

DEVELOPMENT SUGGESTIONS

These ideas have been suggested by parishes and deaneries from around the diocese. No parish could do all these ideas at once.

Which one area could your parish/deanery do extra during this stage?

For more information or support email hope@dioceseofsalford.org.uk or call 0161 817 2214

GENERAL	DEVELOPING & SUPPORTING HOME, SCHOOL, PARISH LINKS	BAPTISM	RCIA (welcoming new adult members)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As a parish, do we see each of these occasions as opportunities for evangelisation and not a burden? As a parish, could we be more ecumenical in the community by working with other Christian Churches and do more events/formation/prayer as a group of parishes/deanery? Do we pray daily for those who do not yet know Jesus and are we totally reliant on the Holy Spirit for our missionary efforts? Do we have an online presence (website, social media) and take advantage of local press/news to share our faith? Do we ensure the Kerygma is the foundation of all our catechesis? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do we have close links with our associated primary/secondary schools? Could you have a joint parish and school liturgy or event? Is there a parishioner who is a governor at each of the associated schools? Is there a member of the school community part of the parish HITF/Shared Leadership Team? Could videos, reflections and formation events be sent out to parents via text/email newsletters? Does the school website/newsletter include information from the parish and vice versa? Do we accompany families in building the domestic Church? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do we have a good Baptism preparation course to help parents understand the faith more and the responsibility of bringing up a child in the faith? Could the candidates for Baptism be presented to the parish at the weekend Mass so the community can see growth in the Church and pray for the candidate and family? Are there follow up sessions for parents? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do we have a RCIA group which is well advertised in the parish and schools? Do we follow the correct liturgical catechetical process by presenting candidates to the parish and the diocese (at the rite of election) and receive candidates into the Church at the Easter Vigil? Does the whole parish accompany and pray for candidates on this journey of faith? Are candidates accompanied suitably finding out where they are coming from, helping them to understand the faith at their speed and providing opportunities for lifelong formation after the Sacraments?
FIRST HOLY COMMUNION	CONFIRMATION	WEDDINGS	FUNERALS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Could we offer family catechesis or provide sessions for parental faith development using the Communion videos on the Diocesan website? Do our catechists attend regular formation and training using the guiding principles in the catechist's handbook? Do we regularly review and update our programme to ensure it is appropriate and 'fresh'? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Could we work collaboratively with nearby parishes and schools to provide retreat days and preparation sessions for Confirmation candidates? Do our catechists attend regular formation and training using the guiding principles in the catechist's handbook? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Is there a marriage preparation course we can send engaged couples to, or could we run one in our parish? Do we celebrate as a parish newly engaged couples, newly marriage couples and those celebrating major anniversaries and in doing so celebrating marriage and family life? Are we 'pastoral' in our approach? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Is there a parish bereavement group? Could parishioners support families in planning and preparing funerals instead of the priest? Do we see funerals as an opportunity to support families in their grief and to proclaim the sure and certain hope of the resurrection?
YOUTH MINISTRY	EVANGELISATION	CHRISTMAS & EASTER	FORMATION DAYS AND RESOURCES
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Are our young people doing the CYMFED Faith in Action Award? Do young people have a 'voice' in the parish? Could we, (possibly with other parishes), set up a young group? Do we have a parish rep? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Could we host an Alpha or Sycamore course? Could we organise 'nightfever', especially if our church has lots of footfall past it? Could we arrange a parish mission and invite people from the community and school to come along? Could we produce a parish flyer with service times and an invitation and post in to houses in the parish? Are we mission oriented in our online presence (website/social media) and with our property (parish hall, church noticeboards)? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Could we actively encourage parishioners to invite family and friends to a Christmas or Easter service? When our churches are full at Christmas and Easter with people who don't usually attend throughout the year, how can we make them feel welcome and help them encounter God, so they want to come back sooner? Do we advertise Christmas/Easter service times in the community, online and in local press? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do we use the diocesan resources and share these in 'bitesize' chunks to the rest of the parish through announcements, newsletter and online? As a parish team, do we attend regular formation and training days to develop our own faith and ministry? Do we advertise these to the rest of the parish?