



**Go you are sent…**

**Archdiocese of Wellington**

**SYNOD 2017**

**Parish Self-Review Resource**

# “Haere, tukuna... Go you are sent” – Parish Self Review Tool

#### Tēnā koutou, welcome to this parish self-review tool.

#### The 2017 Archdiocese of Wellington Synod weekend may seem like a distant memory for some of us but the work of putting in place the recommendations has only just begun. One of the outcomes was a request for a robust means for parishes to undertake a self-review, identifying their areas of strength and the focus areas to work on. In consultation with Cardinal John, Archdiocesan Vicariates and advisory groups, the Archdiocesan Pastoral Council has prepared the enclosed self-review tool for this purpose.

Please do not be put off by the size and scope of the document. This self-review tool is **not** designed to be completed in a single sitting or even a year, nor is it a test. It is meant to be a practicaltool to help each parish reflect deeply on how they are putting into practice the outcomes and actions of the Synod. The careful use of this document will hopefully encourage your parish in the things that are going well, identify gaps and create some clear priorities and areas of focus in looking to the future. Each parish and parish community is unique; it is in the continual act of prayerful discerning that the gifts of each parish and each parishioner are made known and realized for mission.

#### Here are some suggested ways you might use this tool:

* **Take it easy – make it a standing item on your Parish Pastoral Council agenda.** Pick one section or focus area for each meeting. Send a paper out in advance so people can think about how it relates to your parish and reflect on it together at your meeting.
* **Establish sub-groups to review each area.** Set up sub groups in the parish for each section or focus area and ask them to do a review and submit an action plan to the PPC. This is a great way of getting more people involved.

#### **Annual review.** Take a day at the Home of Compassion (Island Bay) or Pa Maria (Thorndon) or at any other prayerful place of reflection in your parish and spend time together using this self-reflection tool to prepare the parish’s annual plan.

It is unlikely that any parish could complete a section of this review and feel completely satisfied that there is nothing more to do. But equally, don’t let gaps discourage you. Each of our parishes are channels of God’s grace and creativity. Pope Francis has said that the parish *“possesses great flexibility, it can assume quite different contours depending on the openness and missionary creativity of the pastor and the community”* (Evangelii Gaudium 28).

Whatever you do, don’t feel constrained by the examples or limited by our selection of questions. These are aimed only to ignite the discussion and kick start your plan of action.

Most of all, this self-review tool is not about creating busyness and activity for the sake of activity. Every one of us is called to point the way to Christ *“I am created for something or to do something for which no one else is created: I have a place in God’s counsels, in God’s world, which no one else has; whether rich or poor, despised or esteemed by man, God knows me and calls me by name*.” Blessed John Henry Newman. We hope that parishes across the archdiocese will, through the use of this document, have a greater sense of direction in terms of how to put into practice the Synod outcomes.

#### Mā Te Atua tātou katoa e manaaki – may God keep all of us in His care.

#### With warmest regards

**Kathryn Miles**

#### Chair – Archdiocesan Pastoral Council

1. **Haere, tukuna... ki ngā pae tawhiti**

**Go, you are sent to the peripheries of society**

**2017 Synod Directions and Priorities for the Archdiocese of Wellington**

1. **The Archdiocese revisits its vision and Mission Statements in the light of the teaching of Pope Francis.**
2. **The Archdiocese supports parishes and schools in creating an ‘infrastructure of pastoral care’ for the disadvantaged among their own people and those in the local area.**
3. **The Archdiocese, and its parishes and schools, undertake an analysis of their structures and processes to identify marginalisation and barriers to participation.**
4. **Justice and Service bodies in the Archdiocese work together to foster parish service and justice activities, including advocacy on issues related to poverty and disadvantage.**
5. **The ‘preferential option for the peripheries’ is a factor in all Archdiocesan, parish, and school pastoral planning and decision-making, including a focus on rural areas and communities outside the cities.**
6. **The people of the Archdiocese collectively deepen their understanding of the nature of the ‘peripheries’ – the where, what, who, and why.**
7. **There is a commitment in all areas of the Archdiocese to work together on a method for identifying and addressing the ‘needs at the peripheries’, which starts with listening to those on the peripheries.**
8. **In responding to the needs at the peripheries priority is given to:**

* **Formation in the Social teaching of the Church**
* **Development in the skills and mentoring for effective and safe involvement with the peripheries**
* **Providing practical and spiritual support for people reaching out to the peripheries**
* **Drawing on and sharing the experience of those already engaged at the peripheries**

1. **The Archdiocese engages with existing bodies (such as St Vincent de Paul) to determine how best to support and promote greater parish involvement in their work.**
2. **Individual and collective cooperation with other churches and community organisations addressing the needs of those on the peripheries (including migrants and refugees) is encouraged.**
3. **Parishes are encouraged to develop a project approach to service and justice needs.**

**2017 Synod Practical Actions**

**Every parish and school has at least one service organisation, promoted and supported by the parish.**

**The Feast of Corpus Christi becomes a day when people are challenged to identify who they are called to serve in their local community.**

**Formation and assistance from Catholic charitable groups is provided for parishes to give them more support in going out.**

**Visit a rest-home, make a meal for a family in need, donate wool to knit into garments for people in need, regular foodbank collections – can we do more?**

**Prisoners and prisoner re-integration - parish sponsorship and prayer, commit to practical actions and service (eg Arohata quilts, volunteering for Seasons for Growth in prisons).**

**How we can all help - promote the existing agencies, create tangible bite-size pieces of activities to fit into our lives, create volunteer job search, reach out to migrants and refugees including non-Christians, link people up.**

**All actions must be faith-based, our faith, not of recipient – we help even if eg someone choses abortion.**

**Point parishioners to outside organisations, not just parish activities.**

**Create an advisory group including non-Catholic people to assist/advise Catholic entities eg CSS, Greenstone Doors, Rachel’s Vineyard, Marriage Encounter, to better deliver services.**

**Have a six week series during which people who are working with those on the peripheries share their experience.**

**All the groups in a parish get together on a regular basis to share what they do, identify gaps and overlap, create parish contacts and stimulate interest within the parish to minister to the needs of those on the peripheries of society as identified by the parish.**

**Parishes identify and promote social justice activities which parishioners can be involved in.**

**Have a Justice Ambassador/Peripheries Ambassador in the parish for motivation, monitoring and accountability.**

**Actively promote events such as Social Justice Week in parishes, use as a time for a particular form of service to others.**

**Build side by side mentoring groups to enable safe and accountable ministries.**

**Share resources and develop networks of volunteers that can easily be tapped into to meet actual local need - go beyond parish boundaries.**

**Share the joy in our actions to serve others and work to develop fairness in our communities.**

**Remain confident in who we are as a Church, retain our authenticity and set our priorities.**

**Teach about service to others in church/school/family so all know what service looks like and how to serve; “going out” and connecting with others is an obligation for all members of the church community, not an option.**

