

Parish Plan for Evangelisation – I have plans to give you hope and a future

Through faith, baptism, and loving obedience, we share in the life of the Holy Trinity, Elizabeth Wang, radiantlight.org.uk



'For I know the plans I have for you,' declares the Lord, 'plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future'. Jeremiah 29:11 EW

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**Some
Definite
Service**



Agency for Evangelisation
and Catechesis
ARCHDIOCESE of SOUTHWARK

I have plans to give you hope and a future

Vision statement

We desire to be a parish in which everyone's personal relationship with Jesus Christ is established, confirmed, strengthened and renewed.

We desire to be a people who, choosing Christ anew daily, long to witness more to others while seeing those already in our parish and helping them grow close to Jesus.

We desire to be a parish in which every disciple is a personal witness to the Gospel.

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Now that we have completed our Vision and Reality stage, we move to the Plan stage. All three stages build on each other. In this stage we wish to explore how our vision for evangelisation might become a tangible and practical reality in our parish. In order to do this, we need to be clear about what we desire, who we desire it for, what the purpose and goal of the activity is, how it would practically be brought about our own context and how we would measure and assess it. God wants what is best for us and our parish.

The prophet Nehemiah, when rebuilding the walls of Jerusalem, is a great example regarding planning. He prays, he thinks it through, he prepares, and he sets deadlines while anticipating possible obstacles.

We pray together with scripture:

- ◆ What struck you about this passage? Perhaps just one word.
- ◆ What did you notice that you hadn't before?
- ◆ What is the Lord saying to you?

Take 5 minutes to reflect on this.

What does the Lord want for this parish?

- ◆ What is his dream for this parish?
- ◆ What do we want this parish to be?
- ◆ What plans can we make to enable this, with God's grace, to happen?

Take 5 minutes to reflect on this.



A Parish Plan for Evangelisation

Questions to help the discussion:

1. Which area does the parish want to give priority at this time? What can this look like for your parish?
2. How is evangelisation understood by the parish? How can this be clarified so there is more unity across the board?
3. Do I know of any courses, run in the deanery, or elsewhere that might help train practical evangelisation, or allow people to experience this themselves?
4. What conversations need to take place to onboard the parishioners and awaken their missionary identity as baptised Catholics?
5. Do we have a sense of the need for ongoing support and what would that look like?
6. What is on offer this year at your parish or the surrounding area? How can you find out and start signposting?
7. Where do people need to take ownership? What resources do you need? What budget do you need? What teams can be formed, and what formation and training would be helpful?
8. How would we assess the strengths and weaknesses of a renewed approach while liaising with the deanery Evangelisation mentor and seeing what a tangible next step can be?
9. Based on the Parish Picture of the current reality of how evangelisation is understood and what is or is not happening at the moment, and where you would like them to go, what gaps can you identify concerning people, time / training and cost?

