

MISSION 2020

DIOCESE OF SYDNEY

Our Vision **To see Christ honoured as Lord and Saviour in every community**

Our Mission **We commit ourselves afresh, in prayerful dependence on the Holy Spirit, to glorify God and love our neighbour by proclaiming the Lord Jesus Christ, calling people to repent and living lives worthy of him.**

Our Values

Our values flow from our identity in Christ. We are created in God's image and redeemed by Christ's blood for the glory of our Heavenly Father.

We therefore value and cherish:

- God's Word, the Bible, as our ultimate authority and guide
- The reading and explanation of the Bible as the basic method of our ministry
- The centrality of the cross of Christ and his resurrection in our proclamation and in our lives
- Lives of holiness and humility that adorn the gospel
- Prayerful dependence on the Holy Spirit for power to speak and hearts to change
- An urgent love for people who, apart from faith in Christ Jesus, face certain condemnation under the righteous judgment of God
- Selfless flexibility and creativity to reach the many different peoples in our communities with the gospel
- Partnerships between and among individuals, churches, Anglican schools, diocesan organisations and faithful members of the Anglican Communion
- Repentant hearts and renewal by God's grace

Our Priorities

Priority 1 Reach all the lost in our Diocese with the life-giving gospel of Christ

Key factors include

- 1.1 Engaging with our local community and creating opportunities for evangelism at the local and diocesan level
- 1.2 Mobilising more people to share Christ's love in word and deed
- 1.3 Strengthening our invitation, welcoming and integration

Our first goal is to increase our members reporting their willingness to talk intentionally about their faith from 18% (NCLS 2011 statistic) to 22% across the Diocese by 2020.

Our second goal is to increase our members reporting that they have invited someone to church in the last 12 months from 40% (NCLS 2011 statistic) to 45% across the Diocese by 2020.

Our third goal is to increase newcomers in church from 9% (NCLS 2011 statistic) to 12% across the Diocese by 2020.*

** Newcomers are members aged 15 or more who were not regularly attending any church five years ago, as defined by the National Church Life Survey (NCLS).*

Priority 2 Deepen spiritual maturity among our members

Key factors include

- 2.1 Ensuring congregational gatherings are significant places for spiritual growth
- 2.2 Enriching Christian fellowship through small groups
- 2.3 Strengthening personal and family devotions through prayer and Bible reading

Our first goal is to increase our members reporting 'much growth' in faith from 47% (NCLS 2011 statistic) to 60% across the Diocese by 2020.

Our second goal is to increase our members reporting time spent in prayer, Bible reading, meditation, every day/most days from 43% (NCLS 2011) to 50%.

Priority 3 Equip our members to exercise their gifts

Key factors include

- 3.1 Strengthening leadership skills of clergy, especially rectors
- 3.2 Identifying and unleashing the gifts of church members
- 3.3 Encouraging risk-taking and new initiatives in outreach and discipleship

Our goal is to increase our members reporting their use of gifts 'to a great extent' from 21% (NCLS 2011 statistic) to 27% across the Diocese by 2020.

Priority 4 Respond to the changing face of our society

Key factors include

- 4.1 Loving our neighbours in local and cultural communities
- 4.2 Reaching children and youth
- 4.3 Connecting with people over 60 years of age
- 4.4 Planting new churches in rapid growth areas

Our first goal is to increase our members born in non-English speaking countries from 15% (NCLS 2011 statistic) to 20% across the Diocese by 2020.

Our second goal is to increase the retention of our members' children in church from 65% (NCLS 2011 statistic) to 70% across the Diocese by 2020.

Our third goal is to plant 15 new churches in greenfield areas by 2020.

Our fourth goal is to plant at least two new churches per Mission Area by 2020.

I Certify that the Mission 2020 document as printed is in accordance with the document as reported.

R TONG
Chairman of Committee

I Certify that this Mission 2020 document was welcomed and adopted by the Synod of the Diocese of Sydney on 21 October 2014.

R WICKS
Secretary of Synod