

With Hearts

& Minds

Reflections on

our participation in the Mass

Parish Guide

With Hearts and Minds is a resource for small groups, intended to assist participants to a deeper appreciation of the nature and role of the Liturgy in the life of the Christian community; to participate more deeply in the Liturgy.

It presents in a more accessible form the teaching about parish celebration of the liturgy that is in the *General Instruction of the Roman Missal* and in *Celebrating the Mass*, a document of the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales.

Through reflection on the scriptures, the teaching of the Church and on their own experience group members will be helped to develop both their understanding of the Mass and a liturgical spirituality.

Cardinal Cormac Murphy-O'Connor has written: 'With Hearts and Minds provides an opportunity to consider how we pray the Mass, and how what we experience in the Mass might be carried into our lives, helping us to become a still more authentically Eucharistic people.'

*This **Parish Guide** is intended as a resource for parishes wishing to use With Hearts and Minds. As well helpful advice about setting up small group it provides a training session for small group leaders and a final session to allow group leaders to reflect on the experience.*

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For further resources: www.liturgyoffice.org.uk/Resources

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Parish Leaders' Introduction

With hearts and minds has been devised and developed as part of a programme of formation materials to accompany the publication of the revised General Instruction to the Roman Missal (GIRM). GIRM is a part of the revised edition of the Roman Missal, published in Latin in 2002, and presently being translated in preparation for its publication in English.

What is GIRM?

The *General Instruction* is the universal Church's official guide to the celebration of the Mass. It is much more than a collection of rubrics for the benefit of ministers. It seeks to enable the full, active and conscious participation of the whole assembly in the collective act that is the celebration of the Eucharist.

The first version of GIRM was published in 1969 as part of the Roman Missal revised after the 2nd Vatican Council. The latest revision was published in 2002 in the new 3rd edition of the (Latin) Roman Missal. It is this revision that we will be using. An English translation of the complete Missal is presently in preparation, (and is unlikely to be published before 2007). An official translation of GIRM has been published in advance of the rest of the Missal, because of its importance as a teaching document for the Church.

The revised General Instruction amends the existing text in some details, but also adds new material often extracted from other Church documents published since 1969, for example in the *Introduction to the Lectionary* and in the *Ceremonial of Bishops*. The revision of GIRM was carried out by the Holy See following more than 30 years' experience of the Church's celebration of the revised Roman Rite of the Mass.

Reflecting on our experience

It is appropriate, after more than 30 years of celebrating the revised Rite of Mass, for the Church in England and Wales to reflect on what we are doing, what we have learnt, and what we might still have to learn. The Bishops of England and Wales have welcomed the opportunity that the publication of GIRM provides to review such matters.

The implementation of the liturgical reforms following the 2nd Vatican Council have brought many benefits – pre-eminent among these probably being the use of the vernacular, the greater familiarity of the congregation with the Word of God, and the opening up of the ministry of the liturgy to a wider group of people. However those changes and revisions were sometimes introduced very quickly, sometimes without the level of prior reflection and formation that is usually desirable. Consequently it would be surprising if we had fully assimilated in one go the riches offered by the reformed liturgy.

In reflecting on present practice, different dioceses, different parishes even, will identify different areas where they see need to develop. However across England and Wales three areas seem most in need of fresh consideration

1. The celebration of the Liturgy of the Word. The revision of GIRM speaks of the need for short periods of silence so that the Word of God might be fruitfully received, (GIRM 56). How much attention is paid, not only to the proclamation of the scriptures but to their reception by the faithful at Mass?
2. The celebration of the Liturgy of the Eucharist. GIRM speaks of the Eucharistic Prayer as the source and summit of the celebration, (GIRM 78). Is that how it is experienced? There is fresh emphasis in GIRM on the ministering of communion under both kinds, (GIRM 283) and for the congregation to receive communion from the Body and Blood of the Lord consecrated at the Mass they attend rather than from the tabernacle, (GIRM 85) . The whole action is to be one of reverence and prayer, (e.g. GIRM 78, 86, 88) Do we manage all this yet? If not how might we respond more faithfully what the liturgy asks of us?
3. The role of music in our celebrations of Mass. GIRM places fresh emphasis on the role of music as an integral part of the liturgy: we sing at Mass, but what do we sing? GIRM gives every encouragement for the presider and congregation to sing the key liturgical texts proper to them, allowing this to draw them into the heart of the liturgical action, before dedicating musical resources to less central or supplementary texts such as hymnody.

