



ST.
JOSEPH'S
CATHOLIC CHURCH

Gratitude, Discipleship, Hospitality

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October 5th Parish Celebration: *The Eucharist and Parts of the Mass*

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Suggestions on how to use this workbook throughout these 40 Days:

- † *Prepare for each session by reading the Guide for the Assembly assigned chapter for the week, allowing time for your own reflection*
- † *During the week, spend time with the reflection questions, using this workbook as a journal for your thoughts*
- † *The opening prayers will be used when you meet as a group*
- † *Find additional material for individual and group reflection and discussion: Guide to the Assembly, p. 34-45.*
- † *For further reading and study go to:*
 - *United States Catholic Catechism for Adults, especially Chapters 14 and 17 (available at St. Joe's) ;*
 - *Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy, especially articles 1 – 58, see online link on page 13.*

Week One – The Gathering Rites

Reading:

Guide to the Assembly, “Introduction” and “On Sunday, How Do We Gather?”, p. 1-10.

Prayer (see next page)

DVD Segment One - The Gathering Rites

Questions for reflection and discussion:

What brings you to Mass Sunday after Sunday?

Where and when does your entrance procession begin?

What do you look forward to in a Sunday Mass?

*“To the
bath and
the table,
to the
prayers
and the
word, I call
every
seeking
soul.”*

*Inscription on
a Bell*

Week One
Opening Prayer

Leader Let us pray (*pause briefly as we silently say our thoughts and prayers*)

God of abundant love, be attentive to the prayers of your chosen people, gathered to give you praise and honor. Hold us in your embrace and help us to listen with care as we hear your word. Let us open our hearts to the holy Word of God.

We ask this through Christ, our Lord.

All AMEN.

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time (October 5) Matthew 21:33-43

"The vineyard of the Lord is the house of Israel."

As we begin the Gospel proclamation

Gospel Reader says - A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew

Following the gospel proclamation

Gospel Reader says - The Gospel of the Lord

All respond - Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

A few moments of silent reflection

Prayers of Intercession

Leader: Lord Jesus, you have become the cornerstone and it is wonderful in our eyes, and so we pray:

ALL: Lord, Hear Our Prayer

Reader For all in the Church who endure hunger and want for the sake of the gospel they preach, *we pray*

Reader For an end to violence in this world and for a beginning of lasting peace, *we pray*

Reader For the sick of our community, may the sacraments of the Church bring them health and comfort, *we pray*

Reader For those who have died, may they live forever in the light of the resurrected Christ, *we pray*

Reader And for what special intentions do you pray today? *Pause...*

Closing Blessing

Leader Let us pray (*pause*)

O God, we gather from east to west, north to south. Help us to see our lives as a great procession from our mother's womb to the place awaiting us at the heavenly banquet. May our worship welcome all, nourish all and be an experience of the presence of your Son.

We ask this through Christ, Our Lord. AMEN.

Week Two – Liturgy of the Word

Reading:

Guide to the Assembly, “How Do We Listen to the Word?”, p. 11-14.

Prayer

DVD Segment Two – Liturgy of the Word

Questions for reflection and discussion:

“Silence is an instrument that plays in many keys. What all good forms of silence have in common is that they lead us to the point where we discover the limitations of speech and action, that point which is the threshold of mystery.”

Mark Searle, late author and liturgical theologian, Called to Participate

What qualities make you a good listener?

Are you a good listener when it comes to the Scriptures proclaimed in Church?

How did Christ speak to you in this past Sunday’s Scriptures?

Week Two
Opening Prayer

Leader Let us pray (*pause briefly as we silently say our thoughts and prayers*)

O God, you chose us in Christ. As we listen to the rich words of today's Gospel, we ask God to strengthen us in our resolve to follow Christ with all our hearts. Let us open our hearts to the holy Word of God.
We ask this through Christ, our Lord.

All AMEN.

28th Sunday in Ordinary Time (October 12) Matthew 22:1-14

"The invitation is issued; everything is prepared, come to the feast!"

