

Worship Meeting Agenda

March | April 2025

(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.)

BEGIN WITH PRAYER

- In honor of the Jubilee Year of Hope (2025), begin with the sign of the cross, and supply an invocation such as “Holy Spirit, we ask for the gift of hope, that our worship stir up this community’s faith and attract those who feel hopeless.” Continue by praying the Prayer of Hope together, which is available on the Jubilee Year website (<https://www.iubilaeum2025.va/en/giubileo-2025/preghiera.html>) and can be accessed by committee members on their phones.
- Proclaim Luke 6:36–38 (Gospel, Monday of the second week of Lent). Ask: “What mercy can you show to others, especially this Lent?” Allow two minutes of silence for reflection. Conclude with the Lord’s Prayer.

CONSIDER AND DECIDE

- Consider preparations for all upcoming liturgical celebrations for Lent and the Triduum. Review opportunities for the liturgy committee to assist in these efforts. Some possibilities: Assist with planning and script preparation for the scrutinies; review the budget for Triduum floral arrangements and decor; recruit liturgical ministers for the Triduum and the Easter season, reserve times and spaces for rehearsals, and so on.
- As parishes implement the *Order of Christian Initiation of Adults* (mandatory use of the new OCIA is March 5, 2025), consider what type of catechesis is needed for the wider parish community. Provide formation around moments such as the Rite for Entrance, the scrutinies, and dismissals and breaking open the Word. Invite initiation ministry leaders to provide input to develop the parish’s understanding of the initiation process for adults. Remind all that catechesis is encounter, and social media is an important method of providing this.
- The Fifty Days of Easter are important in the life of the Church. Instead of anticipating liturgical exhaustion, encourage and plan for the ongoing freshening of decor in the worship space throughout the season, budgeting carefully to ensure adequate funds to support these efforts.
- Suggest to the pastor and initiation team that those who are already baptized be received into full communion as Catholic Christians at their choice of weekend Mass during the Easter season. Offer assistance in catechizing the community (through the parish website and social media) to better understand their role in welcoming new members.

ANTICIPATE AND PLAN

- Pentecost arrives at the beginning of June. Review any notes or memories about this important solemnity. It is never too soon to begin planning! Consider ways to heighten the environment to aid the assembly’s worship and reflection on this day.
- May is usually a busy sacramental month in the parish. Invite parishioners to pray (by name) for those receiving holy Communion for the first time, the sacrament of confirmation, and those who have been welcomed through the Easter sacraments.
- Are there grade school, high school, or college graduates in the parish? Poll parishioners and get input about family members who are celebrating these milestones. Use this information to pray for them (by name if possible) in the Universal Prayer, asking God to continue to bless them in their life journeys.
- Plan a cookout or simple meal to celebrate the good work of the liturgy committee and to provide an opportunity for fellowship. Invite other ministries in the parish to contribute to this effort by providing a side dish or two.
- Anticipate a community garden for floral arrangements in the worship space, as well as sharing the abundance of summer fruits and vegetables. Is there a location on the parish grounds where such a garden would be feasible? What seeds, plants, tools, or materials need to be purchased to prepare?

SENDING FORTH

- Move to the church and gather around the lighted paschal candle. Play Tony Alonso’s recording (or ask a cantor and guitarist to attend) of “And Jesus Said” found on YouTube https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jV4oFk0M_Wg. Conclude with the Nicene or Apostles’ Creed.
- Using *Sourcebook for Sundays, Seasons, and Weekdays 2025* (LTP), lead the Universal Prayer on page 132 (Third Sunday of Lent), inviting members to respond using the suggested response. Pray three Hail Marys for those who have no one to pray for them.

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At www.PastoralLiturgy.org

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