Roman Catholic Diocese of Portland

Sunday Celebrations in the Absence of a Priest

Training for Leaders of Prayer PART 2: How to Lead SCs







Recap of Part 1

- Sunday is the Lord's Day when the Church does her public work of worship (liturgy)
- SCs are a way for Catholics to respond to God's call to worship on Sunday when a priest is not available to celebrate Mass on a specific weekend in parish
 - Differences and similarities between the two liturgies of Mass and SCs matter!
 - Deacons or appointed lay people serving as leaders of prayer for SCs follow the official ritual
 - Assembly, readers, extraordinary ministers of communion, ushers, musicians serve in usual liturgical roles

Roles within SC liturgy

See page 19 of Study Edition



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Roman Catholic Diocese of Portland November 2020



Roles and Responsibilities

Sunday Celebrations in the Absence of a Priest: Celebration of the Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion

Assembly

-- Full, conscious, and active participation

Ushers

- -- Distribute prayer guides as people arrive
- -- Collect the monetary offerings during Announcements, bring to altar
- -- Secure funds collected in usual manner

Deacon or Layperson Serving as the Leader of Prayer

- -- Prepare vessels and credence table for distributing Communion
- --Place corporal on the credence table before liturgy begins
- -- Introduction
- -- Greeting
- -- Collect

-- DEACON ONLY: Gospel/Homily

- -- Introductions of Profession of Faith
- -- Introduction/Closing to the Prayer of the Faithful
- -- Communion Rite
- -- Introduction to the Our Father
- -- Invitation to Communion
- -- Purify vessels used for Communion
- -- Prayer of Thanksgiving (if recited)
- -- Concluding Rite
- -- Introduce Collection (if included)
- -- Prayer for the Vocation to Priesthood
- --Blessing
- -- Invitation of the sign of peace
- --DEACON ONLY: Greet assembly at the main doors as they leave the celebration

Extraordinary Eucharistic Minister/Sacristan

- -- Assist with preparing vessels for distribution (if needed)
- -- Retrieve the Blessed Sacrament from the tabernacle, if located in a different place than within the worship space
- -- Distribute communion

1st Reader and/or 2nd Reader

- -- Old Testament reading (New Testament reading during the Easter season)
- -- New Testament reading
- -- Prayer of the Faithful
- -- Announcements (during the collection)

Associate Lay Leader of Prayer

- -- Proclaim the Gospel reading (when there is no deacon present)
- -- Read the homily prepared by the pastor or the designated reflection

Music Leader

- -- Psalm (if sung)
- -- Gospel Acclamation
- -- Communion Hymn
- -- Prayer of Thanksgiving (if sung)
- -- Instrumental during collection (optional)
- -- Instrumental at the sign of peace OR sing a concluding song

OBJECTIVES

Through this training future SC leaders of prayer will:



- Clarify initial questions about how to lead an assembly in a Sunday Celebration in the Absence of a Priest (SC)
- Identify similarities and differences between when a deacon and lay person leads an SCs

Clarify your questions



Liturgical Terms

https://portlanddiocese.org/sites/default/files/ 2024-06/SC Leader LiturgyTerms Nov2020.pdf

Guide to Liturgical Terms in SC Ritual

ambo



podium usually only used during the Liturgy of the Word, usually a permanent or substantial furnishing in the sanctuary

Book of the Gospels



liturgical book composed of the Gospel readings assigned for each Mass; only deacons can use during a SC liturgy

ciborium



covered vessel used to hold consecrated hosts reserved in the tabernacle and for distribution during the Communion Rite

corporal



white linen cloth that unfolds from a small square to a larger cloth that is laid flat on the altar where the Blessed Sacrament will rest whenever outside the tabernacle

credence table



small table in or near the sanctuary that holds the corporal and other items needed for the Communion Rite

lectern



minimal podium used to hold the ritual text for the leader of prayer

lectionary for Mass



liturgical book composed of the scripture readings and the responsorial psalm assigned for each Mass of the year (Sundays, weekdays, and special occasions)

liturgical greeting

Deacon: The Lord be with you. And with your spirit.

