

ST MARY'S R.C. PRIMARY SCHOOL

PUPIL STAFF HANDBOOK

CELEBRATION OF THE WORD



MARIA HALL 2024

6 ELEMENTS OF LITURGY FOR A CELEBRATION OF THE WORD



1. SCRIPTURE

Always read something from the Bible. It is God speaking to us! It could be a story, a parable or a short verse or line.



3. SPEAK to GOD

Pray! This is speaking to God. It might be a prayer you already know, one you have written, or one from a book.



2. SYMBOL

We become closer to God through signs and symbols. Have something to look at, display a colour, and let everyone take part in symbolic action.

5. SENSES

LISTEN: to prayer, scripture, music

SEE: candles and a symbol

TOUCH: a feely cross, Holy Water

SMELL: incense, candle

These help us create a sacred space and become closer to God.

4. SILENCE

A little quiet time gives us the opportunity to speak to God quietly in the silence of our hearts.



6. SACRED SPACE

Create a special space for your Liturgy. Sit together, get rid of books and water bottles! Move furniture.

CELEBRATION OF THE WORD



Class _____ Date _____ Theme _____

Prepared by _____

1. SCRIPTURE

2. Sacred Space (including Gathering)

3. Symbol and Symbolic Action

4. Silence

5. Senses

6. Speak to God in Prayer (Including Going Forth)

How did it go?

A GLOSSARY OF LITURGICAL TERMS FOR PRIMARY SCHOOLS

LITURGY: the participation of the people in the Work of God

ALTAR

The symbolic presence of Christ in the church building to which we bow. The main focus in the church, where the Liturgy of the Eucharist takes place.

AMBO

Where the Liturgy of the Word takes place. (May also be a lectern).



ASSEMBLY

The gathered people, members of the Mystical Body.

BIBLE

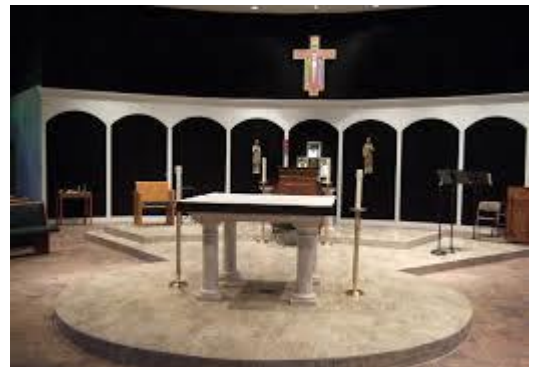
The Word of God. Sacred Scriptures. A collection of sacred books. Old Testament, 46 books. New Testament, 27 books.

BLESSING

Asks God to look upon people or things. Traditionally, by a priest at Mass, but we can also bless each other.

BOW

An act of reverence. Simple bow of the head or a profound bow (hands to knees!)



CANDLE

Light is an important symbol. It represents Christ being the Light of the Word, conquering darkness.

CANTOR

A designated singer who leads the music.

CELEBRATE

To mark, honour, remember

CELEBRANT

The ordained deacon, priest, bishop, who officiates at a liturgical celebration.

CHALICE AND PATEN

The cup and plate, vessels used to celebrate the Eucharist.



CIBORIUM

Similar to a chalice, usually with a lid, used for the consecrated hosts.

COLLECT

Prayer said by the priest just before the Liturgy of the Word. It 'collects' our petitions together.

COLOUR (Liturgical)

Vestments and cloths reflect the time of the liturgical year:

Green: Ordinary Time

Red: Palm Sunday, Good Friday, Pentecost, feasts of apostles, evangelists and martyrs.

Purple: Lent and Advent

Rose: Mid-Advent and Mid Lent Sundays

White: Christmas, Easter, feasts of the Lord, Mary, angels and saints who weren't martyrs.

Gold: may be used on special occasions

CRUETS

Small vessels for the water and wine used in Mass.

EUCCHARIST

Greek for 'thanksgiving'.
Celebration of the Eucharist also known as Mass.

FONT

The receptacle used for Baptism.
Often wood or stone.

GENUFLECT

A liturgical posture to show reverence by touching the ground with a single knee.

HOMILY

Preaching during the Sunday Mass by the priest or deacon. It should be on scripture or text of the Mass.

LECTIONARY

The sacred book containing scripture readings for Mass.

LECTOR

A lay ministry. The person who reads scripture at Mass.