**Homilies and other ways of combatting selfishness and greed and “me first” society are needed.**

**Encourage prayer lists for particular needs (not named persons) and offer regular needs list to elderly/those not able to go on active service for prayer.**

**Hold open days in parishes**

“I urge you to serve Jesus crucified in every person who is marginalised, for whatever reason; to see the Lord in every excluded person who is hungry, thirsty, naked… to see the Lord who is imprisoned, sick, unemployed, persecuted; to see the Lord in the leper… whether in body or soul – who encounters discrimination! The way of the Church is precisely to leave her four walls behind and to go out in search of those who are distant, those essentially on the ‘outskirts’ of life*”* [Pope Francis – 2015 Mass with new Cardinals]

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| **Our Parish engages with those at the peripheries** | | |
| How does our Parish | | We do the following |
| 1. | …provide support to those who are in need in the wider community?  *Eg. refugees, our homeless, those living in poverty,*  *substance abusers* |  |
| 2. | …provide support to those who have diverse needs?  *Eg.mentql, health, social, emotional needs, and those who are differently abled. counselling?*  *Accompaniment, maximising accessibility?* |  |
| 3. | …give priority to those on the peripheries?  *Eg. financial? inclusive celebrations?* |  |
| 4. | …actively identify and seek out those who are in need?  *Eg. links with social agencies, community*  *organisations, schools?* |  |
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| **To the extent that our parish engages with those at the peripheries:**  What are the two main strengths of our parish?  What are the TWO things our parish could do better? | | |

1. **Haere, tukuna... ki te whakawhanake i te wairua pononga**

**Go, you are sent to develop a spirituality of service**

**2017 Synod Directions and Priorities for the Archdiocese of Wellington**

1. **Parishes are supported to develop new and inclusive forms of liturgy/worship (other than the Mass) which reflect the diversity of parish communities and encourage people to re-engage with their faith.**
2. **Language in liturgies, including hymns, is inclusive.**
3. **The Archdiocese makes it a priority to support the development of liturgy/worship in parishes and schools through the provision of qualified personnel, resources and the training of lay leaders.**
4. **Parishes review their music ministry with regard to vibrancy, inclusivity and relevance for the particular parish community, and take appropriate action.**
5. **The Archdiocese creates and implements a pastoral plan, which takes account of cultural diversity, to ensure a coordinated and consistent approach to the spiritual growth of the people.**
6. **Priority is given to reclaiming and using the Sacrament of Reconciliation as a path to forgiveness and healing at a personal and societal level.**
7. **Different forms of personal prayer are promoted as pathways to encounter with Jesus.**
8. **The Archbishop with the Council of Priests supports the ministry of preaching in a planned and resourced way.**
9. **Ministry teams in parishes incorporate the use of testimonies in worship, drawing on the experience of parishes that have already taken this step.**
10. **The Archdiocese identifies a variety of models for lay-led scripture study/reflection groups for use in parishes, and assists with the formation of leaders.**
11. **The Archdiocese develops a formation programme for a “spirituality of service”, centred in the Eucharist, which can be implemented in small groups and tailored to meet local needs.**
12. **Parishes undertake an annual gits discernment process in order to ensure succession in the essential parish ministries.**

**2017 Synod Practical Actions**

**Begin every board meeting/parish meeting with at least 10 minutes of prayer/reflection.**

**Have Scripture based options such as Lectio Divina in parish groups.**

**Promote Christian meditation in schools (primary and secondary) and among adults.**

**Develop many and varied spiritual practices outside of Mass eg Eucharistic Adoration, variety of prayer modes.**

**Have regular specified times for Reconciliation, not by appointment only.**

**Make churches accessible on a daily basis for private prayer.**

**Take the Church out to others by promoting formation and Scripture based programmes in the community for all.**

**Employ an Archdiocesan music coordinator to help upgrade our music.**

**Encourage music ministry in all forms, including music by young people.**

**Regular Archdiocesan meetings with liturgy people for ongoing formation and support.**

**Retain tradition but make worship relevant and meaningful in relationship with Christ.**

**Assist parishes to explore different expressions (vibrancy/uplifting) in Masses - set up an “inject Vitality Group” to explore music, visual, testimonies, suggestion box, live streaming of regional Masses.**

**Invite youth leaders to visit parishes regularly to lead Masses.**

**Study the Papal Encyclicals in groups.**

**Organize small group programmes which are relevant for Church seasons and for people’s lives.**

**Collate spiritual growth opportunities already being used in parishes (or used in the past) and make available to everyone.**

**Grow awareness and desire for faith formation and leadership (including parish-based activities) through testimonials, inspirational (TED-like) talks, mentoring programmes, hui, communication via digital repository.**

**Every parish to budget for 10 or so people per year to study the Catholic faith eg 101 Introduction to Catholicism.**

**Create a group in the parish whose role is to foster spiritual growth.**

**Intentionally create opportunities for people including clergy, to share their life experiences, relating to the gospel of the day.**

**Laity give homilies or testimonies sometimes.**

**In the homily the priest (or someone else) could give some formation on a deeper understanding of the Mass.**

**Provide opportunities (eg in worship other than Mass) to hear challenging reflections on the Gospel from lay people, or other denominations.**

**Priests bring “spirituality of service” into homilies – education and guidance are needed. Can priests support one another in doing this?**

**Enhance the dismissal rite at the end of Mass to encourage everyone to go out to be missionaries.**

**Make re-igniting and nurturing the energy for MISSION a strategic goal for the Archdiocese.**

“To be empowered by the Holy Spirit requires a submission to God, a surrender of ego, a letting go of our own agenda. It requires much prayer. If we want to see real growth in our ministries, our outreaches and organisations, we must remember Paul’s words ‘For every house is built by someone, but God is the builder of everything’ (Heb 3:4).” (Synod Booklet)

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| **In developing a spirituality of service our parish** | | |
| 1. | …ensures different forms of liturgy, prayer, and worship are available and encouraged outside of the Mass.  Eg Liturgy of the Word with Communion, lay-led celebrations, special occasion liturgies- All Souls Day,  prayer groups, study and reflection, Lectio Divina |  |
| 2. | …ensures that all ministries of service, within the community and beyond are supported.  Eg outreach to community |  |
| 3. | …supports and celebrates service in our parish.  Eg leadership people are representative of parish diversity and culture |  |
| 4. | …discerns practical actions to adopt from the 2017 Synod.  Eg different forms of worship, language of liturgy, music, preaching |  |
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| **To the extent that our parish develops a spirituality of service:**  What are the TWO main strengths of our parish?  What are the TWO things our parish could do better? | | |

