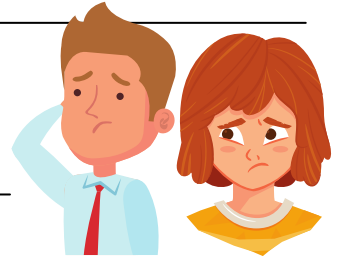




"A Future Not Our Own"

WHAT GIFTS OR TALENTS DO YOU BELIEVE YOU HAVE BEEN GIVEN TO USE FOR THE GOOD OF OTHERS?

WHAT HOLDS YOU BACK FROM USING THEM?



READ THE FOLLOWING REFLECTION: "A FUTURE NOT OUR OWN"

*It helps, now and then, to step back and take a long view.
The kingdom is not only beyond our efforts, it is even beyond our vision.
We accomplish in our lifetime only a tiny fraction
of the magnificent enterprise that is God's work.*

*Nothing we do is complete,
which is another way of saying that the Kingdom always lies beyond us.*

No statement says all that could be said.

No prayer fully expresses our faith.

No confession brings perfection.

No pastoral visit brings wholeness.

No programme accomplishes the Church's mission.

No set of goals and objectives includes everything.

That is what we are about.

We plant a seed that will one day grow.

We water seeds already planted, knowing that they hold future promise.

We lay foundations that will need further development.

We provide yeast that produces effects far beyond our capabilities.

We cannot do everything, and there is a sense of liberation in realising that.

This enables us to do something, and to do it very well.

*It may be incomplete, but it is a beginning, a step along the way,
an opportunity for the Lord's grace to enter and do the rest.*

*We may never see the end results, but that is the difference
between the master builder and the worker.*

We are workers, not master builders, ministers, not messiahs.

We are prophets of a future not our own.

This is often attributed to Archbishop Oscar Romero, but composed by Bishop Ken Untener of Saginaw

- ASCEND YOUTH MINISTRY (DIOCESE OF WATERFORD & LISMORE) -





"A Future Not Our Own"

RESPOND IN A PERSONAL WAY TO THIS REFLECTION: DOES THIS ENCOURAGE YOU? CHALLENGE YOU? INSPIRE YOU? CONFUSE YOU? MOTIVATE YOU? WHAT PART STANDS OUT? EXPLAIN YOUR ANSWER

Handwriting lines for reflection response.



LOOKING AT THE WEEK AHEAD, WHERE DO YOU THINK YOU HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO BUILD UP THE KINGDOM OF GOD? WHAT WILL BE INVOLVED IN THAT?



Handwriting lines for reflection response.

TAKE SOME QUIET TIME, TO REFLECT AND PRAY: YOU MIGHT LIKE TO RE-READ THE REFLECTION, OR PRAY IN YOUR OWN WORDS FOR HELP AND INSPIRATION FOR YOUR WEEK AHEAD.



A Future Not My Own (Matt Maher)

Build Your Kingdom Here (Rend Collective)

Act Justly, Love Mercy, Walk Humbly (Pat Barrett)

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