

Seeking the Face of Christ



Draft Pastoral Guidelines for the Diocese

A vision

*'Our entire existence and being
should shout the Gospel from the rooftops.*

Our entire person should breathe Jesus.

*All our actions and our entire life
should proclaim that we belong to Jesus.*

Our lives should be a mirror image of an evangelical life.

*Our entire being should be a living sermon,
a reflection of Jesus,*

something that proclaims Jesus,

that makes others see Jesus,

and that shines like an image of Jesus.'

(Blessed Charles de Foucauld)

The shape of the document





Communion
Mission
Collaborative
Outreach
ministry
welcoming
Framework
Living Prayer Others
Family Life
Dial Spirituality
Youth
RCIA
Formation
Environment

For each topic the structure is:

- “ What we heard
- “ What needs to be done
- “ Specific actions
- “ Questions to think about

What you need to do

- “ We want the draft guidelines to be distributed as widely as possible
- “ We would like individuals and or groups to read through the specific actions and to comment on the proposals

You need to think about

- a) Are these the right priorities?
- b) How would your parish engage with these actions?
- c) Can we afford the costs of these actions both in terms of time and resources?
- d) Are there actions we shouldn't do or some we have missed off that should be there?

Strategies: You could

- “ Hold one open meeting either as a parish or deanery to discuss the guidelines
- “ Arrange for a series of three parish meetings, one for each of the three areas. Then summarise the consensus at each of the meetings.
- “ Give different sections to the appropriate groups within your parish/deanery. So the youth section to those working with young people, the environment to justice and peace groups etc

- “ Briefly highlight areas at Sunday masses and then hand out sections or the whole document and ask people to return comments to the parish or if you prefer directly to the seeking team .
- “ If you have a parish website put the links to the document on the website and encourage people to view it themselves.
- “ Work with your local school(s) to get the document to parents who might not be at church
- “ Be prepared to hand out translations if necessary

What happens Next?

- “ All feedback should reach the seeking team by 30th April 2008
- “ A final document will be produced for Autumn 2008
- “ An implementation group will be set up