

## Step-by-Step Discussion Questions

### 1. Establish a Working Group

- Who should be in this group?
- What kind of gifts and demographics would be helpful?
- Who do you want to ask within your parish?

### 2. Pray for Renewal

- How can we encourage people in our parish to pray?
- How can we incorporate prayers for Hope25 in our intercessions?
- Is a special prayer meeting something that would work well for your parish?

### 3. Discern who you're trying to reach

- Who are the people who may be on the fringes of our church?
- Who are those that God is laying on our hearts to reach?
- Who are the people around us in our local community?

### 4. Building Relationships with those you're trying to reach

- Who has God already brought into our lives?
- How can we build relationships with our community?
- How can we practice hospitality as a church and as individuals?

### 5. Refocus the welcoming lens of your church

- How is the virtual front door of your church doing? Do you need to update your website?
- Can visitors easily find their way into the church? Is parking and church entry straightforward, accessible and signposted?
- Are your physical notice boards up to date and attractive to the eye?
- Is your church clean and well cared for?
- Do your welcomers need some training?
- Is it easy to find the toilets if they are needed during the service?
- Can people easily find morning tea (do they know it is on)?
- Are there people at morning tea that visitors can easily talk to, or do people only talk to those they know?
- How easily can a visitor break into groups and become part of the church?

### 6. Invest in training for evangelism

- Have a look through the training options on the Hope25 website. What might work for your parish?
- If you don't have much time, what conversations could you encourage or one-off discussions could you have to help people feel equipped?

### 7. Practice Compelling Invitations

- How do you feel about the idea that one in three Aussies would say yes to an invitation to church?

- How can you encourage people to practice inviting people to church?
- What would it look like for your church to become more invitational?
- Can you make flyers for church events so that you have something to give to those you invite?

#### **8. Plan your event**

- Do any ideas from the How-to guides on the Hope25 website appeal to you for your parish context?
- What type of thing might you be able to adapt for your context?
- Use the How-to guides to help you think through some of the troubleshooting for planning events.