

Growing **Vibrant** Parishes

SELF-REFLECTION TOOL

Vibrant parishes are life-giving communities that foster holiness and discipleship among their members, joyfully desiring to share the gift of faith in Jesus Christ with those they encounter. Understanding each person is uniquely called and gifted, vibrant parishes help form and equip them to live that call. They know people are searching for a deeper spiritual connection in their lives, where their hopes, joys and anxieties can be expressed, and they embrace new opportunities for service.

This tool enables parishes to identify their strengths and areas for improvement against the five characteristics of a vibrant parish (worship, evangelisation, fellowship, formation and service).

This tool is used to encourage group conversation and to assist in planning.

	MEASURES	RATING
Worship	<p>1 = We celebrate Mass and offer opportunities for devotional prayer</p> <p>3 = Half of our parishioners would most likely say: "Our liturgies and worship are spiritually nourishing and encourage them in their vocation of holiness"</p> <p>5 = The majority of parishioners are most likely to say: "Our parish Masses are nourishing, music is uplifting and opportunities are offered to grow as people of prayer"</p>	1 2 3 4 5
Evangelisation	<p>1 = We don't have a plan for evangelisation (making new disciples)</p> <p>3 = We are implementing our evangelisation plan</p> <p>5 = We are seeing the fruits of our evangelisation plan</p>	1 2 3 4 5
Fellowship	<p>1 = We don't have an organised program of welcome and inclusion</p> <p>3 = We have a plan to improve fellowship and have started to implement some of the initiatives</p> <p>5 = We consistently identify new people/visitors to our parish and enthusiastically/actively welcome them to our liturgies and parish activities</p>	1 2 3 4 5
Formation	<p>1 = We don't provide any opportunities for ongoing formation</p> <p>3 = We offer formation programs from time to time</p> <p>5 = We have formation pathways that enable our parish community to keep growing as missionary disciples</p>	1 2 3 4 5
Service	<p>1 = Parishioners are not actively encouraged to be involved in community service and/or social justice activities</p> <p>3 = Our parish has community service and/or social justice programs but only some of our parishioners are involved</p> <p>5 = Our parish has an outward looking attitude: we are disciples not consumers and we want to serve</p>	1 2 3 4 5