

Questions that may be helpful when studying the Formation Booklet “Baptized and Sent” with parish groups like the parish council, those involved in the liturgy, the choir and musicians, the youth group(s) and acolytes, the catechists, the prayer group(s), the parish’s family life and vocations’ team.

1. Which three passages of the Formation Booklet “Baptized and Sent” touched me profoundly? Could I perhaps share a bit on what touched me, what I thought was inspiring and what I got out of them?
2. How would I evaluate the missionary awareness among our parishioners? Which role does sharing the faith, being a missionary disciple, or bringing others to Christ who either don’t know Him or who have drifted away from Him, play in the lives and consciousness of our parishioners? Do I identify groups of parishioners who are strong in this and who have a missionary zeal? Do I identify groups to whom this does not form any part of their lives, even though they are good Catholics?
3. Can I formulate some initiatives that we might consider in order to better form our parishioners in the awareness that being a baptized person includes the call to contribute to continuing the mission of Christ in our time and circumstances?
4. What percentage of Catholics in the area of our parish do I think are involved in their faith and are active in the life of the Church, and which percentage do I think has basically drifted away from an active life of faith?
5. Which do I think are some of the challenges to our Catholic faith as a parish and as a Catholic community in our nation? Are we dropping in numbers? If so, what might be some of the causes? What initiatives could I suggest that could make us an appealing Catholic faith community?
6. What are the strong points of our parish life and our parish community with regards to missionary outreach and sharing our faith with ‘new-comers’ and what are some of our weaknesses in this field?
7. What suggestions could I think of to reach out to our young people, to awaken their religious imagination and to make them feel welcome in the life of our parish? How do I evaluate our youth work in the parish? What could perhaps be better? How could we perhaps reach young people who are Catholic but who do not come to Church? Or reaching out to young people who are not Catholic or even not Christian at all? How can we strengthen the love among young people for Scripture, for prayer and the sacraments, and for the life of the parish? Are we giving our young people the attention that would draw them in, or what could concretely be improved?
8. How could we as a parish make better use of the possibilities of the digital media, in order to spread our message, to strengthen people’s faith and to reach others who may not as yet have any meaningful relationship with Christ? What challenges do we experience and what concrete steps might be necessary if we are to grow or become even stronger in the effective use of the modern digital media? Do we share through social media our parish activities, anniversaries in the lives of parishioners, parish news and inspirational materials?

9. What concrete suggestions and ideas could I think of to make the liturgy and the music and singing in our parish even more inviting and touching to those present? How could the liturgy become a part of that missionary outreach of our faith community?
10. How do I evaluate our RCIA or catechetical program, where we introduce young people and adults into the Catholic faith, with regard to fostering in them a missionary enthusiasm for Christ and for sharing His Gospel with others? Any concrete suggestions come to mind?
11. How can the mission we all received at our baptism actually more deeply form our family life, our spirituality, our prayer life, and our love for and solidarity with those in the peripheries of society?

Please let suggestions, ideas, reactions and thoughts be written down and passed on to the PMS Director of the Diocese

When the Formation Booklet "Baptized and Sent" is studied by the team(s) of the Pastoral Center of the (Arch)Diocese, these same questions might be helpful, when one interprets the references to the parish as referring to the diocese as a whole.