1. **Haere, tukuna… ki te rapu kaiarahi**

**Go, you are sent to find leaders**

**2017 Synod Directions and Priorities for the Archdiocese of Wellington**

* 1. **Adventurous, creative people with initiative who are able to lead the parish in its response to community needs are identified and encouraged to come forward.**
  2. **Understanding of leadership roles is broadened beyond those traditionally found in parishes, and appropriate formation is provided.**
  3. **Parish leadership and ministry teams encourage people to discern and offer their gifts in new and existing leadership roles, and to plan for succession.**
  4. **The role of lay pastoral leaders and priests is clarified, with an emphasis on collaborative ministry.**
  5. **New models of lay leadership (including team leadership, project leadership and servant leadership) are sought, and parishioners are prepared before implementing them.**
  6. **Formation and mentoring for leadership roles is provided at the parish level and throughout the Archdiocese.**
  7. **The Launch Out Programme is reviewed to determine if it is achieving what it was set up to do, and whether it has a wider formation role.**
  8. **Those in parish and Archdiocesan leadership roles collectively reflect the diverse (age, ethnicity, gender) make-up of the Archdiocese and parishes.**
  9. **Young Catholics in state schools are given opportunities for leadership formation and for exercising leadership in the Catholic community.**
  10. **Tertiary chaplaincy is strengthened, and post-college youth leadership and formation programmes are further developed.**
  11. **Young people are encouraged, trusted and supported in taking the initiative in developing and leading new forms of ministry and outreach.**
  12. **A formation programme is developed to assist young people in their vocational discernment (single, marriage, religious and priesthood).**
  13. **Policies/norms are developed to ensure continuity in practice and lay leadership when there is a change in the parish priest.**

**2017 Synod Practical Actions**

**Incorporate a commissioning for varied leaders at the end of Mass, beyond Ministers to the Sick.**

**Institute a Leadership Sunday to affirm leaders and parishioners’ contributions within the parish, recognising present leaders and encouraging others to step forward.**

**Share information about the placement of Lay Pastoral Leaders, their role in the parish and how they work in the different parish contexts.**

**Take regular practical steps in the parish to encourage vocations and support the discernment process.**

**Promote all forms of vocations to young people (they are attracted to media and visual methods).**

**Pray often individually and collectively for vocations to the priesthood.**

**Increase the resources available to promote vocations to the priesthood.**

**Develop an understanding and capability of how to invite/ask people from across all the ethnic groups in the parish to take on leadership roles.**

**Promote and encourage intentional Christian Communities like Berrigan House, as a way to raise new leaders in an environment based on the Gospel and the Works of Mercy.**

**Identify gaps in leadership eg when young people leave college, and target leadership programmes to these “missing groups”.**

**All formal leadership roles are for a specific time.**

**Have an annual parish expo/forum (a table for each Ministry and Gift).**

**Make more use of “gifts and service” resources from Catholic Centre.**

**Provide opportunities for Stewardship workshops, in person or online.**

**Define the needs and identify leadership roles needed within the parish.**

**Regularly look at succession planning in parish ministries.**

**Encourage a “shoulder tapping” approach to recruiting new leaders and include mentoring.**

**Make support services for leaders available at parish level such as mentoring and spiritual direction.**

**Make known to parishes that training is important and it doesn’t need to be a workshop, it can be reading relevant section of GIRM and/or Catholic Centre resources.**

**Challenge parishes to sponsor people into basic TCI courses.**

**Make Theology on Tap more widely available.**

**Gather existing and aspiring leaders together in parishes on a regular basis for a mentoring programme - sharing of information and expectations.**

**Share expectations for roles in the parish in the form of a clear guidance manual.**

**Make sure there is at least one young person on the Parish Council.**

The people of the Archdiocese are seeking “servant leaders who delegate and support, listen, challenge others, listen and respond to minority groups, teach others to be leaders”, and who have “ways to handle differences without hurting one another or suppressing what is good”. People believe, above all, that leadership must flow out of a person’s relationship with Christ.

“…the Son of Man himself did not come to be served but to serve…” Mark 10:45

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| **Our Parish finds leaders** | | |
| How does our parish | | We do the following |
| 1. | …identify and attract leaders? |  |
| 2. | …form and mentor our leaders? |  |
| 3. | …support creative, adventurous, and innovative leaders? |  |
| 4. | …promote and foster vocations? |  |
| 5. | …reflect the bi-cultural and multicultural nature of our community in its leadership? |  |
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| **To the extent that our parish is fostering good leadership:**  What are the TWO main strengths of our parish?  What are the TWO things our parish could do better? | | |

1. **Haere, tukuna… ki te manaaki rawa**

**Go, you are sent to manage your assets wisely**

**2017 Synod Directions and Priorities for the Archdiocese of Wellington**

1. **The Archdiocese supports parishes in a review of property, which begins with an assessment of needs based on the Synod outcomes.**
2. **The review and decisions are the result of a prayerful discernment process based on the following principles:**

* **People are the Church’s primary asset**
* **Pastoral needs, mission and the common good are paramount**
* **There is a ‘preferential option for the peripheries’.**
* **Bi-culturalism and care for creation are integral**
* **The future needs of parishes and the Archdiocese are considered**
* **Buildings are open and welcoming, child and youth friendly**
* **Buildings contain spaces which are flexible and multifunctional**
* **Our churches and sacred spaces are places of beauty**
* **Dialogue takes place with other churches and the wider community**
* **The rights of parishes are respected.**

1. **Listening to the people and their full participation is the key element in the review of property.**
2. **Decisions are made about under-used or unusual property, with first consideration given to meeting community social needs.**
3. **Wealthy parishioners support parishes with fewer assets, in accord with the principle of the common good.**
4. **The Archdiocese continues the Stewardship programme after reviewing it in the light of the Synod outcomes.**
5. **The Archdiocese ensures that parishes are aware of the forms of assistance available to them.**
6. **The Archdiocese and the parishes are fully transparent in the communication of financial information to the people, and this is done in an accessible way.**

**2017 Synod Practical Actions**

**Open church doors at all times!**

**Churches could be more open places for other church activities eg Rosary, Adoration, youth groups.**

**Review access to buildings with regard to mobility and disability eg wheelchair access inside the church and to the other facilities (toilets, kitchen).**

**Create community hubs that are multi-purposed, meeting the needs of the community, including sharing buildings (church, halls, schools, presbyteries).**

**Think of marae in looking at how buildings can serve the community - a community hub to reflect diversity.**

**Create flexible space rather than fixed pews – enhances faith expression eg for liturgy, different numbers of participants.**

**Use facilities for other purposes outside of mass eg playgroups, after-school activities, outreach (eg soup kitchen), drop in centre, café, counselling, leisure activities, crèche, events, social activities, debates, seminars, flexible library spaces.**

**Develop family-friendly spaces by providing facilities for child-care in our churches eg breast feeding, nappy changing, children’s books. Ask parents with young children what works best for them.**

**Consider new ways of housing priests – parishes and priests who have changed from traditional presbyteries to share their experience.**

