

PARISH MINISTRY

*'Glory be to him whose power, working within us,
can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine' Ephesians 3:20*

Reflection



I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power.

Ephesians 1:15-19

- In what ways has the last year given us a new revelation of our relationship to God?
- What is the hope that we have for our parish communities as we move forward?
- How can we become more confident, trusting the greatness of God to work in our midst?

Action Points

In many ways the pandemic time has been a revelation of the best of our parish communities. It has also showed some glaring gaps.

1. What do you want to celebrate from the past 18 months? This could be family based catechesis, a new food bank or social outreach, or live-streaming services. What do you want to keep, going forward?
2. Where have the main gaps been over the past 18 months? This could be an outdated parish database, a lack of outreach to families, or realising that all our volunteers are over 70. How can these gaps be filled?
3. What has not been running over the past few months that has faded out naturally? Are there some elements of parish life that were taking a disproportionate amount of time and energy? Perhaps there are some things that can be left behind.
4. What are the three main priorities for your parish community moving forward?