

GLIMPSES OF THE OBVIOUS

- **PRAYER SHOULD ALWAYS BE AT THE HEART OF EVERY ECUMENICAL ENDEAVOUR**
- **BE PREPARED TO CHANGE THE WAY YOU THINK AND WORK**
- **IDENTIFY PARISH GROUPS THAT MIGHT BE PREPARED TO LINK WITH SIMILAR GROUPS IN OTHER CHURCHES**
- **GET TOGETHER WITH LOCAL CHURCHES ON A SOCIAL LEVEL – MAYBE FOR A MEAL OR A PICNIC**
- **TRY TO FIND WAYS OF CONTINUING CONVERSATIONS BEGUN IN ECUMENICAL MEETINGS**
- **THINK OF ECUMENICAL DIALOGUE AS AN EXCHANGE OF GIFTS, NOT AS NEGOTIATION**
- **ACCEPT EACH CHRISTIAN PERSON AS THEY ARE, NOT AS AN IMPERFECT COPY OF YOURSELF**



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TOGETHER IN CHRIST

2 New Directions Together



The parish...should be and proclaim itself to be the place of authentic ecumenical witness

*Directory for the Application of Principles and Norms on Ecumenism, n. 67
Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity*

The purpose of this leaflet is to help you carry out a simple audit of ecumenical activities and objectives in your parish and local situation. It may be the case that there are many successful ecumenical links and projects already established and flourishing. It is good to recognise and celebrate them and think about how they might be sustained and developed. Alternatively, it may be that ecumenical relationships and activities are still in their early stages and in need of nurturing and encouraging.

Whatever your particular situation, this audit is designed to help you to evaluate what you already do together with other churches and what you might consider doing together in the future. The audit is an aid to help you think about your local ecumenical situation, so you are encouraged to try to answer the questions overleaf as fully as you can.

Once you have completed the audit and had time to digest its results, why not take up the challenge of beginning one new ecumenical activity or project?

Finally, on the back page of this leaflet you will find some glimpses of the obvious (and maybe not so obvious) things to bear in mind when working ecumenically.

1. What contacts do you have with other churches in your area? How can you work together to help those contacts to develop?

2. How do your local churches meet together? How do you contribute to that? _____

3. If your local clergy/ministers meet regularly for prayers and conversation, what effect does that have? _____

4. How do you pray and worship with other church communities?

5. How do you explore together what you believe?

6. How do you share in mission together?

7. How do you work together for the common good?

8. How much of what you are currently doing on your own could you do together? _____