**Consider potential conversion of unoccupied building into social or community housing, drop in centres, other forms of help for the poor.**

**Revenue based use of assets eg hall hire, after school care.**

**Use the different skills within the parish community eg accountants, tradies, and have a skills register.**

**Provide formation of finance committees in line with the principle that decisions regarding property and other assets are driven by the parish/Archdiocesan/gospel call to mission.**

**Use the Archdiocesan network for sharing of resources.**

“The worship of ancient golden calf (cf. Ex 32:1-35) has returned in a new and ruthless guise in the idolatry of money and the dictatorship of an impersonal economy lacking a truly human purpose*”* [Pope Francis EG 65]

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| **Our Parish manages its assets wisely** | | |
| How does our Parish | | We do the following |
| 1. | …provide care and support for those who serve? PP, LPL, Parish Council, volunteers? |  |
| 2. | …ensure, through discernment that our material assets are appropriate for, and best meet the needs of our community? |  |
| 3. | …ensure that our spaces are available for other uses?  *Eg. parish hall for wedding receptions, mothers’ groups, support* |  |
| 4. | …encourage parishioners to share their time, talent, and treasure for the common good of the community? |  |
| 5. | …care for and maintain our assets appropriately for future generations? *Eg. Maintenance Plans, transparency of financial*  *Information* |  |
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| **To the extent that our parish manages its assets wisely:**  What are the TWO main strengths of our parish?  What are the TWO things our parish could do better? | | |

1. **Haere, tukuna… ki te ruku i te kaupapa tikanga rua**

**Go, you are sent to deepen your bicultural relationship**

**2017 Synod Directions and Priorities for the Archdiocese of Wellington**

1. **The Archdiocese deepens its understanding of Te Ao Māori and embraces biculturalism as an integral part of all its activities and decisions.**
2. **The Archdiocese is a voice seeking “tika me pono” (“truth and justice”) to right wrongs in of the history of Aotearoa.**
3. **The Archdiocese captures the shared story of our history.**
4. **The Archdiocese continues to provide education about our history, including challenging racism in attitude and practice and developing understanding of mana whenua and its implications.**
5. **The Archdiocese investigates the specific needs of Māori in the Archdiocese and provides adequate resourcing to support needs, including those of Te Ngākau Tapu (Personal Parish for Māori).**
6. **Māori participate in leadership in ways which are effective and meaningful for everyone.**
7. **There is provision for Catholic tauiwi of all origins to learn and participate within tikanga Māori.**
8. **Parishes engage with Māori to further develop biculturalism in liturgy.**
9. **Parishes ensure that churches and other buildings are places where Māori feel at ‘home’ through the incorporation of Te Reo, artefacts, art and symbols.**
10. **Priests coming to New Zealand from overseas to minister in parishes receive ongoing education in biculturalism.**

**2017 Synod Practical Actions**

**Have one Māori Mass once a month in each parish.**

**Hold the next synod on a Marae.**

**Parishes all have Māori version of their names, and use them.**

**Enable Māori to help parishioners with Te Reo so that it is appreciated in the parish.**

**Greater commitment to Māori Language Week eg by including Te Reo in parish newsletters, the Mass, hymns, parish website etc, to heighten our national commitment to inclusion and recognition of Treaty of Waitangi partnership. The Catholic Church could lead the way and eventually recognise it every week!**

“The history of the church shows that Christianity does not have one cultural expression, but rather, ‘*remaining completely true to itself, with unswerving fidelity to the Gospel and the tradition of the Church, it will also reflect the different faces of the cultures and peoples in which it is received and takes root.’”* [Pope Francis - 2013]

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| **Our Parish deepens its understanding of Te Ao Māori and embraces biculturalism as an integral part of all its activities and decisions** | | |
| How does our Parish | | We do the following |
| 1. | ...embrace, teach and promote, Te Reo within Liturgy and other aspects of parish life?  *Eg. music; prayer; parts of the Mass; Stations of the*  *Cross…* |  |
| 2. | …seek to build their relationship with local Maori?  *Eg. leadership roles; decision making; document*  *shared history; support for Parish Priest* |  |
| 3. | …provide visible signs of Te Ao Māori?  *Eg. use of Māori name for parish; carvings; taniko; tuku tuku panels; korowai…* |  |
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| **To the extent that our parish is bicultural:**  What are the TWO main strengths of our parish?  What are the Two things our parish could do better? | | |

1. **Haere, tukuna… hei pononga a te Tinana Kotahi o te Karaiti**

**Go, you are sent as members of the one Body of Christ**

**2017 Synod Directions and Priorities for the Archdiocese of Wellington**

1. **The Archdiocese reviews the place and scope of ethnic chaplaincies in the Archdiocese.**
2. **The role of ethnic chaplaincies is fully defined and communicated.**
3. **Consideration is given to having “mixed” chaplaincy teams which include both younger persons and older people.**
4. **Opportunities are given for migrants to tell their stories.**
5. **Parish leadership and mission statements reflect the ethnic diversity of the community**
6. **Parish liturgies and activities involve and reflect their ethnic communities**

**2017 Synod Practical Actions**

**Foster ways to get to know new members outside of Mass, help them integrate.**

**Formation for parish leadership across all ethnicities and groups.**

**Provide English translations of hymns, prayers etc alongside words in different languages.**

**The Archdiocese provides guidance on the ways in which support of ethnic groups can be implemented – when language provides a barrier for one to one communication.**

**Multicultural celebrations, all together not just single cultural celebrations - promote joint celebration of different communities.**

**Communication of requirements to enable different groups to practice their traditions eg Filipino practice of visiting other churches for Stations of the Cross before noon on Good Friday requires access to churches.**

**Have a comprehensive directory of chaplaincies on Archdiocesan website.**

*“In the diversity of peoples who experience the gift of God, each in accordance with its own culture, the Church expresses her genuine catholicity and shows forth the ‘beauty of her varied face’.”* (Pope Francis - 2013)

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| **Our Parish is multicultural** | | |
| How does our Parish | | We do the following |
| 1. | …encourage all peoples to share their cultural taonga in the life of the church?  *Eg. music; prayer; traditional devotions; prayers of faithful, hymns with translation on overheads, language,*  *food* |  |
| 2. | …encourage joint celebrations between different communities?  Eg, shared meals, liturgical traditions, national days of  significance, holidays |  |
| 3. | …encourage leadership and participation of all peoples/communities?  Eg, parish leadership and mission statements reflect the  ethnic diversity of the community |  |
| 4. | ...foster ways to get to know new members outside of Mass and help them belong?  Eg, Passionist Family groups; Gift Discernment; opportunities are created for migrants to tell their stories,  sports, parish projects, school help |  |
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| **To the extent that our parish is multicultural:**  What are the TWO main strengths of our parish?  What are the TWO things our parish could do better? | | |