Work also needs to be done on deepening the liturgical formation of our assemblies as a whole, and of ministers in particular.

At the time of the first implement of new practice, a high priority was necessarily given to trying to help ministers learn what was the ‘right thing’ to do and how to do it. Now there is an opportunity to seek to go deeper and to understand **why** this or that is ‘the right thing’. There is a need to provide for deeper and ongoing formation of our liturgical ministers, clergy and laypeople.

In addition to such ministerial formation, there is a need for more general formation in the liturgy to be offered to all in our parishes. The wider assembly has probably had least of all opportunity for learning the reasons for ‘the changes’ when they were first introduced back in the ‘70s. This present course has been devised and developed with the wider need in mind.

Aim of Study Group

- To assist participants to a deeper appreciation of the nature and role of the Liturgy in the life of the Christian Community.
- To assist participants to a deeper participation in the celebration of the Liturgy.
- To assist participants take greater responsibility for the celebration of the Liturgy in their parish

Why Study Groups?

Three principal reasons

1. There is maximum flexibility in when such groups can meet – in parish rooms, in people’s homes; in different areas of the parish; at different times of the day
2. There is no need for the parish to provide experts in the subject matter to ‘give talks’.
3. The nature of the group process can be relied on to help participants to become less passive in their engagement with the matters presented, perhaps even to the extent of offering their services to the parish as and when the occasion presents itself.

Table of Sessions

Session 1	Introduction	
Session 2	Gathering	Introductory Rites
Session 3	Word	Liturgy of the Word
Session 4	Thanksgiving	Liturgy of the Eucharist — Eucharistic Prayer
Session 5	Communion	Communion Rite
Session 6	Mission	Concluding Rite

Study Groups and All-parish formation

With Hearts and Minds provides resources for study groups. Such groups are a very effective way of deepening the learning of those who are able to, and choose to, attend them. But many people, regular members of the Sunday assembly, will either not be able to attend, or will choose not to. This is no reason not to encourage the study groups, but it is reason to supplement what they can offer and achieve with formation for the Sunday assembly as a whole.

The Liturgy Office has prepared materials, *In Communion with Christ*, complementary to *With Hearts and Minds* which can be downloaded from its website (www.liturgyoffice.org.uk)

- a series of weekly leaflets which address the same general topics as are being explored in *With Hearts and Minds* groups, but in a different manner.
- guides for preaching on these same topics during the weeks that the *With Hearts and Minds* groups are meeting.

Although these complementary resources are designed to be used at any time of the year, they are also suitable to serve as a stand alone resource for the season of Easter.

What resources do we need for Study Groups?

1. Meeting rooms. The ideal group size is probably between 6 and 9. Rooms need to be large enough to accommodate such a group comfortably. As already indicated these can be in parish rooms or in people's homes.
2. Leaders. The tasks of Leaders are relatively straightforward. Full details are given on the Leaders' sheet. It is suggested that each group have two leaders: one responsible for looking after hospitality and other similar practical arrangements, another for leading the sessions themselves. It is likely that most parishioners could be helped to feel comfortable fulfilling the role of Group Leader or Hospitality Leader. An introductory session is provided for Group Leaders which will provide all necessary training, as well as an introduction to the materials for the Course. However if group work is something which the parish team, or the parish more generally, is unfamiliar with, do consider inviting someone from outside the parish to prepare or lead the 'Gathering the Leaders' session. Your diocesan Liturgy Commission or Adult Formation/RE team will be able to recommend people you might approach. The ideal group size is between 8–10 people, therefore if there are more than 5 groups meeting the 'Gathering the Leaders' training session would need to be offered more than once.

How to go about setting the groups up

Perhaps a two prong strategy is helpful.

