

Go Out Go Deep Go Together

An introduction to the Archdiocesan Vision

Why an Archdiocesan Vision?

“In the face of today’s challenges, we boldly commit ourselves to motivating, equipping and mobilizing Catholic communities around a common vision, so that our Church responds to the Mission received from the risen Lord to be his witnesses to the end of the earth (Acts 1:8).”

- A movement of the Holy Spirit
- One Church moving towards a common goal
- Response to the signs of the times: Christendom to Apostolic Mission

Why an Archdiocesan Vision?

The number of those who do not know Christ and do not belong to the Church is constantly on the increase. Indeed, since the end of the Council it has almost doubled. When we consider this immense portion of humanity which is loved by the Father and for whom he sent his Son, the urgency of the Church's mission is obvious...

God is opening before the Church the horizons of a humanity more fully prepared for the sowing of the Gospel. I sense that the moment has come to commit all of the Church's energies to a new evangelization and to the mission ad gentes. No believer in Christ, no institution of the Church can avoid this supreme duty: to proclaim Christ to all peoples. (RM 3)

From Christendom to Apostolic Mission

- **Age of change to change of ages**
- **We are no longer in a Christian society**
- **Post or Pre-Christian Culture**
 - **Post-Christian: some background in Christianity, but no longer the driving narrative**
 - **Pre-Christian: no sense of the overall Christian message or experience**
- **Acts 17: St. Paul at the Aeropagus**

Go Out

Today, as never before, the Church has the opportunity of bringing the Gospel, by witness and word, to all people and nations. I see the dawning of a new missionary age, which will become a radiant day bearing an abundant harvest, if all Christians, and missionaries and young churches in particular, respond with generosity and holiness to the calls and challenges of our time. (RM 92)

Go Out

The Archdiocese of Ottawa–Cornwall is called to be a missional Church that creates opportunities for all to encounter Jesus and His Love in a world that desperately needs him.

- Mission at the heart of every parish's pastoral activity
- We take every opportunity to welcome people, to proclaim the Gospel, and to experience the power of faith
- Innovative and effective
- Manifest the love of God in service – response to authentic temporal and spiritual needs

Go Deep

The proclamation of the Word of God has Christian conversion as its aim: a complete and sincere adherence to Christ and his Gospel through faith. Conversion is a gift of God, a work of the Blessed Trinity....

From the outset, conversion is expressed in faith which is total and radical, and which neither limits nor hinders God's gift. At the same time, it gives rise to a dynamic and lifelong process which demands a continual turning away from "life according to the flesh" to "life according to the Spirit" (cf. Rom 8:3-13). Conversion means accepting, by a personal decision, the saving sovereignty of Christ and becoming his disciple. (RM 46)

Go Deep

We are called to be a Church where people encounter Christ and choose to follow Him through a journey of initial and ongoing conversion

- Faith nourished by the Eucharist, the Word of God, ongoing formation, personal prayer
- Disciples are formed, equipped and supported
- People regularly share testimony of God at work
- Recognize Christ in the poor and suffering
- Respond to God's call in all vocations

Go Together

People today put more trust in witnesses than in teachers,69 in experience than in teaching, and in life and action than in theories. The witness of a Christian life is the first and irreplaceable form of mission: Christ, whose mission we continue, is the "witness" par excellence (Rv 1:5; 3:14) and the model of all Christian witness. The Holy Spirit accompanies the Church along her way and associates her with the witness he gives to Christ (cf. Jn 15:26-27).

The first form of witness is the very life of the missionary, of the Christian family, and of the ecclesial community, which reveal a new way of living. (RM 42)

Go Together

We are called to be a Church that is deeply faithful to the Gospel, the Truth and the Tradition in the fullness of our Catholic faith. We are united in Mission and diverse in our expressions of faith in each context, whether linguistic, cultural or geographic

- Proactive and prophetic servant leaders – clergy, religious, and laity
- Plans, decisions, structures, assets, systems and resources reflect the Vision through prayerful discernment
- Difficult choices will need to be made
- Fresh mindset of cooperation – diocese, parishes, ministries, apostolates, movements, religious communities, etc.

How can our parish respond?

- Align to the vision
- Diagnose
- Discern
- Accompany

Five Strategies for Intentional Pastoral Planning

1

Relational
Outreach

2

Conversion
Moments

3

Ongoing
Faith
Formation

4

Missionary
Formation

5

The Sunday
Experience

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