1. **Haere, tukuna… ki oū ake pae tawhiti**

**Go, you are sent to your own peripheries**

**Synod Directions and Priorities for the Archdiocese of Wellington 2017**

1. **Formation in a spirituality of service includes deepening understanding of the “law of gradualness” and its pastoral applications for those who perceive themselves to be on the peripheries of the Catholic community.**
2. **The Archdiocese provides greater resourcing for programmes that address the needs of separated and divorced Catholics, and works with parishes to identify the barriers to their participation.**
3. **The Archbishop provides formation and pastoral guidelines for priests and pastoral leaders in the pastoral care of the separated, divorced, and divorced and remarried.**
4. **The people of the Archdiocese collectively deepen their understanding of those who are on the peripheries of the Catholic Community – where, what, who and why – and actively creates pathways for their inclusion (without creating “silos”) and which support them in their healing.**
5. **The Archdiocese, involving Catholic Social Services and other appropriate bodies, supports parishes in dealing with suicide amongst parishioners and their families.**
6. **Parishes and schools work closely together to:**

* **identify barriers to accessing Catholic Schools**
* **reach those on the peripheries in the Catholic community**
* **develop or strengthen local solutions.**

**2017 Synod Practical Actions**

**Offer education and workshops to develop further understanding of Pope Francis’ teaching on pastoral care.**

**Promote the work of the Marriage Tribunal.**

**Have a renewal seminar to inform the development of a new mission statement.**

**Explain what excluding actually means and who it affects.**

**Continue with side by side mentoring.**

**Have instructions which are sensitive and standard for those not going to communion.**

**Address high costs of Catholic education which push those who can’t afford it to the peripheries of the Catholic community.**

**Relieve the pressure schools put on families for donations/contributions/fees.**

**Review the attendance dues for schools as they are too high.**

*“The thing the church needs most today is the ability to heal wounds and to warm the hearts of the faithful; it needs nearness, proximity. I see the church as a field hospital after battle. It is useless to ask a seriously injured person if he has high cholesterol and about the level of his blood sugars! You have to heal his wounds. Then we can talk about everything else. Heal the wounds, heal the wounds… and you have to start from the ground up.”* (Pope Francis 2013)

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| **Our Parish heals wounds** | | |
| How does our Parish | | We do the following: |
| 1. | …reach out to those who may feel unwelcome?  *Eg consider divorced/remarried; youth; cultural communities; aged; disabled; LGBTQIA; existing/potential school families; Side by Side Mentoring* |  |
| 2. | …takes steps to heal wounds, misunderstandings and any sort of brokenness and pain?  *Eg bereavement ministry, suicide support groups,*  *loneliness support, serious illness support?* |  |
| 3. | …give opportunities for reconciliation?  *Eg formal and informal, group and individual* |  |
| 4. | …ensure barriers to accessing Catholic education are identified and minimalised? |  |
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| **To the extent that our parish heals wounds:**  What are the TWO main strengths of our parish?  What are the TWO things our parish could do better? | | |

1. **Haere, tukuna… ki te manaaki i te ao tūroa**

**Go, you are sent to care for creation**

**2017 Synod Directions and Priorities for the Archdiocese of Wellington**

* 1. **The Archdiocese considers ‘care for creation’ as an integral part of all its activities and decisions**
  2. **Ongoing formation based on ‘Laudato Si’ (with an emphasis on integral ecology – Ch 4) is available to parishes, with a process that leads to practical actions by individuals and groups.**
  3. **Parishes and schools use ‘care for creation’ projects as an opportunity for cooperation that involves school families with the parish and provides an example to the wider community.**

**2017 Synod Practical Actions**

**Establish a Vicariate for the Works of Mercy (rename and refocus the existing Catholic Social Services to include care for creation as it is now one of the works of mercy).**

**Develop liturgical resources to celebrate the season of creation here in Aotearoa New Zealand.**

**Ensure Church’s voice on environment is heard at local level – role of Commission for Justice Peace and Development?**

**Celebrate St Francis of Assisi Day, including animals like the Anglican celebration, in collaboration with schools and other churches.**

**Initiate or take part in community projects such as “Clean Beach Day”, community gardens.**

**Be aware of where things come from/how they are made, and unintended consequences of what we do (effects on poor countries).**

**Get involved with the “Transition Churches” (a network of Christian churches – including Catholic - in New Zealand who are working on local faith community responses to energy, climate, food and financial challenges).**

**Parishes write mottos which promote care for creation eg C.R.E.W Care Respect Excellence Wisdom.**

**Have bite-sized chunks and reflections on care for creation after communion and in newsletters.**

**Council of Priests and Archdiocesan Pastoral Council study Laudato Si and work out practical implications for parishes and schools.**

**Parishes look at waste reduction/elimination.**

**Follow suggestions at** [**www.greenchurch.ca**](http://www.greenchurch.ca)

**Support Zero Carbon Act movement (**[**https://zerocarbonact.nz**](https://zerocarbonact.nz)**)**

“Each human being is an image of God… each creature has its purpose. None is superfluous. The entire material universe speaks of God’s love, his boundless affection for us. Soil, water, mountains, everything is as it were, a caress of God.*”* [Pope Francis – Laudato Si 84)

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| **Our parish is eco-friendly** | | |
| How does our Parish | | We do the following |
| 1. | ...exercise good stewardship of its energy and buildings reducing its impact on the environment?  *Eg. monitor energy consumption regularly to identify trends, regularly service equipment, choose appropriately sized rooms for activities, timetable meetings to minimise heat usage, fit draught excluders around doors/windows, clean windows to*  *maximise light, use low energy light bulbs…* |  |
| 2. | …exercise good stewardship of its consumer products?  *Eg. use environmentally-friendly cleaning materials; use recycled paper, envelope; use Fair Trade products; use crockery/glass rather than disposables; Use local suppliers where possible, provide recycling*  *bins for school, parish, presbytery* |  |
| 3. | …exercise good stewardship of its land?  *Eg. manage its land in a way that is wild-life friendly; select native plants species to benefit wildlife; aspire to natural beauty; promote a deeper understanding*  *of Church teaching on the environment -eg Laudato Si…* |  |
| 4. | …encourage sustainable living, a return to a simpler lifestyle, a conviction that ‘less is more’?  Eg publish regular ‘green’ tips; hold jumble sales, bring and buy sales, and plant/baking/resources exchanges |  |
| 5. | …work collaboratively with local communities to improve their neighbourhood?  Eg participate in local environmental initiatives; support community schemes with an environmental element (litter pick-up, foodbanks); celebrate St Francis of Assisi Day |  |
| 6. | …act locally to promote environmental care globally?  Eg support the work of Caritas; promote Fair Trade; act as an advocate for the promotion of a  sustainable earth |  |
|  | | |
| **To the extent that our parish cares for creation:**  What are the TWO main strengths of our parish?  What are the TWO things our parish could do better? | | |

