Liturgy of the Word
with
Holy Communion
2017

“A Eucharist which does not pass over into the concrete practice of love is intrinsically fragmented.”
Deus Caritas Est 14
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Suggested Resources


- PALS (Pastoral Area Liturgy Support) - Do you know who your local PALS team member is?

- Archdiocesan Pastoral Services — for information re PALS, further training, support and resources (04) 496 1777

- Catholic Institute of Aotearoa New Zealand - for further formation check out available courses (taught & distance papers) www.wcec.org.nz or (04) 496 1716

- Other parishes/pastoral areas who are already running Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion.


Suggested PALS resources


- Brisbane Liturgical Commission, Powerful Points for Liturgical Ministers - disc of PowerPoints on roles of ministers

- Brisbane Liturgical Commission, LabOra Worship

Many thanks to Workshop Preparation and Facilitation Team:
Philippa Barker (Catholic Education Centre—Wellington)
Br Kieran Fenn fms (Marist Young Adult Ministry)
Karen Holland (St Anne's Parish, Newtown, Wellington)
Fr James Lyons (Cathedral of the Sacred Heart Parish, Thorndon, Wellington)
Sr Clare O'Connor rc (Archdiocesan Tertiary Chaplaincy Team)
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PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION
Leader: Let us pray
God of mercy, pour forth upon us your spirit of love, that we who have been nourished by the one bread from heaven may be one in mind and heart.
Grant this through Christ our Lord.
All: Amen

CONCLUDING RITE
The leader of prayer leads the assembly in the final blessing.

Leader: May almighty God bless us, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.
(The leader signs him/herself)
All: Amen

Leader: Go and announce the Gospel of the Lord.
All: Thanks be to God.

(See New Words. Deeper Meaning.
Same Mass missalette for other options.)

An Introduction
A Service that is a Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion is provided to enable the Faithful, in the absence of a priest, to offer praise and worship and to be nourished by the Eucharist. The liturgy does not take the place of Mass.

The Leader will be a member of the community that regularly gathers for Mass, a lay person or member of a religious community, and so will be known to most of those present and will be trained for this ministry.

Leaders may not be highly trained in theology but they will bring their own gifts and their love of God to their ministry and should be able to rely on the good will and support of those they serve. As with all ministry roles, ongoing formation is very important.

Keeping in mind the desire of the Church, that all who participate in our Catholic worship do so fully, actively and conscientiously, those present for a Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion are invited to cooperate eagerly and generously with the Leader. “We serve one another” is our motivation.

“Collaborative Ministry” is a principle of the Church and of our Archdiocese. The Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion properly understood is a powerful example of this ministry in action.
Basic Structure of a Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion

Introductory Rites:
* Gathering and entrance
* Greeting
* Opening rite: One of the following may be chosen:
  - Penitential rite
  - Kyrie
* Opening Prayer

Liturgy of the Word:
* Presentation of the Word
* Reading of the Word:
  - First reading
  - Responsorial Psalm
  - Second reading
  - Gospel acclamation
  - Gospel
  - Reflection on the Word
* General Intercessions

Holy Communion:
* Prayer of praise
* Ciborium brought from the place of reservation
* Lord’s prayer
* Invitation to Communion
* Distribution of Communion
* Prayer after Communion

Concluding Rites:
* Blessing
* Dismissal

Leader: We are about to receive holy communion, that is to say, unite ourselves to the sacrifice of Christ. Mass was celebrated here last Sunday (or whenever) and bread was consecrated for us. Let us therefore unite ourselves to the offering of Christ and his Church.

the leader then takes the ciborium from the tabernacle, places it on the communion table and opens it. The consecrated bread is offered with the words:

Leader: Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

All: Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.

The leader then gives communion to those who approach, saying : The Body of Christ. The communicant answers: Amen.

SILENT PRAYER OR SONG
The assembly is seated. A period of silence may now be observed, or a Psalm or song of praise may be sung.
Communion

Leader: At the Saviour’s command and formed by divine teaching, we dare to say

All: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen

Leader: Lord Jesus Christ, who said to your apostles, peace I leave you, my peace I give you, look not on our sins, but on the faith of your Church, and graciously grant her peace and unity in accordance with your will.

Who live and reign for ever and ever.

All: Amen

Leader: Let us offer each other the sign of peace.

