



Series of bite sized liturgical points on *Preparing for Liturgy*.

litbits

NO 1 | 18

Preparing for Liturgy

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Spiritual Preparation

When preparing liturgy it is very easy for all to slip into action ticking off points and attending to the practicalities of who is to do what. Always allocate a generous amount of time for prayer, spiritual reflection and for formation so all become imbued with a sense of the season.

Tip! Use the prayers, Gospel readings from the respective season in the Missal.

Resources for Liturgy Committees

To foster growth in the liturgical ministers knowledge, ensure there is available:

- An *ORDO* published by Liturgy Brisbane.
- A copy or multiple copies of *The General Instruction of the Roman Missal Final Text With Application for Australia*. Published by St Pauls Publications 2012.

So ministers can explore the instructions and gain the correct directive.

There is a comprehensive list of resources to use for liturgy preparation compiled on the Centre for Liturgy website: liturgy.perthcatholic.org.au.

Preparing your Liturgy Committee for the New Liturgical Year

When ever possible, set meeting dates well in advance of upcoming feasts to allow for adequate preparation.

Encourage ministers to download the Liturgical Calendar from the Centre for Liturgy website and mark in the feasts relevant to your parish.

Look back to evaluate your Advent and Christmas liturgies and compile the feedback for review. Invite parishioners to give their feedback of the liturgies they attended. All feedback is good. To improve anything, listen to the blessings and the less than blessings as well!



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Preparation

Ministry representatives to include in your preparations:

- Presider*
- Ministers of Environment – flowers etc.*
- Sacristan*
- Musicians, Cantors, Psalmist*
- Acolytes*
- Altar Ministers*
- Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion*
- Universal Prayer*
- Proclaimers of the Word*
- Collectors*
- Administration Staff*
- Hospitality – prior to and after mass*
- Ushers*
- Computer Operators*
- Children’s Liturgy of the Word*
- RCIA*

Although all ministries are not represented in all parishes, it clear to see by this list that communicating information between ministries is essential and brings about unity.

Knowledge

Encourage all ministers to be familiar with the Liturgy in the Missal. i.e.

- ❖ The Passion of the Lord;
- ❖ When is the Veneration of the Cross?
- ❖ When is the collection for Holy Places?
- ❖ Are all ministers familiar with the Liturgy and know when particular actions take place?

Communication

Communication between the ministries is vital.

Consider how you are going to communicate the common decisions of the liturgy committee to all of the ministries so all know what the decisions are.

TIP! Invite all ministry coordinators involved in liturgy preparation to a meeting. Develop a communication file that remains in the sacristy for the season.



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