LITANY

A form of prayer. A list of saints, titles or petitions with a single response.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

The first major part of the Mass. Old and New Testament readings, Psalm, Gospel reading, Homily, Universal Prayer (Bidding Prayers). We believe Christ is present in his Word.

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Second major part of the Mass. Bread and Wine are offered, consecrated to become the Body and Blood of Jesus.

LUNETTE

A small receptacle used for a single large consecrated host.

MISSAL

The liturgical book containing the texts of the Mass.

MEDITATION

A form of individual prayer/ reflection focussing on a particular text or theme. Scripture, art, music, sacred writings can be the source of meditation.

MONSTRANCE

A receptacle to contain the Blessed Sacrament for Eucharistic Adoration and Benediction

PRAYER

The way we communicate with God. Formal or informal. Prayers are of praise, thanksgiving, petition (asking) and reconciliation (being sorry)

PRESIDER

The person who leads a liturgical service. The priest or deacon in a formal liturgy.

PROCLAIM

The Word of God isn't merely read. It is proclaimed. God speaks to us here and now!

PYX

A small container used to take Communion to the sick and housebound.

REFLECTION

To pray quietly and ponder a given theme.

RITUAL

Liturgy is Ritual. It is a tradition passed on. It allows us to become familiar and immerse ourselves in it.

SACRAMENT

An outward sign of inward reality. By celebrating the 7 Sacraments we receive grace from God and become more like Him. The Sacrament perpetuates God's saving work,

SACRED SPACE

Creating a sacred space in school allows the liturgy to be more effective. The combination of space, light, sign, symbol, music, scripture and silence work together to make God tangible.

SCRIPTURE

The sacred Word of God found in the Bible.

SIGN OF PEACE

A way of signifying peace with the people near us. A powerful symbolic action.

SILENCE

An integral part of liturgy. It needs to be taught and practiced. Through silence, we can speak to God, reflect and listen.

TABERNACLE

Usually behind the altar, the place where the Blessed Sacrament is kept for taking Communion to the sick and private prayer. A large host is usually kept in a **LUNETTE** and can be placed in a **MONSTRANCE** for **EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION**.

WORSHIP

The homage given to God acknowledging His greatness. It can be a public or private act.

SIGNS AND SYMBOLS



Bread

Wine

Water

Oil

Space

Altar

Mountain

Fire

Cross

Dove

Wheat

Light/dark

Kiss

Washing feet

Washing

Silence

Alpha and Omega

Statues

Music

Sign of the cross

Colours

Sign of peace

Ashes

Incense

Candles

Flowers

Stained glass

Paintings

Blessing

Rosary Beads

Holy Water

Anointing

Stations of the Cross

Vestments

Laying of hands

Prostrating

Bowing

Genuflecting

Thank you God for....

Please bless.....

Look after.....

Choose a line from a Psalm, eg:

A pure heart create for me O God

Help me to be kind.

A pure heart create for me O God

Help me to be friendly.

A pure heart create for me O God

Help me to be thoughtful

A pure heart create for me O God

Help me to be caring

A pure heart create for me O God

We pray for ...the sick....those who are lonely....peace

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer

Use newspapers or internet articles/picture OR PICTURE NEWS as stimuli for prayer/reflection

Most importantly....JOIN IN!

Don't be a spectator! As role models, we have something wonderful to share! Our pupils value and appreciate this.

YouTube: great resources. Search for meditations, animated Bible stories, film clips

www.wellsprings.org.uk/liturgies/

www.liturgyplanning.com/

www.catholicyouthwork.com/catechesis-prayer-liturgy-resources/

LITURGY IDEAS FOR THE CLASSROOM

Always include:

A passage of scripture.
(One appropriate line is enough)

SILENCE

Teach it! Don't presume it will just happen!

Sometimes it's all you need!

Have resources that you can arrange into a prayer focus:

Candle

Bible

Cloths (red, purple, blue, white or gold)

Statue of Our Lady

Picture or statue of your school patron

Rosary beads

Feely cross

Incense of Diffuser sticks

Age appropriate prayer book

Bell

Blank book for pupils own prayers

Small basket

Small bowl for water

Reflective music

Twelve well known Bible Stories

1. The Lost Sheep

When we do wrong, we turn away from God. But he wants us to come back to him.

2. Zacchaeus

God loves sinners. He would like them to be sorry and make good what they have done.