plate or shallow bowl to hold consecrated hosts for distributing Communion

All:

purificator



linen cloth napkin used to wipe Communion vessels

purify vessels used for communion



leader of prayer places uncovered ciborium on corporal on altar, tilts empty paten over ciborium then wipes around the inside of the vessel to ensure any remnant of the Blessed Sacrament is transferred to ciborium and reserved in the tabernacle. Move used purificator and empty paten to credence table as clear altar

sanctuary



area in worship space surrounding the altar, usually includes ambo, seating for the priest and deacon; area often elevated

Roman Catholic Diocese of Portland - Sunday Celebrations in the Absence of a Priest Leader of Prayer Training - November 2020



What a leader of prayer does

https://portlanddiocese.org/sites/default/files/2024-06/SCs-Deacon-LayLeader-Compare.pdf





SUNDAY CELEBRATIONS IN THE ABSENCE OF A PRIEST

What a Leader of Prayer Does

In a Sunday Celebration in the Absence of a Priest (SC) who leads a particular element of the liturgy and how it is done differs whether led by one deacon or two laypeople. The chart indicates similarities and differences in the elements and leadership responsibilities for SCs between deacons and laypeople.



- D = Deacon (vested, sit in sanctuary)
- L1 = Primary Layperson (Sunday best, sit in front pew)
- L2 = Associate Layperson (Sunday best, sit in front pew)

Differences when deacon or laypeople lead SC

1 Deacon

- Alb, stole, dalmatic(optional)
- Sit in usual chair in sanctuary
- Proclaims Gospel: uses greeting "The Lord be with you...", may read from the Book of the Gospels, prepares and delivers homily
- During Concluding Rite blesses assembly with Sign of the Cross; may greet at main door afterwards

2 Formally-Appointed Laypeople

- Sunday best
- Sit in first pew of assembly with easy access to sanctuary: one ambo side, one presider side
- Proclaims Gospel: omits liturgical greeting "The Lord be with you.", reads from the lectionary, reads pastor-designated reflection
- During Concluding Rite offers blessing prayer with no gesture



Tips for leading liturgical prayer

https://portlanddiocese.org/sites/default/files/2024-06/SCs-Leader-Tips.pdf



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SUNDAY CELEBRATIONS IN THE ABSENCE OF A PRIEST

What a Leader of Prayer Does

LITURGY

From the Greek meaning "public work."
It refers especially to the public worship of the Church, including Mass and the Liturgy of the hours.

U.S. Catholic Catechism for Adults, p 518

Do everything in a spirit of prayer

- Ground yourself in the liturgical principle lex orandi lex credendi lex vivendi that translates As we pray so we believe; as we believe so we live
- Cooperate with the Holy Spirit and the whole community to lift hearts and minds to the glory of the Most Holy Trinity

Be an example of reverence

- · Solemn bow toward the altar
- · Genuflect toward the tabernacle
- Keep an unhurried pace
- Speak clearly with appropriate emotion and inflection
- · Include silence

PRACTICE!

- Prepare ritual book with needed bookmarks and additional texts for the specific Sunday
- Do the red. Say the black.
- Walk through SCs liturgy in the worship space, including setting up the sanctuary
- Be mindful of postures, motion, and gestures like inviting responses, bowing, genuflecting, or blessings so you move with ease, avoiding stiffness that would call attention to you rather than guide the assembly into deeper prayer
- Look up at the beginning and end of a prayer or reading
- Read prepared texts and make prescribed gestures only to follow the Church's norms and eliminate ad-libs

August 2020



Do everything in a spirit of prayer



- Lex orandi lex credendi lex vivendi
- Worshipping among the Communion of Saints cooperate with the Holy Spirit and whole community
- Gestures appropriate to what doing
 - "hands extended" = palms-up-and-out about chest height and shoulder width (symbolizing lifting prayers to God along with the community)
 - Deacon only can bless the people in an SC liturgy palms-over-and-above while making Sign of the Cross (symbolizes calling down God's blessing in the name of the Church)

Be an example of reverence



The leader of prayer sets and "holds" the environment focused toward Christ

- Solemn bow toward the altar/genuflect toward tabernacle
- Unhurried pace
- Clear speaking with appropriate emotion and inflection
- Silence is a form of prayer

Sign of the Cross & Greeting

Gestures and silence

<u>All stand</u>. The Deacon or lay leader of prayer, making the sign of the Cross, sings or says (adapted from nn. 187-188):

Leader: †In the name of the Father, and of the Son,

and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

Leader: Grace and peace to you from God our Father

and from the Lord Jesus Christ.

