



**Pastoral  
Discernment**  
Central Coast

# Walking Together

Guided by the Holy Spirit helping us discover and share the variety of gifts, charisms, and ministries of our communities.

As we journey forward together, we are invited to consider,

***How is God calling the people of the Central Coast to journey forward together as pilgrim and missionary people of God?***

This is a process of community discernment, as such, we are called to work together as a group. The process you are going to engage with today is built upon the practice of Spiritual Discernment. It is a process of prayer, contemplation, sharing with one another and seeking God's direction and we invite the Holy Spirit to guide us. All are welcome to participate and discern together.

## **Acknowledgement of Country**

We acknowledge the Darkinjung and Awabakal peoples as the Traditional Owners of this ancient land. We acknowledge that God has been walking with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples, making His Presence known through a continuous living culture over many thousands of years. We pray and give thanks for these ancient peoples who have enriched and sustained our continent over all that time. We praise God for the people who nurtured the land that we call home.

## **An invitation to pray together.**

Invite a member of your small group to read the scripture reading.

### **1 Peter 4:10**

*As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another as good stewards of God's varied grace.*

### **Read full chapter**

Allow 2 minutes of silence and re-read the scripture quote again.

Allow 5 minutes of silence and invite each group member to reflect on the words that they heard and reflect on the question; How is God speaking with you in this scripture?

You may choose to listen and reflect on either of these songs before you begin your listening and dialogue rounds.

**We Come to You** by Josh Blakesley  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KryPIpZ6ViM>

OR

**Run to the Father** by Cody Carnes  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0aCFAcV\\_2LE](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0aCFAcV_2LE)

### What does this theme mean for the people of the community?

This theme invites us to be aware of those around us, those that we walk with and those that we need to consider to invite, to join us, on our journey of knowing and loving God more fully, through the gifts that each of us have been given. 1 Peter 4:10 teaches us that in order to walk and journey with others, we need to recognise and utilise our gifts for the sake of Him.

Bishop Anthony, in a recent Homily 10 Dec 2021, reminds us that *“no one is excluded from God’s gifts which are given freely by the Holy Spirit to those who desire and need them. It is an invitation because each baptised man and woman is called to use their gifts for the building up of the Body of Christ”...*

We are called to use the gifts that God has given us to help share the story of Good News with others. We are invited to use our gifts to enable and empower others to know and recognise their gifts also... *“We are invited to discern the gifts of God’s spirit, present in each of us regardless of age, gender, ethnicity or culture”.*

So, as we reflect on our community, how are we invited to walk together with others?

#### Guiding Questions:



In our community who are those who walk together with us?



Who are those in our community who are further apart?



How are we called to grow as companions?



What groups or individuals are left on the margins?



In which ways can we walk together and share our gifts, charisms and ministries within our community and beyond?

**After prayerful discernment, begin the listening and dialogue rounds with your small group.**

