

Worship Meeting Agenda

(Editor's note: These agenda items provide a listing of possible topics to consider at the next parish liturgy committee meeting. Select the topics that will guide your preparations in the months ahead.)

PREPARATION

- Invite committee members to read Jayne Porcelli's "Preparing a Welcoming Environment during the Catechumenate," in this issue. Members should be prepared to reflect on the question "How do parishioners understand their role in attracting and welcoming new Catholics to the Church?"

BEGIN WITH PRAYER

- Obtain a small loaf of rustic bread to add to a prayer table prepared for this meeting. Ask a lector to proclaim John 6:27–40. Ask "What does the 'living bread' mean to you?" Allow two minutes of silent contemplation, then invite any spoken responses from the group. Pray the Lord's Prayer together, and conclude with the summons "May we all become what we eat!" followed by a communal "Amen."
- Begin with a devout sign of the cross. Provide a copy of the Prayer to the Holy Spirit (<https://www.usccb.org/prayers/prayer-holy-spirit>) and recite together or use the Prayer to the Holy Spirit (used at the sessions of the Second Vatican Council) in the *Book of Blessings*, p. 191.
- Ask a volunteer to read aloud *Sacrosanctum concilium* 26–30. Allow two minutes of silence to consider these words. Conclude by reciting three Hail Marys.

EVALUATE AND PLAN

- Review the parish's liturgical ministries and current participation levels. Ask ministry leaders what is needed in terms of ministry education, encouragement, leadership development, or skills reinforcement. Express gratitude to ministry leaders for their service, and record and implement any suggestions they may offer for improvement.
- Discuss what is needed to help the art and environment team to "green" the worship space during the summer months of Ordinary Time. Support efforts to investigate new banners or greenery to be used in the sanctuary, and encourage the use of flowers harvested from a parish garden (if applicable).

ANTICIPATE AND PREPARE

- The Tenth National Eucharistic Congress (July 17–21, Indianapolis, Indiana) aims to awaken greater love for and belief in the Eucharist. Insert several petitions into the Universal Prayer for each weekend Mass during July. Pay special attention to asking the Holy Spirit to inspire, encourage, and direct the parishioners to deeper understanding and love of the Eucharist. Ensure that the outcomes of this important revival are communicated to parishioners.

- Create a parish liturgical calendar. This can be on the agenda for the current meeting or a separate meeting where the calendar is the sole focus. Invite a parish member with facilitating skill to lead this effort. Plan what needs to be celebrated and honored in the liturgical year ahead.

- Discuss and evaluate: How are the children in the parish being served liturgically? What more might be needed? Direct Ann M. Garrido's article, "Preaching at School Masses: Six Tips for Sharing the Word of God with Children," in this issue, to the priests or deacons who are responsible for homilies with children. Share discussion results with catechetical leaders and catechists for follow up.

- Invite committee members to acquaint themselves with the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd. This issue of *Pastoral Liturgy* is an excellent source for adult education about this catechetical method that integrates childhood development and religious formation.

- July is the month of the Most Precious Blood. Encourage parishioner participation, if needed, in receiving the Eucharist in its "fuller form." Review *Sacrosanctum concilium*, 281 and 282.

SENDING FORTH

- Recite together two decades of the Rosary, and ask the members to finish this Rosary in the coming week, for the general intentions of those who have not yet returned to regular Mass attendance.

- On August 15, we celebrate the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. In anticipation of this holyday of obligation, read the collect and the prayer over the offerings from the Vigil Mass, using *The Roman Missal*. Sing together "Sing of Mary, Pure and Lowly" (PLEADING SAVIOR) (available with lyrics at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1JCfO2-mchA>).

- Begin with the sign of the cross, followed by proclaiming Luke 1:46–55, the Magnificat of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Listen prayerfully to the song "Magnificat" (James J. Chepponis © 1980, GIA Publications) found at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o9LXefzbUkU>. End with a group "Amen."

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At www.PastoralLiturgy.org

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