



Take THE Way OF THE Gospel

THE ROLE OF THE PARISH COORDINATORS



Parishes are asked to choose two (2) people who will be the Parish Coordinators for phase 1 and 2 of the “Take the Way of the Gospel” journey (see *Parish Timeline + Checklist* document). These phases include the planning and preparation required for the initial consultation and discernment process with the parish around the Missions process.

What exactly is involved?

Parish Coordinators will be asked to work with the Parish Priest to:

- inform parishioners about “Take the Way of the Gospel” and reimagining our local Church as Mission communities
- facilitate parish engagement through consultation and discernment of the “Take the Way of the Gospel” invitation
- determine particular considerations relevant for your parish
- coordinate and liaise with parishes in the illustrative Mission or other locally discerned configurations, discerning whether your parish is likely to be an ‘early adopter’ and/or facilitating agreement to a timeline for the adoption of your Mission.

NOTE: When a decision to move into a Mission has been made, your parish will move into a more detailed planning stage. You may then need to nominate other parishioners, with different skills, to assist.

Together with the Parish Priest, Parish Coordinators will:

- receive Archdiocesan communications about the “Take the Way of the Gospel” process
- have access to the online “Take the Way of the Gospel” feedback portal
- be invited to regular regional coaching and support meetings
- be able to engage with their regional Animation Consultant to discuss their parish process and receive support.

What is the timeframe for this role?

The two Parish Coordinators will be asked to commit to be involved until a parish decision to move into a Mission is made, potentially for up to two (2) years.

Considerations when selecting your Parish Coordinators

It is suggested that where possible, the Parish Coordinators are a staff member and a lay leader.

A parish staff member. As parish staff, this person would have broad contacts and influence across the parish as well as access to parish databases, newsletter notices, etc. The workload could be paid hours. This role could be undertaken up by a pastoral staff member (for example a Pastoral Associate) but also by a parish secretary, business manager or other staff member.

A volunteer in lay leadership. A person who is articulate and broadly supportive and open to the mission of the Gospel and the need to change to further grow that mission. Ideally this person has wide influence in the community, and the time and energy to assist the Parish Priest in communicating the Mission vision and to facilitate meetings both within their parish and with other parish communities.

Some parishes do not have a parish staff member who would be able or willing to take on the coordinator role, in which case two volunteers may be selected.

Nominating your Parish Coordinators

Nominations for Parish Coordinators must be completed by 7 October 2021. Please formally nominate your Parish Coordinators using this link:

bit.ly/TWGParishCoordinatorsRegistration