



Be Not Afraid: Engaging Youth in Liturgy
Workshop B-1, 2009 Diocesan Liturgy Day

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Opening Prayer

Leader: As in all things, we are gathered by our God, who is Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit. We come together to focus on youth and Liturgy. Let us now spend a moment to ask God to strengthen us in our ministry:

All: O God of everlasting goodness, be with us at this hour of promise.
You have called us to consider the younger members of our communities when we assemble for worship in your name.
Renew in us a sense of awe in your presence,
manifested in the sacramental life of our parishes.
Just as your Son gathered his disciples in the upper room,
So may we be gathered to give praise and honor to your name.
We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.



The Ministry of Prayer and Worship with Youth

Taken from *Renewing the Vision: A Framework for Catholic Youth Ministry*, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, Washington, D.C., © 1997

Renewing the Vision calls us to provide opportunities for creative prayer with adolescents and promotes many opportunities for communal prayer.

"The ministry of prayer and worship

- CELEBRATES and DEEPENS the young people's relationship with Jesus Christ by bestowal of grace, communal prayer and liturgical experiences;
- It AWAKENS their awareness of the spirit at work in their lives;
- It INCORPORATES young people more fully into the sacramental life of the Church, especially eucharist;
- It NURTURES the personal prayer of young people;
- It FOSTERS family rituals and prayer (RTV, p. 44)

Before we invite youth in, we must know to what we are inviting them...

The Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy

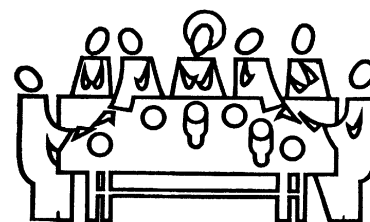
A few points to be considered with teens (or anyone else!)

- ❖ The heart of the liturgy is the paschal mystery. #6
- ❖ The liturgy is the source and summit of the life of the Church. #10
- ❖ The Church earnestly desires the full, conscious and active participation of all the faithful. In fact it is “the aim to be considered before all else.” #14
- ❖ Liturgical celebrations are not private functions, but rather are celebrations belonging to the Church. #26
- ❖ The liturgy should be marked by a noble simplicity. #34
- ❖ In the liturgy the Church respects the culture of the community gathered. #37
- ❖ The assembly should be fully involved in the liturgy. #48

Principles for Vibrant Worship with Adolescents

Taken from *From Age to Age: The Challenge of Worship with Adolescents*, The National Federation for Catholic Youth Ministry, Inc., Washington, D.C., © 1997.

- Vibrant Worship with Adolescents Celebrates Their Involvement in the Church’s Life and Mission
- Vibrant Worship with Adolescents Invites and Accepts Their Authentic Participation



- Vibrant Worship with Adolescents Attends to the Diversity of Ages and Cultures in the Assembly
- Vibrant Worship with Adolescents Roots and Fosters Their Personal Prayer Relationship with God
- Vibrant Worship Includes Effective Preaching of the Word
- Vibrant Worship Has a Youthful Spirit in Music and Song
- Vibrant Worship Incorporates Visually Dynamic Symbols and Actions
- Vibrant Worship Has an Interactive and Communal Dimension

Lectors

Cantors

Choir members

Ushers/Greeters

Musicians

Sacristan assistants

Church cleaning

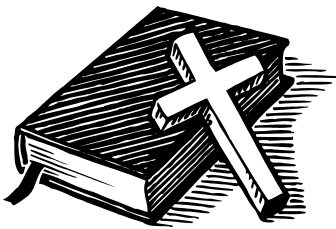
Gift bearers

E.M.E. (over 16)

Environment

Liturgical committee

More than just Sunday Mass....





HOW ARE YOU PERSONALLY ENGAGED IN LITURGY?



HOW DO YOU ALREADY ENGAGE YOUTH IN YOUR MINISTRY SETTING?



WHERE CAN YOU DO “JUST ONE THING” TO IMPROVE?



WITH WHOM DO YOU NEED TO NETWORK TO INCREASE YOUTH INVOLVEMENT?



WHAT IDEAS CAN YOU “BORROW” FROM THIS SESSION?

Questions and Answers

Conclusion