1. Advising lay leaders and existing parish groups in the parish of the forthcoming groups, inviting them to be part of the leadership of the programme
2. Advertising the programme through parish notices and newsletters.

After such initial ‘priming’ of the parish, pin up lists inviting pairs of volunteers to host and lead groups. (The notice should also give details of the introductory/training meeting for group leaders.)

It is often helpful if groups meet in various parts of a parish and at various times of the day.

In asking for volunteers ask them to volunteer for a general time (e.g. Morning/Afternoon/Evening) and then to suggest their preferred starting time. It is suggested that they allow 90 minutes for each session.

If parish rooms are available for groups to use, list the times they are available on the notice and invite volunteers to lead them. Some people will feel more comfortable leading and coming to meetings on parish premises.

On the whole it is probably better that the principal parish leaders (clergy and salaried or stipended lay leaders) do not volunteer to host or lead groups. The groups provide an opportunity for others in the parish to develop leadership skills, and to explore their understanding of faith, without need for immediate recourse to their ‘usual’ leaders. A separate group might be organised for the ‘usual’ leaders, meeting at a mutually convenient time and place, so that they too can share in the general formation process.

Inviting volunteers to lead groups

Suitable layouts for posters are given below.

HOME GROUPS:					
If you are willing to be part of a team leading a group please sign up below					
Group	Names	Home Address	Home Phone Number	Meeting at ?	Day of Week Time of meeting
A	Session leader:				Day:
	Hospitality leader:				Morning <i>delete</i> Afternoon <i>as</i> Evening <i>appropriate</i> Starting time
B...					

GROUPS MEETING IN PARISH CENTRE:					
The Parish Centre is available for groups to meet at the times given below. If you would prefer to lead a group there, please sign below. If you would be willing to be part of a team leading a group please sign up below					
Group	Names	Home Address	Home Phone Number	Meeting at ?	Day of Week Time of meeting
A	Session leader:			Parish Centre	Day: Monday
	Hospitality leader:				Morning Time
B	Session leader:			Parish Centre	Day: Thursday
	Hospitality leader:				Evening Time

In good time before the training session(s) for leaders agree on the number, timing and location of the groups. Confirm the arrangements with the Group Leaders and invite them to the training session(s). It is often appropriate to offer two opportunities for the training – one in the evening, one in the day time – in order to make it as practical as possible for all leaders to attend. Local circumstances will determine what is best in any particular situation.

Inviting parishioners to join available groups

As soon as the location, times and leadership for groups has been fixed, then is the time for advertising the groups to the rest of the parish. The easiest way to let people know where and when groups are meeting is to list the groups by day and time of meeting, and then show where each group is meeting on a map of the parish. A contact name and address should be given for each group, but those intending to attend should be invited to sign up for the group in advance. A maximum of nine name spaces should be provided for each group.

	Day and time	Address and Leaders	Group members
Group A	Monday 2–3.30pm	18 Grove Avenue (Leaders: Joan and Peter Smith)	1. 2. 3. 4. etc.
Group B	Monday 7.30–9pm	St Joseph’s Convent, 3 Bryn Mawr (Leaders: Sr Consilio and Nora Brick)	1. 2. 3. 4. etc.
Group C	Wednesday 10.10 – 11.40am	Parish Centre after morning Mass (Leaders: Mrs Lovett and Ben Stone)	1. 2. 3. 4. etc.
Group D	Friday 9.35 – 11.05am	School Hall (beginning 5 minutes after end of morning assembly) NB This group is only available to parents of children at the school. (Leaders: Miss Matthews and Joe Ryan)	1. 2. 3. 4. etc.

After the course has ended

It is useful to have a follow-up meeting between the Parish team and the Group Leaders to reflect on the experience of *With Hearts and Minds*. A questionnaire is provided for participants to complete at the end of their last meeting, which gives them an opportunity to record how they have found the course, and to raise issues that they think might be taken further in the parish. The meeting of leaders provides a good opportunity to reflect on the responses received and give a first consideration as to how to move forward in the light of them.