(A sign of peace is given here)

An Introduction to Lectio Divina

By Karl A. Schultz

Lectio Divina dates back to the early Church Fathers around 300AD. The four steps were first recorded by a monk Guigo Cartujo in 1173. These steps, Lectio (Reading), Meditatio (Meditation), Oratio (Prayer), and Contemplatio (Contemplation) remain central today although methods differ.

In essence, lectio divina is a simple way to meet with the Lord through reflection and prayer based on Holy Scripture.

Used in groups, a structure is necessary, but for individuals the steps need not be followed rigidly. Our aim is meeting God, not just completing the steps. When God speaks to us through Scripture, it’s important to stop and wait...and come back to the steps another time.

LECTIO: Reading

Reading the Scripture passage humbly and prayerfully is the foundation for everything else that follows, and can’t be rushed. So begin with a prayer and ask the Holy Spirit to ‘lead you into all the truth’ (John 16:13).

Read the passage slowly and carefully. Avoid being tempted to look at the Lectio comments or any other steps at this stage.

Have a notebook and pencil ready. Underline, or make a note of, any words or phrases that stand out to you. Write down any questions that occur to you. Read the passage several times and read it aloud. Give yourself time to understand and appreciate what is being said. Now read the Lectio comments and reflect on the ways they are similar or different to your first thoughts.

MEDITATIO: Meditation

Meditation deepens our appreciation of the passage and helps us to explore its riches. ‘All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching truth, rebuking error, correcting faults, and giving instructions for right living.’ reveal something special to you.
So approach Scripture in faith expecting God to speak to you. God may God may highlight an attitude or behaviour of yours that needs to change. God might show you a promise to encourage and strengthen you. Let the Word be a mirror for you. As we read the Bible it shows us more of what the Christian life looks like, and where ours need to change. We see how God’s Word applies to our daily life, as an individual, and as part of our community and society. We will find promises and encouragement, challenges and demands. If we are willing God will nurture and free us to be more fully human and fully alive.

**ORATIO**: Prayer
Prayer opens up a conversation between God and us. Through prayer we make our response to the light God’s Word has shed on how we are living our lives. We speak and listen, listen and reflect, and give thanks.

**CONTEMPLATIO**: Contemplation
To help us interpret the gospel reading the Liturgy provides two further Scripture readings. Reflecting on these can both enrich our understanding of the text and bring into focus a response we may need to make to the Lord. Contemplation gives us the opportunity for an intimate time of communion with God. Be still. Enjoy time in God’s presence. Let God love you. Let God refresh your soul.

**ACTIO** (Action):
We live what we have learned. *Actio* is living all that we have discerned and been given through the depth of our reading, meditation, praying and contemplation. In a way *Actio* is about listening to the prompting of the Spirit and as a result of that committing to some action or reflection for the week ahead. In prayer we are sent out to be more fully human and more fully alive.

**Action: throughout the day**
Now choose a word, phrase, sentence
Bring it to mind frequently during the day
Let it recapture the experience of your *lectio*
Use it especially in situations relating to your *lectio* “daily and hourly till the soil of the heart with the Gospel plough.”

Leader: For all in positions of political leadership, for those responsible for policies and actions to ensure justice and well-being for all citizens.
We pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: For peace in our broken world, and for the safety of all who work for the peace and healing of nations.
We pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: For those who are poor, lonely or hungry; for those in prison; for the unemployed; for the sick and the dying.
We pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Invite those gathered to offer their own intentions.

Leader: Father, hear the prayers of your people and grant us what you have inspired us to ask for in faith. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.
FIRST READING: A reading from……..

PSALM: The psalm is taken from “Daily Mass Book”

The assembly rises. The Gospel Acclamation is sung. (If not sung it is omitted)

GOSPEL A reading from the Holy Gospel according to N.

A reflection on the reading may be shared or a period of silence may be observed.

GENERAL INTERCESSIONS
The following may be used or intercessions from the book of Intercessory prayers for the day.

Leader: My sisters and brothers, let us entrust to the Lord, who remembers us, our own needs and those of all people.

All: Lord, hear our prayer

Leader: For the church, the body of Christ, and for all who are called to leadership among us. We pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, hear our prayer

LITURGY OF THE WORD WITH HOLY COMMUNION

EXAMPLE ONE

With thanks to St Anne’s Parish, Newtown, Wellington
**Introductory Rite**

The Introductory Rite expresses and deepens the belief that we belong together since we are gathered with the same Risen Lord and have pledged to work for the same kingdom.

