

Worship Meeting Agenda

(Editor's note: These agenda items provide a listing of possible topics to consider at your next parish liturgy meeting. Select the topics that will guide your preparations for the coming liturgical season.)

PRAYER

- Invite a parish guitarist to accompany the singing of the LOURDES HYMN (Immaculate Mary) and possibly other Marian hymns. Pray two decades of the Rosary, praying especially for immigrants and refugees.
- Ask each person to read an acclamation from Sacred Scripture from appendix 2 of the *Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults: Study Edition*, pausing thirty seconds between acclamations. Finish the prayer by singing “Christ, Be Our Light” (Bernadette Farrell, ©1993, 2000, OCP) with the Notre Dame Folk Choir on YouTube.
- Proclaim a Collect for Independence Day (July 4) from *The Roman Missal*. Conclude with the Solemn Blessing for that day.

SETTING SUMMER PRIORITIES

- Ask two committee members to review and present the article “Moving Beyond the Invitation to Accompany Seekers,” by Teresa Marshall-Patterson, from this issue. Allow twenty minutes to brainstorm “What is our parish doing, through liturgy, to accompany seekers and parish members?” Review notes at the next meeting with the Christian initiation team as guests.
- Schedule end-of-summer weekends for Sunday Mass blessings of different groups of students returning to school.
- Determine the feasibility of beginning Children’s Liturgy of the Word in the fall, or introducing this liturgy to an additional Sunday Mass. Share *Children’s Liturgy of the Word: A Weekly Resource 2017–2018* (published annually by Liturgy Training Publications) with the committee. Ask a leader of this liturgy to give a brief report, and discuss funding possibilities for necessary resources.
- Distribute the meeting schedule through Lent 2018, making certain that there is time for looking ahead to liturgical seasons and reviewing celebrations after they occur.
- Plan a pitch-in dinner (or breakfast) for your next meeting time: eat, pray, and ask a parish speaker to provide a ten-minute talk to renew and refresh the group. If needed, invite several potential new members.

SHAPING INITIATIVES FOR FALL

- Check the parish calendar for Masses and intentional liturgies that mark parish life and schedule dates—for example, for All Souls’ Day prayer for those who have died in the past year, a St. Cecilia celebration for music ministers, or the “dedication day” anniversary of the parish church.

- Schedule a time to explore the following: How can this worship committee help shape the Christian initiation process in the parish? What is needed to evangelize the parish? How can the committee impact the preparation for those who are baptized and who seek reception into full communion? Ask three members to study these questions for the next meeting.
- Discuss and resolve the Christmas Mass schedule and devotional prayer for Advent and Christmas.
- Find and schedule a local speaker for January 2018 to lead an evening of discovery and information about the Triduum for the parish ministers.
- Ask a committee member to discover how the parish can participate in the Fifth National *Encuentro* on Hispanic/Latino Ministry, which is being guided by the Bishops’ Committee on Hispanic Affairs.
- Consider plans for “Bring a Neighbor to Mass Sunday.” Make an extra effort at hospitality with greeters at every entry and in the parking lot. Plan for refreshments after each Mass, and have holy cards ready with the Mass times and the Lord’s Prayer. Bless the visitors and guests at the end of each Mass, using the *Book of Blessings*.

FINAL REFLECTIONS

- End as reflectively as possible in an outdoor setting. Use a brazier (or construct a simple one) and kindle a small fire with incense, and pray Night Prayer.
- Pray the Memorare together. Each person resolves to complete the final three decades of the Rosary for the intentions of members of the worship committee (see related opening prayer suggestion in this column).
- Recite the Divine Praises reflectively together, using an antiphonal style.
- Since July is the Month of the Precious Blood of Christ, pray the Collect for the Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (celebrated on the Sunday after Trinity Sunday), and conclude by reading that day’s Preface: “The fruits of the Most Holy Eucharist.”

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At www.PastoralLiturgy.org

Find and share this article with parish staff and the liturgy committee at the following URL: <http://www.pastoral-liturgy.org/resources/PSLV048I04WorshipMeetingAgenda.pdf>.