Costs

There are various costs involved in running the course – particularly the materials for leaders and participants. If the parish is not able to cover the costs then one reasonable way of proceeding, is to agree a standard cost across all the groups to cover the cost of the materials and refreshments, and then invite people to pay this *if they can afford it*. To avoid any embarrassment to those who cannot afford to pay the charge set, envelopes might be given out at the first meeting, asking everyone to return them, either to the next meeting, or to the Parish House, with what ever it is they are able to give.

If a standard approach to costs is going to be followed across the parish, then this needs to be advised to group leaders at their first meeting. If each group is to be free to do ‘their own thing’ then it is wise to advise them to keep costs low, to avoid causing embarrassment to any group members who cannot afford to match the expenses incurred by others in the group.

Sessions for Group Leaders

Gathering the Leaders 81

Review and Planning for the Future 87

This section provides material for two sessions with the group leaders: a preparatory session introducing them to the material and a final session after the groups have finished.

Participant's material is provided in the Leader's book. As with the leader's material the same pagination is used for the participants and the leaders. Less assistance is given for these two sessions as it is expected that they will be led by someone in the parish who would both be confident in leading a small group and able to offer advice and encouragement to group leaders.

Where there is not possible help may be available from the diocesan liturgy commission or adult formation team.

Before you begin

Read through the participant's sheet.

Look over the questions — how would you answer them?

Does anything in particular strike you; something you have not thought of before; something you disagree with; something you want more time to think about.

It is unlikely that your group will have same response as you nor it is desirable that they should but it is important that you are familiar with the material, understand the connection between the different parts and have an overall feel for the session.

Gathering the Leaders

Because this session is principally a training session, the timings of this introductory session are different to those of all other sessions (for which see the leaders' introductory sheet). The timings given below are for a session lasting 1 hour 50 minutes, 20 minutes longer than a standard session.

It is expected that you will provide the leaders with a copy of the Leaders' Booklet at the beginning of the session (the participant's edition of this session can be found on page xxx) and the necessary number of Booklets for participants at the beginning of Section D — Act.

A. Welcome	10 minutes
B. Listen to Scripture	
Our Experience	20 minutes
C. Read & Reflect	
For Discussion	20 minutes
D. Act	45 minutes
E. Prayer	15 minutes

Aim

- To familiarise the group leaders with their particular tasks
- To give them experience of the process for each session
- To give them confidence for their task

A **Welcome**

B **Scripture**

Philippians 2: 1-11

Paul reminds the Christians of Phillipis of Christ's humility and love. He invites them to find unity in him: 'Make your own the mind of Christ Jesus'.

Our Experience

- Can I name examples of service that I have benefited from down the years? What made these stand out for you?
- What is there about Christ that inspires me to live as a member of his Body, the Church?

C **Read & Reflect**

An extract from *Gaudium et Spes* about how the Church identifies with the hopes and fears of all and a section from the General Instruction about the need for unity in worship.

For Discussion

- What helps/hinders your parish in deepening the sense of communion with Christ and with each other.
- What are your hopes for this course? What are your fears?

D **Act**

Preparation for the first meeting

Use of Journals

Initial reflection for Leaders

E **Prayer**

Gathering the Leaders

To familiarise the group leaders with their particular tasks

To give them experience of the process for each session

To give them confidence for their task

A Welcome

- It is important that the welcome be sincere and generous. To a large extent, the success of the house groups, will depend on their leaders. It is likely that at least some of those coming to this meeting will lack confidence in their ability to be a good leader, and be unsure as to what is asked of them.
- The welcome they are given to this meeting, should help them to feel that they are part of something that is well organised and that they can feel secure about.

Listen to Scripture

If there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love,

any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, make my joy complete:

be of the same mind, having the same love,

being in full accord and of one mind.

Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit,

but in humility regard others as better than yourselves.

Let each of you look not to your own interests,

but to the interests of others.

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

who, though he was in the form of God,

did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited,

but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave,

being born in human likeness.

And being found in human form,

he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death

— even death on a cross.

