

Worship Meeting Agenda

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

OPENING PRAYER

- Fully embrace summer to begin the Worship Committee meeting: schedule an evening gathering, and meet outdoors on the parish grounds if possible. Use luminaria and enlist a guitarist to accompany a procession, holding candles and singing “Christ, Be Our Light/Se Nuestra Luz” (B. Farrell, P. Rubalcava, and Jaime Cortez, OCP 1993, 2011). Select eight Prayers over the People from the *Book of Blessings*, 2051, as opening and intercessory prayer for the group.
- Share the Collect, the Preface, and the Solemn Blessing for Independence Day (July 4 in *The Roman Missal*). We offer praise and thanksgiving that, as members of the human family, our greatest gift is God's love.
- Center oil, water, bread, wine, and fire (candles) on the meeting table. Read paragraphs 10 and 48 from the *Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy*. Allow five minutes of silence to reflect on the signs “perceptible to the senses” that are before the group. Close the reflection with the Lord's Prayer.

GROWING ENTHUSIASM

- Determine whether the Worship Committee needs new members. Discuss whether it is time for a three-year veteran to cycle off, and ask for suggestions of a new person to invite. Are the liturgical ministries represented on this committee? Consider agreeing on a term limit for members, perhaps renewable once. If a member discerns off the committee, celebrate their commitment with a gift of the new *Sourcebook for Sundays, Seasons, and Weekdays 2020*.
- Ask members to come prepared for a fifteen-minute dialogue on “Celebrating the Patronal Feast, Evangelizing the Community,” by Richard N. Fragomeni, in this issue of *Pastoral Liturgy*®. Consider the following: What date and feast could your parish celebrate? What traditions could be started? What groups would be the backbone for planning? What is cost-effective as a beginning? How would a simple celebration engage the parish across generations?
- Consider an adult vacation Bible school that consists of three weekdays of workshops. Invite catechetical leaders from neighboring parishes as presenters. Start or end with lunch. Consider hosting liturgy workshops in the same way, inviting the diocesan worship office (or clergy who are deeply interested in liturgy) and local well-rounded music leaders to present in their area of liturgical expertise. Use the books in Liturgy Training Publications' Liturgical Ministries Series to support the curriculum. Consider partnering with another parish.

- Ask: Who isn't at our Masses? Is the parish church accessible to people with physical disabilities? Are there hospitals, hospice care centers, group homes for developmentally disabled adults in the parish boundaries? Are there homeless shelters or food pantries where people congregate? Make a list that includes two categories: those whom we serve with the Eucharist and those whom we could evangelize into our community. Discuss next steps at the following meeting.

ACTION AND ACTIVITY

- Share the article “A Dignified Space for Worship,” by J. Philip Horrigan, in this issue, as an opener to discussing problems with clutter in the parish.
- Make sure that several persons are always available to take and store photos of liturgical celebrations: this is a skill that can involve several generations of parishioners. Review their work three times a year, and catalog the photos.
- Discuss the blessing(s) that can be offered to students as they return or start a new school adventure.
- Plan the meeting schedule so that the liturgical seasons are anticipated. Distribute calendars of the liturgical year, with a reminder that the Worship Committee is a visioning body.
- Read together the Q & A in this issue, and encourage members to honestly assess whether the response fits the worship committee.

SENDING FORTH

- Invite a member to read a Gospel from one of the summer months (perhaps from the Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, July 14). Ask: who is my neighbor? Allow two minutes for reflection, and read the Scripture again. Finish with the Nicene Creed.
- Recite a decade of the Rosary, and ask each member to finish the Rosary during the coming week for the intentions of the liturgical ministers of the parish.
- Pray Evening Prayer with the group, with printed booklets for that day.

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Find and share this article with parish staff and the liturgy committee at: <http://www.pastoralliturgy.org/resources/PSLV050I04WorshipMeetingAgenda.pdf>.