Blessed be God for ever.

All: Blessed be God for ever.

Opening Prayer

The Opening Prayer follows. The Deacon or lay leader of prayer invites the liturgical assembly to pray, saying (adapted from n. 189, A-C):

Leader: Let us pray.

All present pray in silence for a short time. Then the Deacon or lay leader, with hands extended, says the prayer that follows, according to the proper time [liturgical season] of the year. At the end of the prayer, the liturgical assembly responds:

All: Amen.



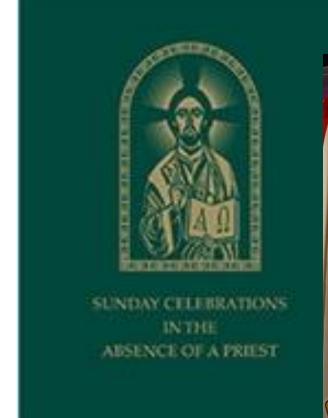
Practice



- Do the red. Say the black. Red cross † indicates making the Sign of the Cross
- Prepare the ritual book
 - Approved SC liturgy starts on page 77 of 2012 English ritual book
 - Clearly mark where to look on page, especially where options are provided
 - Nothing hanging out other than ribbons
- Make gestures appropriate to what doing to keep focus on Christ and minimize confusion between ordained and lay leaders of prayer
 - Laypeople: palms-up-and-out (invitation to join in lifting prayers to God)
 - Priest or Deacon: palms-over-and-above (calling down blessing on the assembly)
- Do not add things to ritual!
- Never add unconsecrated hosts to a ciborium in the tabernacle!

Prepare the ritual book

- Approved SC liturgy starts on page 77 of 2012 English ritual book
- Customize to make it easy to know what to do and what to say
 - Make sure only things that extend beyond the book cover are the two ribbon markers
 - Tape in additional text included in the Study Edition
 - Use flags or sticky notes to identify which prayer options you want to use
 - Handwrite additional text provided in the Study edition (suggest using pencil or place tape in the correct spot in the book so you can write on top of it in pen)



Celebration of the Liturgy of the Word

Introductory Rites

Introduction
186 The celebration begins without a procession. As the liturgical assembly and ministers gather at their place, instrumental music may be played. When all have taken their place, the Deacon or lay leader of prayer, standing at a place other than behind the altar or at the chair designated for the Priest, stands at a central place, facing the gathered assembly, and then begins the celebration with the following introduction:

We gather here to celebrate the Lord's Day. Sunday has been called the Lord's Day because

it was on this day
that Jesus conquered sin and death and rose to new life.
Unfortunately, we are not able to celebrate the Mass today
because we do not have a Priest.
Let us be united in the spirit of Christ with
the Church around the world
and celebrate our redemption in Christ's suffering,
Death and Resurrection.

. . . ha histoributte

The hosts that we use today were consecrated at a Mass celebrated earlier. Today, we will listen to the Word of God and share in Holy Communion, the Bread of Life, which is food for our journey of faith, so that we might become more and more the Body of Christ in and for our world.

If Holy Communion is <u>not</u> distributed, see the recommended language in the right-

"Today, we will listen to and reflect on the Word of God However, we will not be able to distribute Holy Communion becases there are not sufficient conscrate hosts in the tabernacle. Please note that your presence and participation in this service will fulfill your Sunday subsection.

1 | Page

Prepare the ritual book

- Customize to make it easy to know what to do and what to say
 - Use flags or sticky notes to identify which prayer options you want to use

CHAPTER II All stand and the Deacon or lay leader of prayer, making the Sign of the Cross, sings or says: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, All make the Sign of the Cross and reply: Amen. 188 The Deacon or lay leader of prayer greets those present in the following words, taken from Sacred Scripture. Grace and peace to you from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ. Blessed be God for ever. All respond: Blessed be God for ever. **Opening Prayer** 189 The Opening Prayer follows. The Deacon or lay leader of prayer invites the liturgical assembly to pray, saying: Let us pray. All present pray in silence for a short time. of prayer, with hands extended, says the to the proper time of the year. At the assembly responds: Amen.