Therefore God also highly exalted him

and gave him the name that is above every name,

so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend,

in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Philippians 2: 1-11

Read & Reflect

GAUDIUM ET SPES

Vatican Council II: Pastoral Constitution on the Church in the world today.

1. The joys and hopes and the sorrows and the anxieties of people today, especially those who are poor and afflicted, are also the joys and hopes, sorrows and anxieties of the disciples of Christ, and there is nothing truly human which does not also affect them. Their community is composed of people united in Christ who are directed by the holy Spirit in their pilgrimage to the Father's kingdom and who have received the message of salvation to be communicated to everyone. For this reason it feels itself closely linked to the human race and its history.
3. ...The church is not motivated by any earthly considerations, but has in mind only, with the guidance of the Paraclete, to continue the work of Christ who came into the world to give witness to the truth, to save and not to judge, to serve and to be served.
4. To discharge this function, the church has the duty in every age of examining the signs of the times and interpreting them in the light of the gospel, so that it can offer in a manner appropriate to each generation replies to the continual human questionings on the meaning of this life and the life to come and on how they are related. There is a need, then, to be aware of, and to understand, the world in which we live, together with its expectations, its desires and its frequently dramatic character...

GENERAL INSTRUCTION OF THE ROMAN MISSAL

95. In the celebration of Mass the faithful form a holy people, a people whom God has made his own, a royal priesthood, so that they may give thanks to God and offer the spotless Victim not only through the hands of the priest but also together with him, and so that they may learn to offer themselves. They should, moreover, endeavour to make this clear by their deep religious sense and their charity toward brothers and sisters who participate with them in the same celebration.

Thus, they are to shun any appearance of individualism or division, keeping before their eyes that they have only one Father in heaven and accordingly are all brothers and sisters to each other.

96. Indeed, they form one body, whether by hearing the word of God, or by joining in the prayers and the singing, or above all by the common offering of Sacrifice and by a common partaking at the Lord's table. This unity is beautifully apparent from the gestures and postures observed in common by the faithful.

97. The faithful, moreover, should not refuse to serve the People of God gladly whenever they are asked to perform some particular ministry or role in the celebration.

For Discussion

- What helps/hinders our parish in deepening the sense of communion with Christ and with each other?
- What are my hopes for this course? What are my fears?

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Act

D Act

As this forms the most substantial part of the Session the leader's notes have been incorporated in the main body of the page.

Preparation for first meeting

- Hand out materials
- Talk them through the structure of the first session
- Show them how the leaders' materials will help them prepare
- Take any questions about the process
- Deal with any practical details that remain outstanding. If you haven't already done so, give leaders
 - a list of those who have signed up for their group
 - a contact card with details of the parish support team for the group leaders (where appropriate); in all cases ensure leaders know who to contact if they need extra support/encouragement.

Use of Journals

- It is suggested that all of those taking part in the group meetings are likely to benefit from keeping a journal. Details are given in the Leaders' notes. (pg. xv)
- In addition to keeping a note of their own reaction to the topics being dealt with, it is likely to be very helpful to leaders to keep a note of how they feel the individual meetings go. Remembering the confidentiality proper to the workings of the group, they should not make notes of other people's comments so much as of their own reaction to things which happen, things which are said.
- *Initial reflection for Leaders*
 - Each week in this section there is some action to help the group to continue engaging with the topic concerned during the week. This week the act involves trying to become more aware of those who do serve in the parish community
 - those who are involved in the parish liturgy – ministers of word and communion, of music, those who've cleaned the church
 - those who support the life of the parish more generally – secretaries; members of groups like SVP, UCM, Legion of Mary; catechists and others.
 - those who support the life of the local community more broadly – those in the local schools, day-centres, hospitals, nursing homes and night shelters; those working in the shops and offices; those working for public services and noticing those who are in need, of any sort... perhaps make your own list of these, and bring it to the Lord in your prayer.

Prayer

For this reason I bow my knees before the Father,
from whom every family in heaven
and on earth takes its name.

I pray that, according to the riches of his glory,
he may grant that you may be strengthened
in your inner being with power
through his Spirit,
and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith,
as you are being rooted and grounded in love.

