



A VISION AND GUIDE FOR

Liturgical Renewal

IN THE ARCHDIOCESE



Dear Friends,

In this booklet, I would like to draw your attention to a variety of liturgical formation and renewal offerings now available to parishes across our Archdiocese.

These have been developed to support the ongoing renewal of parish life, recognising that the Church's mission is sustained through the quality of her prayer and worship. In this light, the practical workshops and formation pathways on offer are meant to strengthen understanding, participation, and leadership in the liturgy.

The offerings are grouped around *Encounter*, *Discipleship*, and *Mission*, and can be engaged flexibly according to the needs and capacity of your parish. Workshops and topics can be combined and adapted to suit specific pastoral contexts and local parish settings.

You are invited to identify areas of your parish's liturgical life that would most benefit from attention and to engage with these offerings at a realistic pace. In some cases, there may be particular value in neighbouring parishes working together in local clusters or even at a deanery level, to share resources and foster a more coordinated approach to liturgical renewal efforts.

Support is available to help discern appropriate next steps. If you would like to explore this further or arrange a workshop for your parish, please feel free to be in touch.

Grace and peace,

Christian

LITURGY & CHRISTIAN UNITY ANIMATOR
SYNODAL EVANGELISATION TEAM



Encounter



THESE OFFERINGS ARE DESIGNED TO INTRODUCE PARTICIPANTS TO THE MYSTERY AND MEANING OF THE CHURCH'S LITURGICAL LIFE, AWAKENING A DEEPER AWARENESS OF THE LITURGY AS THE PLACE OF ENCOUNTER WITH CHRIST.

SOURCE AND SUMMIT

A full-day workshop exploring the foundations of the Church's liturgical life, including its theology, guiding principles, and how parishes can live this out in practice. The workshop unpacks the vision of the Second Vatican Council as it relates to the renewal and celebration of the liturgy, while offering useful guidance and explanations in areas such as liturgical music, roles and responsibilities of liturgical ministers, and the arrangement of the Church's seasons.

VALLEYS, VISION, WINE AND WALLS

A half-day formation experience that invites fresh reflection on parish liturgical life using a scriptural approach. Built around four unique biblical narratives, the day also draws on the teaching of the key liturgical documents to situate this reflection within the Church's wider vision for liturgical renewal. Through structured input, guided reflection, and shared conversation, participants engage with key questions that help evaluate the quality of liturgy in the parish.

THE SHAPE OF WORSHIP: ENTERING THE MYSTERY OF THE MASS

A two-hour workshop introducing participants to the historical development, structure and spiritual meaning of the Mass. Rather than focusing on technical instruction, the session invites participants into a deeper awareness of the liturgical action itself, helping them recognise how meaning is communicated through word, gesture, silence, and sacramental action.

Discipleship

THESE OFFERINGS SUPPORT ONGOING FORMATION IN THE CHURCH'S PRAYER AND LITURGICAL LIFE, HELPING INDIVIDUALS AND COMMUNITIES GROW IN PARTICIPATION, UNDERSTANDING, AND THE INTEGRATION OF LITURGY INTO DAILY LIVING.



CONVERSATIONS IN THE SPIRIT: A CALL TO LISTEN AND DISCERN

A facilitated process of structured spiritual conversation that helps liturgical ministers listen deeply and reflect together in prayer. It employs a synodal way of being Church, fostering shared discernment about how prayer and sacramental participation are nurtured in the parish.

RHYTHMS OF PRAYER FOR PARISH LIFE

A two-hour introductory session exploring the Church's wider pattern of prayer beyond Sunday Mass, with a focus on the Liturgy of the Hours and Eucharistic Adoration. Participants are guided through understanding of the structure and flow of each, with opportunities to experience them in a simple and accessible way. The session also invites them to consider ways these prayer forms can be more deeply understood and thoughtfully integrated into parish life.

AWAKENING THE SONG OF THE CHURCH

A two-hour formation session introducing the Psalms as a core part of the Church's prayer tradition. Participants explore key liturgical principles and the place of the Psalms within the celebration of the Mass, alongside practical guidance for leading the assembly to sing and pray with them across the life of the Church's liturgical year.

FROM SUNDAY TO EVERYDAY: PRACTICING THE WAY

A guided formation pathway using the *Practicing the Way* resources to help parish communities connect celebrations of Sunday Mass with everyday life. This approach introduces simple, intentional practices rooted in the life of Jesus that foster growth in prayer, reflection, and discipleship, creating a rhythm in which Sunday celebrations shape daily life and in turn daily life deepens participation in Sunday celebrations.

Mission

THESE OFFERINGS ARE DESIGNED TO EQUIP INDIVIDUALS AND PARISH COMMUNITIES TO SERVE, LEAD, AND RENEW THE CHURCH'S LITURGICAL LIFE, WITH A FOCUS ON MINISTRY ROLES, FORMATION, LEADERSHIP, AND COMMUNAL DISCERNMENT.



BREAKING OPEN THE WORD FOR CHILDREN

A flexible training and formation pathway to support parishes in establishing or strengthening celebrations of Children's Liturgy of the Word connected to the weekly Sunday Mass. Participants explore the purpose of the ministry, liturgical expectations, suitable resources, safeguarding requirements, and practical ways of helping primary-aged children engage with the Scriptures and broader celebrations of liturgy in the parish.

