

## Migrant Communities

Our Diocese is among the most multiethnic and multicultural in the world. In welcoming persons from overseas, our parishes, schools, agencies and individual members are mindful of the riches of culture, tradition and experience that migrants bring to their new home. Many migrants share our Catholic faith and enrich the life of the Diocese through their witness and participation in parish life and other forms of Christian community.

We suggest the following as a guide for migrant chaplaincies and communities to make the most of *Faith in Our Future* for the life and growth of our Church:

### Step 1

Firstly, migrant chaplains or leaders of the community should invite community members to read and familiarise themselves with *Faith in Our Future*. Migrant communities should read at least the vision statement of the Pastoral Plan (pp.10-12) and the parish actions that could be usefully adapted by the community (pp.17-25).

Translations of our Pastoral Plan are also available in a number of languages; please contact the Pastoral Planning Office or your relevant migrant chaplaincy for more information. If no translation is available in your group’s language, you might seek someone in your community who can assist in this task.

While reading *Faith in Our Future*, invite community members to write down or highlight any points that stood out to them as particularly significant or relevant to the life and aspirations of your community.

### Step 2

Convene a meeting of your migrant community or its leaders to discuss the Pastoral Plan. The purpose of this meeting is to discern those actions which could best be taken up by your community and to move towards implementation of those actions.

Begin the meeting with prayer (download and print “*Prayer Sheet #4*” from our website by clicking on “Your Parish” and then “Worksheets & Prayers”).

Then, reflect on the questions below which will help kick-start your community’s discussion. This worksheet can be downloaded and printed from our website (“*Migrant Community – Worksheet*”).

It is recommended that community members discuss their ideas and insights for renewal with their related migrant chaplain or parish priest. This will help generate additional ideas for your community, will foster collaboration across the Diocese, and will ensure that migrant communities and local parishes have a common sense of purpose and direction as they seek to grow and share the faith of the entire community.