I pray that you may have the power to comprehend,
with all the saints,
what is the breadth and length and height and depth,
and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge,
so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.
Now to him who by the power at work within us
is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can
ask or imagine,
to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus
to all generations,
forever and ever. Amen.

Ephesians 3:14-21

O God, the giver of every perfect gift,
by the grace of baptism
you adopt us as your own
and call us to your service.

Strengthen us by your Holy Spirit
to live the gospel we embrace.
Deliver us from self-seeking
and cause us to work for the common good.
Keep us loyal to Christ in all we set out to accomplish,
that the praise and the glory may be yours alone.

We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy
Spirit,
God for ever and ever.
Amen.

E Prayer

*See section in Leader's
Introduction (page xvi).*

Gather

- Light a candle(s) and/or time of silence:
*In the name of the Father...
Let us begin our time of prayer
with a few moments silence.*
- Sing a song or chant about Gathering, the Church in heaven and on earth, Praise of God, or Jesus (for example *All are welcome* or *Laudate omnes gentes* (Taizé)).

Listen

- Ephesians 3.14-21

Respond

- Time of silent reflection
- **Pray for the study groups and the leaders, for the hopes and fears expressed earlier in the session**
- End the prayer with either:
the prayer *O God, the giver of every perfect gift...*
- or all say the Lord's Prayer together.
Consider standing up and/or adopting the 'orans' position.
Introduce in these or similar words:
*Let us now pray in the words our Saviour gave us: or
Following our Lord's teaching, let us say with faith and trust:*

Sending Forth

- Leader:
*The Lord bless us, and keep us
from all evil,
and bring us to everlasting life.*
All: *Amen*

Review and planning for the future final session for leaders

Aim

- To reflect on the study groups
- To begin to identify how the parish should follow it up.

A Welcome

B Scripture

Romans 12: 4–12

Paul uses the analogy of the body to express the diversity of gifts within the community.

Our Experience

- How do we encourage and deepen the formation of those in liturgical ministry?
- In what ways can we offer on-going formation to other members of the parish?

C Reflection on Experience

In this final session time is given to reflect on the process and the feedback that has been given.

For Discussion

- For the leaders what was good about the time with the groups?
What was more difficult?
- What are the common themes and issues that are in the feedback?

D Act

- Prioritise the responses.
- Draw up a recommendation for the parish team.

E Prayer

Review and planning for the future

final session for leaders

To reflect on the study groups

To begin to identify how the parish should follow it up.

A **Welcome**

Though people will want to share their experiences of leading the groups as they come together this will form the main part of Section C.

Listen to Scripture

For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another.

We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness. Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honour.

Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord.

Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer.

Romans 12: 4–12

Our Experience

- How do we encourage and deepen the formation of those in liturgical ministry?
- In what ways can we offer on-going formation to other members of the parish?

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Reflection on Experience

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Act

- Prioritise the responses.
What are the first steps?
Who will take them?
- Draw up recommendations for the parish team.

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Prayer

E Prayer

See section in Leader's Introduction (page xvi).

Gather

- Light a candle(s) and/or time of silence:
*In the name of the Father...
Let us begin our time of prayer with a few moments silence.*
- Sing a song or chant about the Church in heaven and on earth, ministry or discipleship.

Listen

- Acts 2:42–47

Respond

- Time of silent reflection
- **Pray for the study groups and the parish community.**
- End the prayer with either the prayer *God of glory...*
- or all say the Lord's Prayer together.
Consider standing up and/or adopting the 'orans' position.
Introduce in these or similar words:
*Let us now pray in the words our Saviour gave us: or
Following our Lord's teaching, let us say with faith and trust:*

Sending Forth

Leader:

*The Lord bless us, and keep us from all evil,
and bring us to everlasting life.*

All: *Amen*

The whole community devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

Acts 2: 42–47

God of glory,
whose beloved Son has shown us
that true worship comes from humble
and contrite hearts:
bless all of us as we hear your call
to serve the needs of our parish.
Grant that our service may be fruitful
and our worship pleasing in your sight.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