1. **Haere, tukuna… ki ō tāua whanaungatanga Karaitiana**

**Go, you are sent to fellow Christians**

**2017 Synod Directions and Priorities for the Archdiocese of Wellington**

1. **The Archdiocese and parishes actively promote more interaction and partnership with other churches, particularly in action on social issues and joint worship.**
2. **Parishes familiarise themselves with the “Napier Covenant” (appendix 2) with a view to implementing it in their local area.**
3. **The Archdiocese engages in listening to interchurch couples to draw on their experience and address their needs.**

**2017 Synod Practical Actions**

**Create (or continue) shared youth groups of all people of faith in the neighbourhood.**

**Take every opportunity to invite to/attend one another’s events, and share information.**

**Have shared events on neutral territory eg picnics BBQs.**

**Provide words for prayers and songs for (at least) weddings and funerals.**

**Representatives of all Christian faiths in an area have discussions to seek formal arrangements for cooperation – could be started by monthly meetings of the ministers of Christian denominations.**

**Ways for interaction and partnership - shared liturgies and key events, Scripture studies and prayer groups, service ministries eg ministry to seafarers (works well as combined churches), food banks, lunches for elderly, social actions.**

### “Let’s leave it to the theologians to study the things that are abstract. Everyone else in the church should be asking how they can relate to other Christians as brothers and sisters…… Be open, be a friend... walk together, pray for each other, and do works of charity together when you can. This is ecumenism.*”* [Pope Francis’ visit to Georgia - 2016]

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| **Our parish is ecumenical in its outreach** | | |
| How does our Parish | | We do the following |
| 1. | ...witness to our shared commitment to Christ and the coming of Christ’s kingdom? *Eg. have an annual programme of shared events,*  *know and have a relationship with all churches in the area; mark the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity* |  |
| 2. | …work with other churches as the need or opportunity arise?  *Eg. combined ecumenical services, use of church by*  *different faith denominations* |  |
| 3. | …implement the ‘Napier Covenant’ in our area? |  |
| 4. | … continue to explore opportunities for common worship and discipleship and service to the community?  *Eg …community gardens, food banks, advocating for the vulnerable, homeless, disenfranchised in our*  *community* |  |
|  | | |
| **To the extent our parish collaborates with fellow Christians:**  What are the TWO main strengths of our parish?  What are the TWO things our parish could do better? | | |

1. **Haere, tukuna… ki te hīkoi tahi me tētehi atu**

**Go, you are sent to accompany one another**

**2017 Synod Directions and Priorities for the Archdiocese of Wellington**

1. **Young people are able to gather from across the Archdiocese and in parishes for formation, fellowship, worship and to engage with contemporary issues (including issues to do with sexuality) to empower them to live their faith in their daily lives.**
2. **Involving young people in service to others is a priority, underpinned by formation in a ‘spirituality of service’.**
3. **The attitudinal and structural barriers to young people ‘having a voice’ and participating in the liturgical and spiritual life of the Archdiocese and parishes are identified (through listening) and removed.**
4. **The support and follow-up formation provided by schools and parishes for young people who have come through RCIA programmes in Colleges is reviewed.**
5. **Intergenerational ministry by young people and with young people is encouraged in parishes**
6. **The Archdiocese enables groups involved with young people to collaborate with one another and with the Archdiocese.**
7. **The Archdiocese encourages and supports its schools in facilitating a personal encounter with Christ among their students, as explained in “The Catholic Education of School Age Children”.**

**2017 Synod Practical Actions**

**Remember that young people are part of the Mass and the community, they are not separate from it**

**Implement post-sacramental programmes to ensure engagement after receiving the sacraments.**

**Have youth friendly Mass times – discuss with young people what works for them.**

**Establish a working group to review the opportunities to provide support given to Catholic students at tertiary institutions.**

**Investigate/implement activities such as breakfast meetings, or day long retreats that supplement weekly mass attendance.**

**Promote Family and Young Church Ministry more, promote to parents as well as youth.**

**Have an Archdiocesan Mass (bi-annually) in a park or stadium to connect all parishes, people, communities, and to promote intra-diocesan groups and fellowship.**

**Set up Apologetics Groups – training in how to respond to questions and how to defend one’s faith.**

**Hold annual youth conferences to maximise messaging of success.**

**National/diocesan youth synod - create a youth voice and be prepared to listen to a range of voices.**

**Schedule youth focused liturgical activities/worship/celebrations as an introduction to Mass, perhaps located at a secondary school.**

**More paid youth group leaders.**

**Have formation for young after sacramental programme, eg training for ministries - at present nothing till marriage.**

**Provide ongoing Faith Formation for young adults eg like the Leadership Formation Programme.**

**Encourage youth to attend XLT, Taize, Lifeteen, YAFA and other fellowship programmes.**

“Accompanying young people requires going beyond a preconceived framework, encountering young people where they are, adapting to their times and pace of life and taking them seriously. Every community needs to give importance to creative ways of addressing young people in a personal way and supporting personal development*”* [Pope Francis - 2013]

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| **Our Parish supports and engages with young people** | | |
| How does our Parish | | We do the following |
| 1. | …listen to, and provide a voice and a sense of ownership to young people?  *Eg youth/young reflection (homily), young ‘things’ in*  *Evidence* |  |
| 2. | ...welcome and involve our young people fully in the life of the parish?  *Eg. music; prayer; Readers, Eucharistic Ministers, Pastoral Council members, leadership roles, decision*  *making…* |  |
| 3. | …give importance to young people in a personal way, supporting their faith journeys?  *Eg celebrate milestones- Driver’s License, 18th Birthdays, Primary School to College, College to Tertiary transitions.* |  |
| 4. | …involve our young people in service to others, underpinning it with formation in ‘spirituality of service’?  *Eg. Young Vinnies, visitation of Shut-ins, Duke of*  *Edinburgh collaboration* |  |
| 5. | ... enable our young people to gather together in our parish and in the Archdiocese for formation, fellowship, worship, empowering them to live their faith in their daily lives?  *Eg hosting gatherings and promoting and facilitating*  *travel to diocesan/regional events.* |  |
|  | | |
| **To the extent that our parish accompanies young people:**  What are the TWO main strengths of our parish?  What are the TWO things our parish could do better? | | |

**10b Haere, tukuna… ki te hīkoi tahi me tētehi atu**

**Go, you are sent to accompany one another**

**2017 Synod Directions and Priorities for the Archdiocese of Wellington**

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| **Our Parish accompanies and connects people of all life stages** | | |
| How does our Parish | | We do the following |
| 1. | …journey with the aged, in particular addressing their social, emotional, and spiritual needs?  *Eg…… spirituality of ageing, death.* |  |
| 2. | …journey with those who are disabled, on the periphery addressing their social, emotional, spiritual needs? |  |
|  | | |
| **To the extent that our parish accompanies and connects people of all life stages:**  What are the TWO main strengths of our parish?  What are the TWO things our parish could do better? | | |