FORMING HEARTS FOR PRAYER IN THE RCIA JOURNEY

A practical, multi-session formation pathway designed to support parish RCIA teams in accompanying enquirers as they discover what prayer and liturgy is and how it sustains the Christian life. The sessions introduce the Church's tradition of prayer in an accessible way, allowing parish catechetical leaders and teams to develop confidence as they accompany those exploring the Catholic faith through experience, reflection, and practice.

MAPPING PARISH LITURGY: PLANNING FOR RENEWAL

A two-hour session for clergy and parish leadership teams focused on the planning, discernment, and ongoing renewal of the liturgical life of the parish. Participants are introduced to theological principles and practical tools that support coherent liturgical planning across the parish year, alongside frameworks for evaluating the quality of parish celebrations of Mass and other liturgies. The workshop integrates vision, reflection, and assessment, enabling teams to identify strengths, address challenges, and support deeper participation in the Church's worship.

The *Ars Celebrandi* Series

A SUITE OF FLEXIBLE, BUT TARGETED MINI WORKSHOPS FOR THOSE WHO SERVE IN PARTICULAR ROLES IN THE CELEBRATION OF MASS AND THE WIDER LITURGICAL LIFE OF THE PARISH. ROOTED IN THE CHURCH'S UNDERSTANDING OF *THE ART OF CELEBRATING*, THESE OFFERINGS FORM MINISTERS TO SERVE WITH GREATER REVERENCE, COMPETENCE, AND PASTORAL SENSITIVITY, SO THAT THE LITURGY MAY BE CELEBRATED WITH CLARITY AND BEAUTY.



HEAR AND RESOUND

For those who serve the Church's liturgy through music, including cantors, choir members, and instrumentalists. Participants are formed in the Church's understanding of music and singing at Mass and engage in practical skills for leading and supporting the assembly's musical participation.

WHEN THE WORD SPEAKS

For those who proclaim the Scriptures during celebrations of Liturgy, namely: Lectors and Readers. Participants focus on the confident, prayerful proclamation of the Word of God within the liturgy through guided practice in voice, presence, and clarity.

SERVING AT THE ALTAR

For those who serve in the sanctuary during the celebration of Mass, namely: Acolytes and Altar Servers. Participants are formed in the structure and movement of the liturgy and engage in hands-on preparation and serving at the altar with reverence and attentiveness.

DIGNITY IN COMMUNION

For those who serve as Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion during celebrations of Mass. Participants are formed in the Church's understanding of the Eucharist and the reverent, faithful exercise of this ministry within the sacred liturgy.

PREPARING THE SACRED SPACE

For those who care for and prepare the worship environment for liturgical celebrations, including sacristans and environment teams. Participants engage in the ordering of the sanctuary and church space so that liturgy is celebrated with beauty, reverence, and care.

WHEN CHRIST DRAWS NEAR

For those who bring the Church's pastoral care beyond the celebration of Mass to the sick, dying, and bereaved. Participants are formed in the Church's rites and pastoral practices for bringing Holy Communion to the sick and dying, as well as accompanying individuals and families with prayer, compassion, and reverent presence.

Next Steps



EVERY PARISH COMMUNITY HAS ITS OWN PASTORAL REALITIES, STRENGTHS, NEEDS, AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR GROWTH. THIS IS WHY LITURGICAL RENEWAL CAN'T BE APPROACHED WITH A SINGLE FIXED PROGRAM OR 'ONE-SIZE-FITS-ALL' SOLUTION, BUT AS AN ONGOING PROCESS THAT WILL UNFOLD DIFFERENTLY FROM PLACE TO PLACE.

SOME PARISHES MAY WISH TO BEGIN WITH FOUNDATIONAL FORMATION IN THE SACRED LITURGY, WHILE OTHERS MAY SEEK SUPPORT FOR LITURGICAL MINISTRIES, PARISH PRAYER LIFE, SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION, OR BROADER PASTORAL RENEWAL.

WHAT MATTERS MOST IS TAKING REALISTIC AND SUSTAINABLE STEPS THAT DEEPEN PARTICIPATION IN LITURGY AND STRENGTHEN ITS CONNECTION WITH DISCIPLESHIP, AND MISSION. HERE'S A SUGGESTED WAY FORWARD:

STEP 1

DISCERN AREAS FOR GROWTH

Parish clergy and leadership teams are invited to reflect on the current liturgical life of the parish, identifying areas of strength as well as opportunities for renewal, formation, or deeper participation.

STEP 2

MEET WITH THE SYNODAL EVANGELISATION TEAM

An initial conversation provides an opportunity to explore the parish's context, priorities, and hopes for renewal, while learning more about the formation opportunities available for liturgical leaders and ministers, or for the parish more broadly.

STEP 3

DEVELOP A TAILORED RENEWAL PATHWAY

Together, a practical and sustainable pathway is shaped for the parish community. This may include workshops, formation sessions, leadership accompaniment, ministry training, or ongoing support over time.

STEP 4

IMPLEMENT FORMATION AND ONGOING ACCOMPANIMENT

Parishes begin implementing the selected formation opportunities with continued support, reflection, and accompaniment to help foster long-term renewal in the liturgical and pastoral life of the community.



“The sacred liturgy does not exhaust the entire activity of the Church; rather, it is *the summit* toward which the activity of the Church is directed; at the same time it is *the font* from which all her power flows.”

SACROSANCTUM CONCILIUM §10

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