



“Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you; I appointed you a prophet to the nations.

Then I said, “Ah, Lord God! Behold, I do not know how to speak, for I am only a youth.” But the Lord said to me,

“Do not say, ‘I am only a youth’; for to all to whom I send you, you shall go, and whatever I command you, you shall speak. Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you to deliver you, declares the Lord.”

Then the Lord put out his hand and touched my mouth. And the Lord said to me,

“Behold, I have put my words in your mouth.” Jeremiah 1:5-9

I appointed you a prophet to the nations

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.

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 formation 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.

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 Formation

1. Which area does the parish want to give priority at this time? What can this look like for your parish?
2. How is formation understood by our parish? How can this be clarified so there is more unity across the board?
3. Do we have a sense of the need for ongoing support and what that would look like?
4. What is on offer this year at your parish or the surrounding area? Are there any courses being offered in training that might help? How can you find out and start signposting?
5. What conversations need to take place (and with who) to help to progress the development of formation in your parish?
6. 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?
7. Based on the Parish Picture of the current reality of your formation programmes / ministries, and where you would like them to go, what gaps can you identify concerning people, time / training and cost?

