

Celebrating the Word – Important things to remember

- When 2 or 3 are gathered, there am I amongst them. There are many different ways to gather; Phone link, skype, in spirit. Christ is among us as we gather in new ways.
- Christ is present in the Word! We may not be able to participate in the Sunday Eucharist as we are used to doing, but it is important to remember; Christ is present in the Word. Therefore if the Word is celebrated and proclaimed, Christ is present and we are fed.

The format that follows might help you to pray and celebrate a liturgy of the Word in your home, perhaps with one or two others, perhaps including someone via a digital link.

An outline to celebrate a Liturgy of the Word at home

SONG: Begin with singing, something familiar that you know well. Singing makes us feel good, reduces the distance (spiritual distance) between us. It brings our hearts together and allows us to unite, becoming one body.

Visit the Liturgy Centre website to see songs suggested for any given Sunday.

<https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/liturgy/planning-music-for-liturgy/>

SIGN OF THE CROSS: make the sign of the cross and warmly welcome whoever might be with you.

REJOICE IN GOD'S MERCY & PRAISE GOD: This could be a prayer you like, it could be spontaneous prayer. Don't make it too long.

COLLECT: This is the time to bring to mind all the things you want to pray for. Do this in silence, for a minute or so, then say a prayer aloud asking God to accept your prayers and the prayers of the others with you.

READING 1: Read aloud (even if you are by yourself) the first reading of the day. When the reading is finished, allow a time of silence (2 minutes).

For daily readings, visit USCCB.org

<http://www.usccb.org/bible/index.cfm>

or, Universalis.com

<https://universalis.com/mass.htm>

PSALM: You could chant or (reflectively) read the Psalm of the day.

READING 2: If it is a Sunday - again, follow the reading with silence.

GOSPEL: Again follow this with silence.

DISCUSS: if you are with other people you might like to discuss something from the readings. 5 minutes perhaps.

The Liturgy centre has suggestions for the Prayer of the Faithful

<https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/liturgy/prayers-of-the-faithful/>

INTERCESSORY PRAYER: It is always important to pray for the needs of others. If you are not sure what to pray for, have a look at Prayer of the Faithful suggestions for each Sunday on the Liturgy Centre website.

PEACE: Wish each other peace in Christ.

SONG: if you want to, you could end with a song.