

# With Hearts & Minds

## Introduction

### Scripture Reading

If then 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.

Philippians 2:1–4

### Our Experience

- Where are there signs of life in the community?

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- Where are there potential areas of growth?

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### Prayer

**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.

### Suggested methodology

- A. Scripture Reading
- One person reads the Scripture reading
  - Period of silent reflection
  - Second reading of passage
  - After a pause for reflection discussion on the questions given

- B. Documentation
- One person reads the text
  - Period of silent reflection
  - Followed by discussion on the questions given

*You may find it helpful to write down your own reflections in the space provided.*



## Read & Reflect

(*Spiritus et Sponsa* 12)

The Liturgy offers the deepest and most effective answer to this yearning for the encounter with God. It does so especially in the Eucharist, in which we are given to share in the sacrifice of Christ and to nourish ourselves with his Body and his Blood. However, Pastors must ensure that the sense of mystery penetrates consciences, making them rediscover the art of “mystagogic catechesis”, so dear to the Fathers of the Church<sup>31</sup>. It is their duty, in particular, to promote dignified celebrations, paying the proper attention to the different categories of persons: children, young people, adults, the elderly, the disabled. They must all feel welcome at our gatherings, so that they may breathe the atmosphere of the first community of believers who “devoted themselves to the Apostles’ teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers” (Acts 2: 42).

## For Discussion

- Who might benefit from taking part in a small group?

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- What might the benefits be for the parish?

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- What are the practical issues that need to be considered?

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- Any questions that you wish to raise in the feedback?

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