- **Sign of the Cross**
- **Greeting**
- **Penitential Rite**
- **Hymn of Praise—Gloria (major feasts only)**
- **Opening Prayer**

**Sign of the Cross and Greeting**

**Leader:** In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**All:** Amen

The leader welcomes the people with a few words explaining the reasons for the assembly, and greets those present with these or similar words:

**Leader:** The grace and peace of God our Creator and the Lord Jesus Christ be with us.

**All:** Amen

**Penitential Rite**

The leader invites those assembled to recall their sins and repent of them, using these or similar words:

**Leader:** Lord have mercy

**All:** Lord have mercy.

**Leader:** May Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.

(See New Words. Deeper Meaning. Same Mass missalette for other options.)

**OPENING PRAYER**

The leader invites the assembly to pray:

Let us pray

Show favour to your servants, O Lord, and shower upon us the gifts of your grace, that, eager in faith, hope and in love, we may always be watchful in keeping your commandments we ask you this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever.

**All:** Amen

The opening prayer may be chosen from those found in Prayers of the Mass.

**LITURGY OF THE WORD**

**Leader:** May the Word of God always be heard in this place, as it unfolds the mystery of Christ before us and achieves our salvation within the Church.

**Leader sits at the chair while Proclaimer goes to the Table of the Word.**
INTRODUCTORY RITES

SIGN OF THE CROSS AND GREETING

Leader: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit
All: Amen.

The leader welcomes the people with a few words explaining the reason for the assembly, and greets those present with these or similar words:

Leader: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
All: And with your spirit.

PENITENTIAL RITE

Gathered together in Christ, let us ask for forgiveness with confidence, for God is full of gentleness and compassion.

After a brief period of silence, the penitential rite continues

Leader: Lord have mercy.
All: Lord have mercy.
Leader: Christ have mercy.
All: Christ have mercy.
Leader: Lord have mercy
All: Lord have mercy.
Leader: May Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.

(See New Words. Deeper Meaning. Same Mass missalette for other options.)

Glory Be To God

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will. We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you, we give you thanks for your great glory, Lord God, heavenly King O God, almighty Father. Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us; you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer; you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen
Prayer
*Pray the prayer of the day from the Missal.*

**Liturgy Of The Word**
- *First Reading*
- *Psalm*
- *Second Reading (major feasts only)*
- *Gospel Acclamation (sung)*
- *Gospel*
- *Reflection*
- *General Intercessions*

*Leader sits at the chair while Reader goes to Lectern.*

First Reading
Psalm

Second Reading *(for major feasts only)*
Gospel Acclamation *(sung, otherwise omit)*
Gospel

Reflection on the Readings
*Reflections may be shared in common or a period of silence may be observed.*

With thanks to
St Thomas More Parish, Wilton, Wellington
General Intercessions

The intercessions should be prepared in advance if possible. It is also good if those present have the opportunity to express a prayer.

Introduction

Leader: My brothers and sisters, we are gathered to celebrate the mystery of our salvation in Jesus Christ. Let us ask God to open up for all the world this fountain of life and blessing.

Intercessions

Leader: For all who have dedicated themselves to God, that they will be faithful to their promise. We pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: For peace among nations, that the violence of the world will cease and that we be able to live in freedom. We pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: For the aged who suffer from loneliness and infirmity, that we will sustain them by our love. We pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.
Leader: For all of us gathered here, that God will teach us to use wisely the good things given us, and that they will lead us closer to God and to the eternal blessings God promised. We pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Concluding Prayer

Leader: Creator God, hear the prayers of your people. Give us what you have inspired us to ask for in faith. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

Communion

Leader: Now, united with those who have the responsibility to care for your Church, united to all Christians in the world, united to all people who are searching for you from one end of the world to the other, as brother and sisters we pray in the words that Jesus taught us....

All: Our Father who art in heaven,
      Hallowed by Thy name
      Thy kingdom come
      Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
      Give us this day our daily bread
      And forgive us our trespasses
      As we forgive those who trespass against us
      Lead us not into temptation
      But deliver us from evil.
Leader: Let us offer each other the sign of peace.  
(A sign of peace is given here.)

Leader: We come to receive Holy Communion, and in doing so are united to Christ.  
The hosts were consecrated at the last Celebration of the Eucharist in this Church.  
Let us therefore unite ourselves to the offering of Christ and his Church.

