining its mission and purpose for today's congregations. There are diverse expectations and hopes for what a parish can be and should be. This is particularly so in Australia where the number of people identifying with any religion is declining.

*What is the benefit of SPES?*

SPES is designed to help you understand the hopes and dreams of your parishioners. It is designed to help you better know the diversity that exists in your parish community and to plan for the future.

SPES is first of all a survey instrument that provides the opportunity for you to gather data on the type of parish that your parishioners and your leadership would like to see.

SPES can be particularly beneficial to undertake as your parish school is completing the Enhancing Catholic School Identity (ECSI) Surveys. These two surveys interact with each other so that a rich conversation can be had between parish and school as each party reflects on its own identity and that of the other.

*How can you participate in SPES?*

When your school is completing ECSI surveys you will have the chance to offer SPES to your parish community as well. This can be organised with your school or local Catholic Education Office.

Your parish can undertake SPES independently if your school is not completing ECSI surveys by contact Fr Brendan Reed directly

*For further information, you can contact Fr Brendan Reed on  
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