**11. Haere, tukuna… ki te manaaki i te hunga mārena me ngā whānau**

**Go, you are sent to support marriage and families**

**2017 Synod Directions and Priorities for the Archdiocese of Wellington**

1. **The Archdiocese engages with parents, including single parents, to determine how best to support them in educating and involving their children in the faith, and acts on the outcomes.**
2. **The Archdiocese carries out a listening process with diverse families, prioritising families on the peripheries (“preferential option for the peripheries”) to build trusting relationships and to enable parishes to better respond to their needs.**
3. **Parishes make their worship spaces and liturgies more family friendly, through a process of listening to their people.**
4. **The Archdiocese provides a point of contact for those in a troubled marriage who are seeking professional help.**
5. **Parishes review their support for those suffering grief and loss, including marriage breakdown, health deterioration/disability, with the review supported by Catholic Social Services.**
6. **Addressing the needs of older people is a priority, with particular emphasis on their social, emotional, and spiritual needs (Spirituality of Ageing and Death).**
7. **The Archdiocese commission a research project into the relevance, reach, and effectiveness of marriage preparation programmes, with input from participants married between 2-5 years and marriage educators, and drawing on professional research.**

**2017 Synod Practical Actions**

**Have a dedicated liaison person between the parish and school to welcome and support families.**

**The Archdiocese and schools to work together so that enrolment in schools is non-judgmental.**

**Better promotion and availability of information about Natural Family Planning.**

**Help non-Catholic partners to feel accepted in the Catholic community.**

**Make the word “sacramental” encompass all the sacraments (including marriage and anointing of the sick) as term commonly only applied to children.**

**Archdiocese encourages a local celebration of marriage and/or family life annually in the parishes eg World Marriage day every second Sunday of February and provides resources for this.**

“Given the pace of life today, most couples cannot attend frequent meeting; still, we cannot restrict our pastoral outreach to small and select groups. Nowadays, pastoral care for families has to be fundamentally missionary, going out to where the people are.” [Pope Francis – Amoris Laetitia 243]

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| **Our Parish supports marriage and families.** | | |
| How does our Parish | | We do the following |
| 1. | ...reach out to all families, especially those who need our support and understanding? *Eg.* Side by Side Mentoring |  |
| 2. | …ensure that resources and support are provided to assist married couples on their marriage journey?  *Eg. help non-Catholic partners feel accepted by the*  *Catholic community, Marriage Mentors* |  |
| 3. | … promote, encourage, and develop prayer in family life and provide opportunities for families to do things together?  *Eg.School/Parish faith formation of parents* |  |
| 4. | …ensure that our parish property and buildings provide a welcoming and friendly environment for families?  Eg family friendly foyers, assembly, bathrooms |  |
| 5. | …encourage preaching in our parish that is engaging and relevant to everyday family life?  Eg Inviting lay reflection at homily time |  |
| 6. | …acknowledge and support people in various stages of family life, especially the elderly?  Eg adult faith formation- opportunities especially for  the elderly |  |
| 7. | … liaise with schools to ensure a welcome and ongoing support of families?  Eg regular PPC and School Leader Planning |  |

**To the extent that our parish supports marriage and families:**

What are the TWO main strengths of our parish?

What are the TWO things our parish could do better?

1. **Haere, tukuna… ki te whakapakari hapori**

**Go, you are sent to build community**

**2017 Synod Directions and Priorities for the Archdiocese of Wellington**

1. **Priority is given in the context of implementing the Synod outcomes to building community and strengthening connectedness (including across the generations and cultures) in amalgamated parishes.**
2. **Parishes revisit the Archbishop’s letters in the proposal and promulgation documents, “A Future Full of Hope”, and align their vision and practices with the spirit of these letters.**
3. **Parishes create opportunities for the development of relationships between parishioners, particularly in amalgamated parishes, through working together on projects and responding to needs.**
4. **Continuing to strengthen the relationship and practical cooperation between parish and schools is a priority.**
5. **Seeking out and drawing ‘the missing’ back into parish community is a factor in all decision making in the implementation of the Synod outcomes.**
6. **In being an inclusive and welcoming people, particular attention is given to those who are disabled and their families, including the mentally ill.**

**2017 Synod Practical Actions**

**Archbishop recognises those who have been involved in combining parishes and the first phase of amalgamation, because it has not been an easy process for many people, but one which they have willingly undertaken to serve their community and the Archdiocese.**

**A grieving process is needed for lost buildings, to free us to move on to a new future.**

**Find ways to support those who are finding the changes resulting from parish amalgamation difficult.**

**External facilitators would aid healing within community.**

**Provide parish buses for amalgamated parish communities.**

**Come together for fellowship with parish events, meals.**

**Encourage small group meetings after Mass within parish to promote community and service.**

**Find someone whose dedicated role is to be the connector between the various church groups.**

**At the end of Mass, invite those forward who are doing things that week and give them a blessing and send them on their way eg Young Vinnies, mothers, fathers, Legion of Mary etc, different groups each week so people to see what is happening, and the people going out to do the work know they have the support of the community and the nourishment of the Eucharist.**

**Provide opportunities for bringing interest groups (eg liturgy, music, formation, social activities) from throughout the Archdiocese together as one group – perhaps once a year, to stimulate and reinvigorate each other.**

**People, people, people - being the face of Christ in our parishes, not just at the end of emails!**

**Invite all faith-based groups/communities to come together to discuss ways of linking the generations.**

**Revisit the role of the deanery.**

**Work on a proactive personal, varied, inclusive approach to community to ensure connectedness across the Archdiocese.**

### “(The parish)… is a community of communities, a sanctuary where the thirsty come to drink in the midst of their journey, and a centre of constant missionary outreach.

…It is a global call to transform our prayer into concrete gestures of service, mobilising us to work together to build a more human and caring world.*”* [Pope Francis – Evangelii Gaudium]

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| **Our parish is a community of communities working together to build a more human and caring world.** | | |
| How does our Parish | | We do the following |
| 1. | …work together to build an open and welcoming faith community?  *Eg warm inviting environment* |  |
| 2. | …ensure that members of the pastoral council, liturgy and finance committees make themselves available to the people of the parish?  Eg invite all faith-based groups/communities to come together to discuss ways of linking the  generations |  |
| 3. | …build a collaborative relationship between priest(s), lay pastoral leader, and the people of the parish?  Eg leaders joining parishioners as participants in  same formation |  |
| 4. | …ensure that the needs of people in our parish who have disabilities, impairments or mental illness are met?  Eg regular self-review |  |
| 5. | …that those who have found the amalgamation process difficult are met? Eg a grieving process which allows people to move  on |  |
|  | | |
| **To the extent our parish is open and welcoming to everyone:**  What are the TWO main strengths of our parish?  What are the TWO things our parish could do better? | | |