As we begin the Gospel proclamation

Gospel Reader says - A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew

Following the gospel proclamation

Gospel Reader says - The Gospel of the Lord

All respond - Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

A few moments of silent reflection

Prayers of Intercession

Leader: Lord God, you invite us to the banquet of joy, and so we pray:

ALL: Lord, Hear Our Prayer

Reader For a renewed commitment around the world to peace and justice for all of God's children, *we pray*

Reader For the word of God to be fulfilled in our hearing, *we pray*

Reader For those who provide ministry of care to shut-ins, and for strength and healing for all who are confined to their homes, *we pray*

Reader For those who have died, that they rest in the loving arms of our God, *we pray*

Reader And for what special intentions do you pray today? *Pause...*

Closing Blessing

Leader Let us pray (*pause*)

O God, You are always there with us, even when we turn our backs, like those in the parable who ignored the invitation. As we prepare for Mass each week, may we drink in the Word of God many times before we celebrate, so that the word becomes truly alive in our hearts.

We ask this through Christ, Our Lord. AMEN.

Week Three – Liturgy of the Eucharist

Reading:

Guide to the Assembly, “How Do We Give Thanks and Praise?” p. 15-18.

Prayer

DVD Segment Three – Liturgy of the Eucharist

Questions for reflection and discussion:

“Now the center and summit of the entire celebration begins: namely, the Eucharistic Prayer, that is, the prayer of thanksgiving and sanctification...the entire congregation of the faithful should join itself with Christ in confessing the great deeds of God and in the offering of Sacrifice”

*General Instruction of the Roman Missal,
Number 78*

The word “Eucharist” means “thanksgiving.” For what do I give thanks today?

How do I actively participate in the Eucharistic Prayer? What part of the prayer affects me most while praying and listening to the Eucharistic Prayer?

Week Three
Opening Prayer

Leader Let us pray (*pause briefly as we silently say our thoughts and prayers*)

O God, we pray that as we hear the words of love in your Gospel that we give thanks for the love and caring in our lives. May we always find a reason to praise your Son's name above all names. Let us open our hearts to the holy Word of God.

All We ask this through Christ, our Lord.
AMEN.

29th Sunday in Ordinary Time (October 19) Matthew 22:15-21
"Repay to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God."

As we begin the Gospel proclamation
Gospel Reader says - A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew

Following the gospel proclamation
Gospel Reader says - The Gospel of the Lord
All respond - Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

A few moments of silent reflection

Prayers of Intercession

Leader: Lord God, you speak to us a word of comfort and hope, and so we pray:
ALL: Lord, Hear Our Prayer

Reader For the orphaned and the widowed, and for all in need of compassion and love, *we pray*

Reader For us to find a way to say thank you to our God for each and every day, *we pray*

Reader For those among us who are sick in mind---body---or spirit, *we pray*

Reader For those who have died, that they know the resurrection of the body and life everlasting, *we pray*

Reader And for what special intentions do you pray today? *Pause...*

Closing Blessing

Leader Let us pray (*pause*)

God of love, hear our prayer. Be merciful when we fall. Grant us strength to go out and share the gift of Christ's love in the Eucharist with all those we meet.

We ask this through Christ, Our Lord. AMEN.

Week Four – Communion Rite

Reading:

Guide to the Assembly, “What is Our Communion?”, p. 19-21.

Prayer

DVD Segment Four – Communion Rite

Questions for reflection and discussion:

What does receiving the Body and Blood of Christ mean in my daily life?

How has my understanding of the Eucharist changed over time?

Is receiving Communion a private moment? Is it a communal moment? Might it be both?

“As the grain once scattered in the fields and the grapes once dispersed on the hillside are now reunited on this table in bread and wine, so, Lord, may your whole Church soon be gathered together from the corners of the earth into your kingdom.”

Collect from the liturgy of the Church of England

Week Four Opening Prayer

Leader Let us pray *(pause briefly as we silently say our thoughts and prayers)*

God of all people, we come together to seek your presence in our lives. May the Eucharist bring us into unity and peace as the Body of Christ and may you know the deepest desires of our hearts. Let us open our hearts to the holy Word of God.

We ask this through Christ, our Lord.

All AMEN.

30th Sunday in Ordinary Time (October 26) Matthew 22:34-40

"The greatest law is the law of love."

