



MID-NORTH PASTORAL AREA PLAN

Developing our mission, vision, values and
priorities for action

2019 - 2024

Preparation coordinated by:
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Mid North Pastoral Area Plan 2019 – 2024

BAY OF ISLANDS + KAIKOHE & OKAIHAU + SOUTH HOKIANGA



OUR MISSION

We are one Catholic faith community drawn together by the Father, in Our Lord Jesus Christ, by the power of the Holy Spirit. We are called to be loving, warm, welcoming, reassuring and outward looking.

Reminded as we are by the words of Our Holy Father and the pastoral guidance of our Bishop Patrick Dunn:

The Church which 'goes forth' is a community of missionary disciples who take the first steps, who are involved and supportive, who bear fruit and rejoice.....Let us try a little harder to take the first steps and to become involved. *Pope Francis Gospel of Joy #24*

Pope Francis is encouraging the whole church to look again at the sharing of our life and faith in today's world. He calls us to go to the edges, to the people who have forgotten, or never heard the message of Jesus. To inspire others to a personal relationship with Jesus through the witness of our lives.

So [we are all invited] to be dynamic, enthusiastic messengers of the Gospel among all with whom we live and work, and beyond.

(Adapted from Bishop Patrick Dunn, 'Fit for Mission' Diocese of Auckland, Pastoral Plan 2014-19)

WE ARE CALLED TO BE MISSIONARY DISCIPLES



By the grace and love of God, we seek the guidance of the Holy Spirit in working to realise our Mission and our Vision informed by our values which challenge us to be missionary disciples in all aspects of our lives as individuals and as a faith community in Christ.



VALUES TO LIVE AND WORK BY AS A FAITH COMMUNITY

Values of the Heart	Values of the Body Politic Membership of Parish Committees and Working Groups	Values of the Household Financial & Resource Management
Catholics ready to reach out to other denominations & faith groups	Distributive and Shared Leadership	Efficient, Effective & Economical
Discerning & Prayerful	Participative & Consultative	Practical
Loving – Aroha	Inclusive	Planned & Prepared
Caring – Manaaki	Just & Equitable	Needs led
Respectful	Fixed Term	Accountable & Transparent
Trusting	Consensual & Responsive	Charitable
Tolerant & Fair	Representative & Balanced	Donational
		Funded
		Contributions Financial Time Talents & Gifts

We recognise that these lines are not exclusive – values in one column, impact and link to practice in another. These values challenge us to be the best we can be as missionary disciples, discovering each day how we may be more like Jesus as we live our lives in this world whilst our hearts and souls are drawn towards realising the heavenly Kingdom of God, here on Earth.

Priorities for the Mid-North Area Parish

The Mission, Vision and Values as shared in this document, represent as far as is possible in the translation, the shared thoughts of members of our faith community which has now met on two separate occasions. Our vision for the future is reflected in the key priorities identified by these members who were ready and able to share their time and prayerful thoughts through open discussion. We thank them for their commitment to providing leadership in the ongoing formation of our direction as a faith community. Throughout the process, it was the strong feeling of the 'Pastoral Area Plan Formation Group' to pay attention to the pastoral guidance being received from the Holy Father Pope Francis and our Bishop Patrick Dunn.

It is within this context that the following priorities, in no order of importance at this stage, are identified for further consideration and action planning:

Being Missionary Disciples

- Increasing the presence of Priests, Deacons and Religious
- Growing our understanding of our role as missionary disciples
- Developing training to support our capacity to continue being and to become missionary disciples

Youth, Young Adults & the Wisdom of our Elders

- Exploring ways to connect with our youth and young adults and to bring them into the faith as a life journey
- The importance of identifying young people as leaders in our faith community
- Seeking ways to connect across the generations

Service, Outreach & Community

- How to grow our parishes and connect with the wider community
- Caring for our brothers and sisters of all ages and particularly Nga Rangatira, according to their needs
- Visiting the sick and celebrating our faith

In **Planning for Action** we would do well to build on our strengths and experiences as sisters and brothers in Christ.



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