The Leader distributes communion to the community saying to each person “The Body of Christ”, they respond AMEN

The Leader returns the ciborium to the tabernacle and bows reverently.  He/She then washes their fingers, switches on their mike and says:
Leader: Let us pray.  
(Reads the Communion Prayer from the Proper of the Day)

People: Amen

CONCLUDING RITE

Leader: May almighty God bless us,  
in the name of the Father,  
and the Son and the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen

Leader: Go in peace, glorifying the Lord by your life.

People: Thanks be to God.

Leader: Lord Jesus Christ, who said to your apostles; Peace I leave you, my peace I give you, look not on our sins, but on the faith of your Church, and graciously grant her peace and unity in accordance with your will.  
Who live and reign for ever and ever.

All: Amen.

Leader: Let us offer each other the sign of peace.  
(A sign of peace is given here.)

Leader: We come to receive Holy Communion, and in doing so are united to Christ.  
The hosts were consecrated at the last Celebration of the Eucharist in this Church.  
Let us therefore unite ourselves to the offering of Christ and his Church.

Go To The Tabernacle

The leader or Eucharist Minister takes the ciborium from the tabernacle, places it on the communion table.  Holding up a host for all to see the leader prays:

Leader: Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world.  
Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

All: Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.
Communion is then given.
Reflective Music or Silent Prayer or Song

Prayer of the day from the Missal.

Concluding Rite

Leader: May the God of all consolation bless us in every way and grant us peace all the days of our lives.

All: Amen.

Leader: May God free us from all anxiety strengthen our hearts and fill us with love.

All: Amen

Leader: May we be enriched with God’s gifts of faith, hope, love, so that what we do in this life will bring us to the happiness of everlasting life.

All: Amen

Leader: May Almighty God bless us, The Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

LEADER AND PEOPLE:
Our Father who art in heaven,
Hallowed by Thy name
Thy kingdom come
Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread
And forgive us our trespasses
As we forgive those who trespass against us
Lead us not into temptation
But deliver us from evil.

Leader: Deliver us, Lord, we pray from every evil, and graciously grant peace in our days, that, by the help of your mercy, we may be always free from sin and safe from all distress, as we await the blessed hope and the coming of our Saviour, Jesus Christ

LEADER AND PEOPLE:
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever.

Leader: Lord, Jesus Christ, who said to your apostles, peace I leave you, my peace I give you, look not on our sins, but on the faith of your church, and graciously grant her peace and unity with your will, who live and reign for ever and ever.

People: Amen

Leader: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: And with your spirit.
LITURGY OF THE WORD

MINISTER OF THE WORD: Reads the scriptures of the day. The Leader may read the Gospel or ask the Minister of the Word to do this.

Before the Gospel reading:

Leader/Minister of the Word

Cleanse my heart and my lips, almighty God, that I may worthily proclaim your holy Gospel.

Following the readings the Leader or the Minister of the Word may read an appropriate comment e.g. from Marist Messenger, or share their wisdom on the readings.

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

Leader: We now bring our needs and the needs of the Church before God our Father. Please offer your prayers of petition.

COMMUNION RITE

The leader washes his/her fingers, then goes to the tabernacle and reverently brings the ciborium to the altar and places it on the corporal. With hands joined the leader says:

Leader: At the Saviour’s command and formed by divine teaching, we dare to say
INTRODUCTORY RITES

An entrance song is sung as the Leader enters. The leader bows deeply to the tabernacle and moves to the presider’s chair. The Liturgy is led by a Minister of the Eucharist, ‘The Leader’.

Leader: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen

Leader: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

People: And with your spirit.

PENITENTIAL RITE

Leader: Brothers and sisters, let us acknowledge our sins, and so prepare ourselves to celebrate the sacred mysteries.

After a brief silence the LEADER AND PEOPLE say

I confess to almighty God, and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have greatly sinned in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done, and in what I have failed to do;

And striking their breast, they say: through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault; Therefore I ask blessed Mary, ever virgin, all the angels and saints, and you, my brothers and sisters, to pray for me to the Lord our God.

Leader: May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.

People: Amen

GLORIA (on Feast Days)

LEADER AND PEOPLE

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will. We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you, we give you thanks for your great glory, Lord God, heavenly King O God, almighty Father. Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us; you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer; you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen

Leader: Let us pray.

Reads the opening prayer from the proper of the Mass of the day.