3. The man who came through the roof: God can do anything!

4. Jesus feeds the 5000: God does wonderful things. He really cares for us!

5. The Good Samaritan

You should put aside your differences and help anyone in need.

6. Jesus heals Blind Bartimaeus

God rewards true faith in Him.

7. The Prodigal Son

We can all be forgiven, whatever we have done. God celebrates when we seek forgiveness.

8. Jairus' Daughter: Shows the power of God

9. The Widow's offering

Shows her humble love for the Lord and teaches us the true meaning of giving.

10. The Mustard Seed: How the kingdom of heaven will grow.

11. Jesus goes fishing: Always trust in the power of Jesus.

12. The ten lepers: It's important to say 'Thank you'

18 Themes for Class Liturgies

1. Love Each Other	1 Thessalonians 5:12-17	Isaiah 58:3-8
2. Help us to share	Luke 3:10-11	Acts 2:44-47
3. Being Sorry	Joel 2:12-13	Matthew 3:2-6
4. Working Hard	Romans 12:8, 10-13	Luke 19:12-22
5. Helping others	Isaiah 58:3,4,7,8	Romans 8:16-20
6. Forgiveness	Colossians 3:12-13	Luke 17:3-4
7. Talents	Romans 12:6-8	Psalms 150:2-6
8. Trust in God	Luke 12:6-7	Luke 12:27-28
9. Being good followers	Philippians 3:8-10	Psalms 14:2-3
10. Saying 'thank you'	Colossians 3:16-17	Luke 17:11-19
11. Don't argue	Isaiah 58:9-11	Mark 9:33-35
12. Friends with God	Titus 3:4-7	Titus 15:15-17
13. Thanks for creation	John 4:35-36	Genesis 1:1-3
14. Care for creation	Mark 4:26-28	Mark 4:30-33
15. The poor	Isaiah 58:3-8	Psalms 71:12-14
16. For peace	Romans 12:10,13,18	John 14:27
17. Those who are sick	Jeremiah 30:10-17	Mark 2:1-6,11,12
18. Children in Need	Mark 5:22-24, 35-42	Mark 10:13-16
19. The elderly	Luke 2:23	John 19:25-27
20. Those who have died	1 Thessalonians 4:13, 14, 17	Mark 9:33-35

EARLY YEARS AND KEY STAGE 1 PRAYERS

SIMPLE REPEATED PRAYERS (say three times)	CIRCLE PRAYERS
Jesus I love you	Jesus I am sorry for ...
Jesus watch over me	Jesus show me the way to ...
Jesus I am sorry	Jesus I'd like to tell you ...
Jesus you are special	Jesus you are ...
Jesus be with us today	Loving Lord please look after ...
Loving God thank you for making me	Loving God thank you for ...
Loving God please bless me	Loving God you are wonderful because ...
Father you are wonderful	
Father look after me	Heavenly Father please bless ...
Hail Mary, full of grace	Heavenly Father please watch over ...
Holy family pray for us	Heavenly Father you are ...
Holy family watch over us	Holy Family help me to ...
Holy family be with us	Loving Mary please ...
	Loving Mary please look after ...

Ways to start a prayer

Loving... God/Father/Lord Almighty All powerful Creator Divine Everlasting Heavenly Healing Holy Kind Merciful Faithful Creator Saving Compassionate Understanding	God/Father/Lord of all... Creation Healing Justice Mercy Trust Refuge Peace Comfort Consolation Compassion Forgiveness Light The Earth Wisdom Power Might
Eg Almighty and Everlasting God... Merciful Lord Loving Father	Eg. God of all compassion Lord of all light Father of all Creation
<p>If the prayer is directed to the Father: Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, for ever and ever.....</p> <p>If the prayer is directed to the Father, but the Son is mentioned at the end: Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever....</p> <p>If the prayer is directed to the Son: Who lives and reigns with God the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever....</p>	

Meditation in Class

1. Nature Meditation

Reflect on the wonders of God's creation

2. Daily Examen

Take a couple of minutes at the end of the day.....

3. Video Meditation

Allow images and sounds to take you closer to God.

4. Imaginative Prayer

Put yourself in the scene. Be close to Jesus!

5. Scriptural Meditation

Reflect on a short passage from the Bible. Take your time and share your thoughts with God.

6. Lectio Divina

Listen to the Word of God. What do you notice?