The Parish Renewal Guide

Sharing a Vision of Renewal

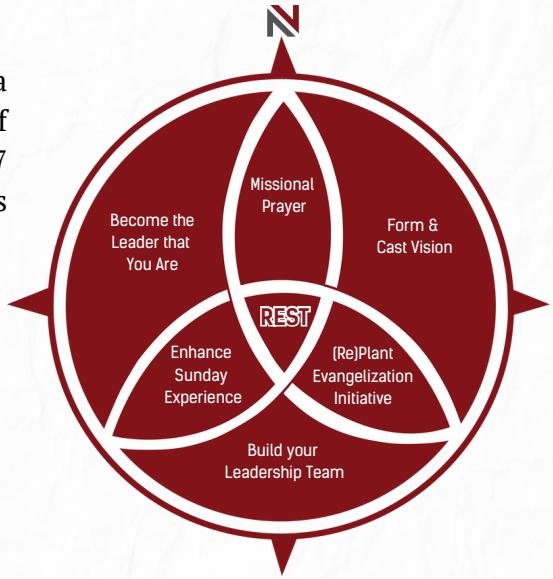
At Divine Renovation, as leaders in parish renewal, we dream of the day when every Catholic parish in the world is on mission. We are committed to inspiring, equipping and connecting parishes to be missional and through them bring people to Jesus. We hope every parish will catch this vision, live it out for themselves, and accompany other parishes to do the same.

We see many parishes around the world already leading the way. We also see a rising movement of willing lay leaders, missionary disciples, with a hunger for missional renewal and an eagerness to do something about it in their own parish and beyond. We believe that these leaders play a key role in the renewal of parishes, to serve as ***Parish Renewal Guides***.

A Tool for Renewal – The Genesis Compass

To equip these leaders, Divine Renovation is developing a new tool to help parishes take steps in the journey of renewal. This tool, The Genesis Compass, is comprised of 7 'days' or themes that focus on key foundational principles of renewal:

- Missional Prayer
- Vision
- Evangelization
- Leadership Teams
- Sunday Experience
- Personal Leadership
- Rest



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Parish Renewal Guides (PRGs) have been identified by DR as having a passion for mission, a heart for parish renewal and a felt call to serve the Church. They are invited by DR to serve as volunteer leaders in this ministry to parishes.

PRGs are facilitators who, with training and support from DR, accompany a pastor, and a small team the pastor selects, through the themes of parish renewal outlined in the Divine Renovation Genesis Compass.

PRGs are aligned with the mission and vision of Divine Renovation, identified as having the gifts and strengths necessary to walk with a parish in these foundational elements of renewal.

PRGs have engaged with Divine Renovation on some level. Some may be part of a parish leadership team, staff, or key volunteer in a parish that is already being coached by Divine Renovation. Some may have other relevant and appropriate connection with the ministry.

DIVINE RENOVATION

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What a Parish Renewal Guide does

A PRG will accompany a parish where the pastor has made a commitment to the work of renewal and is open to following the principles. He or she will facilitate the implementation of one or more modules of the Genesis Compass with that parish. Depending on the context, the scenarios could include:

- A PRG's own parish: the pastor has trust in this individual and agrees to be led through the process by this person.
- A neighboring parish: This could be a neighboring parish where the pastor and his team have expressed interest in engaging with DR.
- A remote parish: a PRG may also be equipped to accompany a parish virtually. This may be especially true to support parishes that currently have no local PRG.

Why serve as a Parish Renewal Guide?

DR recognizes the call and giftedness of PRG's to serve as missionary disciples. We want to invest in and help them continue to bless their own and other parishes. While serving the Church, this is an opportunity for the PRG to:

- Grow as a missionary disciple – spiritually, personally, and communally
- Gain leadership and facilitation skills
- Be accompanied by a DR staff
- Feel empowered to respond to their baptismal call to share their faith and giftedness and to be a blessing to their parish and beyond

What are the expectations/commitments of a Parish Renewal Guide?

To successfully partner together to bring about parish renewal, DR will invest in and accompany Parish Renewal Guides with the expectation that they:

- Give freely of his or her time to facilitate GC content with a priest and his leaders
- Can commit to supporting one parish through one theme of the Genesis Compass,
    - Approx. 7–9 hours per month for 2–3 months per each Genesis Compass theme
    - Re-assess commitment and continuing after completing a theme
- Will be able to participate successfully in all training sessions and meetings:
    - General DR training, Facilitation training, Genesis Compass content, etc.
    - Meetings with the DR person who will be supporting them
    - Periodic group sessions for all PRGs
- Can provide a virtual meeting platform if meeting online
- Are committed to staying within the themes of the Genesis Compass content
- Do not need to be an expert in everything DR but understands and is able to communicate what DR offers to parishes
- Have an openness