

# Worship Meeting Agenda

## OPENING PRAYER

- Begin with the sign of the cross and lead a lectio divina reflection with this issue's Liturgical Spirituality article "Psalm Response Reveals Desire to Surrender to God's Love," by Rodica Stoicoiu. Use the text from the first paragraph as an introduction, and read the indicated verses from Psalm 51. Allow two to three minutes for quiet thoughts, invite spoken impressions, then prayerfully proclaim the excerpt of the psalm again.
- Gather around a large bowl of blessed water for prayer with a lighted baptismal candle. Ask three members to read one paragraph each of the Apostles' Creed, and then invite the group to pray this creed together.
- As a prelude to Lent, ask each person to read an acclamation from "Acclamations from Sacred Scripture," from the *Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults*, 595, with a thirty-second silence after each verse. After the final verse, listen to the text of "Holy Darkness" (Daniel L. Schutte, 1988, OCP) YouTube music <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ShvQQR0zwWg>.

## REVIEW AND RENEW

- During a January meeting, review the preparations and the liturgy during Christmas Time. Digitally archive photos or images of parishioners at prayer and during service opportunities.
- Circulate the article "Holy Week Offers Opportunity to Form Team for Environment," by Mary Patricia Storms, in this issue, and use the article as a basis for making important lists regarding the Triduum.
- Ask and answer: What type of prayer, outside of the celebration of the Eucharist, do parishioners need and desire? What type of prayer needs more catechesis for the parishioners? Consider the needs of all parish groups. Make sure that opportunities for prayer are at convenient times, and accessible. Share your desires and suggestions with the parish ministers who are responsible for enacting prayer.
- Invite the Christian initiation team to the meeting to give feedback on how the worship committee can assist in formation to attract new members to the team as the parish moves toward a year-round catechumenate.

## PLAN AND IMPLEMENT

- Consider the effects of COVID-19, the flu season, and the overall climate of winter and its darkness. Spend thirty to sixty minutes discussing how to attract back parishioners who are not in a vulnerable category and have missed the in-person celebration of the Eucharist at the parish. (This is provided that your parish church is moderately or completely open,

per diocesan safety and worship guidelines.) Document every suggestion; select one or two to develop.

- Ash Wednesday is February 17, and Easter Sunday is April 4. Create and distribute firm deadlines regarding seasonal preparation for deacons, priests, the Christian initiation leaders and team, and volunteers; include all who enact prayer and adorn the environment.
- Use the 2021 *Sourcebook for Sundays, Seasons, and Weekdays* (LTP) as a starting point for connecting the Universal Prayer to the needs of parishioners. Find two or three people who have their hand on the pulse of the parish to compose these intercessions weekly.
- Guide the parish webmaster with catechetical material to help the parishioners understand the scrutines, the celebration of the Triduum, the meaning of mystagogy, and ways to live the faith each day. This material is available from Liturgy Training Publications in a variety of formats, including the article "What Are the Scrutinies?" (<http://pastoralliturgy.org/resources/WhatAretheScrutinies.pdf>) in the "resources" area on the *Pastoral Liturgy* website.
- Ensure that the parish has planned for an abundant supply of palms and has a budget for the seasonal adornment that reflects resurrection and new life in Christ.

## CLOSING PRAYER

- Light a small candle for each person attending the meeting, and invite all to stand for prayer. Provide the lyrics and music (verses 1, 4, 5) to "Sing a New Church" (OCP, D. Dufner, text 1991; NETTLETON), and use YouTube [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J\\_WmI3WRMDI](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J_WmI3WRMDI) to sing and pray the text.
- Locate the text and music for Psalm 103: "The Lord is Rich in Kindness/El Señor Es Compasivo" (P. Kolar, World Library Publications), YouTube music <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GtZkx9JiNo>. Sing together the psalm refrain. Pray the Lord's Prayer to conclude the meeting.
- Place one special intention for the parish in the Blessed Mother's care, and recite one decade of the Rosary. Invite the members to finish the Rosary during the week.

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### **At [www.PastoralLiturgy.org](http://www.PastoralLiturgy.org)**

Find and share this article with parish staff and the liturgy committee at: <http://www.pastoralliturgy.org/resources/PSLV052I01WorshipMeetingAgenda.pdf>.