**13. Haere, tukuna… kia mārama ai te whakawhiti kōrero**

**Go, you are sent to communicate effectively**

**2017 Synod Directions and Priorities for the Archdiocese of Wellington**

1. **The Archdiocese creates a centralised ‘hub of connectedness’ for the purposes of building community through the telling of stories (personal and collective), sharing resources, linking to apps, disseminating information, sharing best practice and ways of getting involved.**
2. **The Archdiocese provides on-line formation and learning opportunities.**
3. **The Archdiocese ‘raises the profile of the assistance the Church can offer’ to the wider community.**
4. **Parishes review their modes of communication regarding events, groups, achievements and needs, in order that parishioners might have a better understanding of what is happening in the parish.**
5. **The Archdiocese develops a clear style of effective communication which avoids technical Church language and jargon, without obscuring or devaluing the meaning.**

**2017 Synod Practical Actions**

**Revolutionise our communications including online presence and use of social media – possibly youth led?**

**Create an organisational model to better collaborate – could be virtual.**

**Get rid of “Silo” approach and go for “collective” outlook - bigger difference in outreach will be created through this momentum.**

**Let people know what’s happening and what’s available, making things visible via newsletters, social media, websites.**

**Create a contact point for those wishing to speak with us, or who are looking for information or help.**

**Be more proactive in publicising services available for those in need.**

**Collaboratively develop a centralised resource bank:**

* **for music and other liturgical requirements (including children’s liturgy, Prayers of the Faithful, proclaiming the word);**
* **to share people, jobs, stuff across the Archdiocese, systemised community networking to meet real time, actual needs, going beyond parish boundaries;**
* **of gifts, services, skills and talents people can offer – people are our gifts (activate locals for building projects);**
* **tokeep track of pastoral formation gaps, getting to know people;**
* **for training/formation as well as material resources;**
* **to connect like-minded people and identify the special skills present in the parish;**
* **to provide information about organizations.**

**Create a mentoring network using a database of leaders and information about needs of various groups/parishes.**

**Clear communication of the services, resources and personnel available to parishes across the Archdiocese inventory.**

**Increase technology-based communication and simultaneously undertake a more personalised approach to connecting with people – 1:1 invitations, shoulder tapping etc.**

**Develop an interactive “app” that can be used to explain the Mass procedures and symbols.**

**Utilise IT and social media to provide access to the scriptures, ideas for liturgical activities, formation and education, online “in-touch” services for interfaith dialogue and activities.**

**Use video for direct communication from Cardinal and to share the Pope’s messages.**

**Use blogs for education topics such as Euthanasia and to equip people to respond, or for educating people on theology explained in an easily understood way.**

**Modernise Archdiocesan website, simplify the language to make the message clear and make it easier to find what you need.**

**Create a tool to assess strengths and weaknesses of a parish.**

**In parish newsletters advertise one small activity or action people can do that week eg supporting an event an outside organisation is running, school working bee.**

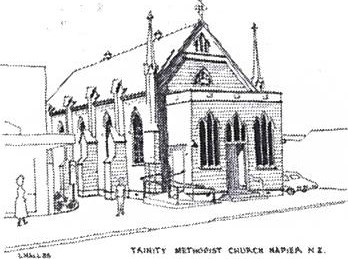
### “Communicating means sharing, and sharing demands listening and acceptance. Listening is much more than simply hearing. Hearing is about receiving information, while listening is about communication, and calls for closeness. Listening allows us to get things right, and not simply to be passive onlookers, users or consumers. Listening also means being able to share questions and doubts, to journey side by side, to banish all claims to absolute power and to put our abilities and gifts to the service of the common good.” [Pope Francis – 50th World Communications Day message, January 2016]

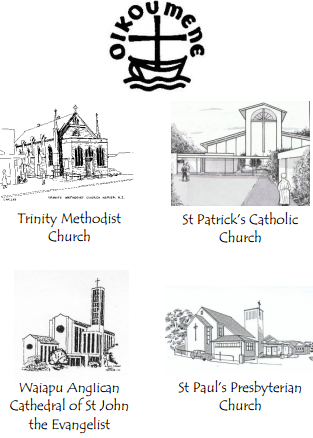
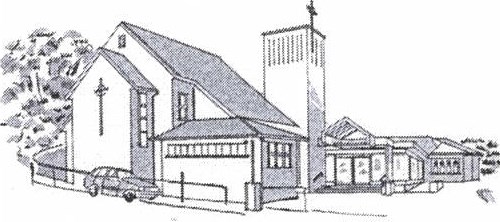
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| **Our Parish communicates effectively** | | |
| How does our Parish | | We do the following |
| 1. | ...maximise the potential of technology as a means of communication?  *Eg. …*electronic billboards, data shows before and after Mass, Facebook, Webpages, images on screen  during homily |  |
| 2. | …use technology and all communication tools to reach Catholics who are not regular Mass attendees? |  |
| 3. | … ensure that our communication is both inclusive and wide-reaching? |  |
| 4. | …ensure that all communication, written, electronic, digital, personal is planned and effective? |  |
|  | | |
| **To the extent that parish communicates effectively:**  What are the TWO main strengths of our parish?  What are the TWO things our parish could do better? | | |

**APPENDIX 1**

**The Napier Covenant**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Trinity Methodist Church | St Patrick's Catholic Church |

Napier Inner-City Parishes

Waiapu Anglican Cathedral of St John

St Paul's Presbyterian Church

# COVENANT OF THE NAPIER INNER-CITY CHURCHES

Believing that God is One, and there is one Lord, one faith, one baptism; that God calls us to be one in Jesus Christ by the power which the Holy Spirit gives; that we are called to hold together the rich variety of our heritage and of our ways of worship within the one Body; that we are called to venture together in work and witness for Christ, and to commit ourselves to each other and to serve our Church and our City, as we celebrate the presence of God working amongst us to make all things new.

We Covenant together for a further five years (2014-2018) to do together all that we can, and not to do apart what we should do together, and to continue to work and pray for the reconciliation and unity of the whole Church in our Land, and throughout the World.

We declare that this Covenant in no way weakens our ties and responsibilities to our individual denominations.

AS A BASIS FOR THIS COVENANT WE PLEDGE:

* to pray for each other's congregations regularly by name at Sunday services
* to hold quarterly meetings of clergy and lay people to foster communication and to monitor our Covenant
* to study together topics of mutual interest officially drawn up by our respective congregations, and to notify each others' congregation of activities of interest and benefit
* to encourage our youth and other organisations to co-operate with each other
* to mark in some way the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity
* to work together, as need or opportunity arises, for justice and peace
* to witness to our commitment to Christ and the coming of his kingdom
* to hold common Lenten observances, and to find appropriate ways of celebrating other significant events together
* to work with other church associations in planning joint activities, missions and services to the wider community
* to support the work of our civic leaders with prayer, eg annual Civic Service
* to continue to explore opportunities for common worship and discipleship