As we begin the Gospel proclamation

Gospel Reader says - A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew

Following the gospel proclamation

Gospel Reader says - The Gospel of the Lord

All respond - Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

A few moments of silent reflection

Prayers of Intercession

Leader: Lord God, we give thanks and praise for your love and for the Eucharist, and so we pray:

ALL: Lord, Hear Our Prayer

Reader That all who receive the loving ministry of consolation and comfort may be strengthened, *we pray*

Reader That we can know Christ more deeply in our sharing of communion, *we pray*

Reader For the sick, that they know the healing presence of our God, *we pray*

Reader For those who have died, especially for those for whom we now pray *(once all have shared the names to be remembered, the Reader continues)*

Reader And for what special intentions do you pray today? *Pause...*

Closing Blessing

Leader Let us pray *(pause)*

God of love. Around the holy altar we keep company with our holy ancestors. When we receive the body and blood of Christ, may we say Amen! And may our 'Amen' be true. May nothing separate us from the love of God that comes to us in Christ.

We ask this through Christ, Our Lord. AMEN.

Week Five – Dismissal Rites

Reading:

Guide to the Assembly, “What Does Our Dismissal Mean?” p. 22-23.

Prayer

DVD Segment Five – Dismissal Rites

Questions for reflection and discussion:

Does my participation in the Sunday Mass have an effect on my life during the rest of the week? Am I able to connect the worship I offer to God on Sunday with my daily life? If yes, how? If not, why not?

How can I love and serve the Lord in my daily life? How can I go in peace to love and serve my family, my work, my broader community?

“...the true procession of this church: one, two, and five at a time going back to neighborhood and homes, roles and jobs, studies and waiting. But Sunday by Sunday the world is here being transformed by Christ!”

*Pastoral Letter Gather Faithfully Together,
Cardinal Roger Mahoney,
Archbishop of Los Angeles*

Week Five
Opening Prayer

Leader Let us pray *(pause briefly as we silently say our thoughts and prayers)*

God of all empowerment, we are your temple. We are called to become like life-giving water, flowing out from this place to bring the presence of God to all we meet. Let us open our hearts to the holy Word of God.

We ask this through Christ, our Lord.

All AMEN.

31st Sunday in Ordinary Time (November 2, 2008) John 6:37- 40
"Everyone who sees Christ and believes will gain everlasting life"

As we begin the Gospel proclamation

Gospel Reader says - A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew

Following the gospel proclamation

Gospel Reader says - The Gospel of the Lord

All respond - Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

A few moments of silent reflection

Prayers of Intercession

Leader: Lord God, you are the living bread come down from heaven and you will raise us up on the last day. As we turn our hearts to God, we pray:

ALL: Lord, Hear Our Prayer

Reader That all who receive the loving ministry of consolation and comfort may be strengthened, *we pray*

Reader That we can truly 'go forth to love and serve the Lord',
we pray

Reader For the sick, that they know the healing presence of our God, *we pray*

Reader For those who have died, especially for those for whom we now pray *(once all have shared the names to be remembered, the Reader continues)*

Reader And for what special intentions do you pray today? *Pause...*

Closing Blessing

Leader Let us pray *(pause)*

Almighty and eternal God, open our hearts. May our active participation in the Eucharistic Liturgy transform us and make us better disciples of your son.

We ask this through Christ, Our Lord. AMEN.

Some online resources:

Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy:

http://www.vatican.va/archive/hist_councils/ii_vatican_council/documents/vat-ii_const_19631204_sacrosanctum-concilium_en.html

General Instruction of the Roman Missal:

<http://www.usccb.org/liturgy/girm/index.shtml>

Gather Faithfully Together, Cardinal Roger Mahony:

<http://www.archdiocese.la/archbishop/letters/liturgy/index.html>

What the Catechism Says:

http://www.vatican.va/archive/ccc_css/archive/catechism/p2s2c1a3.htm

Built of Living Stones:

<http://www.usccb.org/liturgy/livingstonesind.shtml>

Notre Dame Center for Liturgy, Eucharist Bibliography:

<http://liturgy.nd.edu/bibliography/eucharistbasic.shtml#theology>