Celebration of the Liturgy of the Word (with Holy Communical

May our gathering this Sabbath day lead us to a deeper solidarity of faith and a profound sense of gratitude for the grace of our Baptism. May our prayer lead us to a love for the poor, a greater respect for the dignity of human life, and the liberation of the oppressed. As we remember the Resurrection of your Christ. may we receive the life-giving breath of the Holy Spirit. so that we might be effective witnesses of the Gospel. To you belong all glory and honor and power both now and forever.

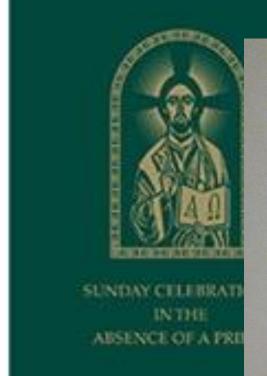
R/. Amen.

God of all creation, we gather on this first day of the week made holy by the Resurrection of Christ, your Son. In the waters of Baptism we were buried with him so that we might also rise with him and so share his victory over sin and death. You have transformed our lives into the living stones that form your Church with Christ as the foundation stone. Strengthen this community's bond of communion and peace and deepen our solidarity with your Church throughout

Rekindle within us this Sabbath day the vision of your kingdo so that our daily concerns and labor may find their proper perspective.

Prepare the ritual book

- Approved SC liturgy starts on page 77 of 2012 English ritual book
- Customize to make it easy to know what to do and what to say
 - Tape in additional text included in the Study Edition
 - Handwrite additional text provided in the Study Edition (suggest using pencil or place tape in the correct spot in the book so you can write on top of it in pen)



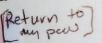
Fill our homes with the spirit of the Gospel Fill our nomes with and give us the grace to see the true face of the people with

whom we live.

In a world torn by sin and division make us instruments of reconciliation and mercy. We raise our voices in praise and thanksgiving to you, O God May we who celebrate Christ's Resurrection this day share in his eternal glory where he lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

R/. Amen.

Liturgy of the Word



190 The readings and the Psalm are those assigned in the Lectionary for Mass for that particular Sunday. Before the readings are proclaimed a brief introduction may be given in order to stimulate the attention of the listeners, to put the readings into context, or to point out connections between the readings.

First Reading

191 A reader other than the leader of prayer proclaims the First Reading.



SUNDAY CELEBRATIC ABSENCE OF A PRIE

praise him with strings and pipes.

O praise him with resounding cymbals, praise him with clashing of cymbals. Let everything that lives and that breathes give praise to the Lord. (Alleluia!)

Concluding Rite

We give God praise and the gifts entrusted to us. While we collect our offerings to no song is to be sung.

SIT

212 There follow brief announcements and the collection of monetary offerings from the gathered assembly. The celebration ends with an invitation to pray for vocations to the priesthood, the blessing and sign of peace.

Invitation to Pray for Vocations to the Priesthood

Please

Leader: Mindful of the Lord's word, "Ask the Master of the harvest to send out laborers for the harvest," let us pray [daily] for an increase of vocations to the Priesthood. May our prayer hasten the day when we will be able to take part in the celebration of the Holy Eucharist every Sunday.

[All:

Loving Father, you sent your Son so that all might come to know the truth and be saved. With the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, you continue his work through the Church. Your Son reminded his disciples that the harvest was indeed plentiful but the laborers few. Following his instructions, we beg you to call many to ordained priesthood. Grant them the grace to hear you and to respond wholeheartedly. May Mary Immaculate, the mother of your Son and the patroness of our diocese, intercede for us. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.]

ple using the following blessing. Heb

> od bless you, May aln on + and the Holy Spirit. the Father,

All:

Amen.

leader of prayer who is a layperson using no gesture says:

May the Lord bless us, protect us from all evil and bring us to everlasting life.

All:

Amen.

215 The Deacon or lay leader of prayer may invite the people to exchange the sign of peace in these words:

Let us offer each other the sign of peace.

All exchange an appropriate sign of peace.

216 A song, instrumental music or choral anthem of the day may conclude the celebration.

https://youtu.be/EEPI3PTNszM



Leading a SC*

- Pay attention to where people and things are
- Note questions or observations

* Filmed November 1, 2020 (during Covid19 pandemic) with 2 lay people leading and distribution of Holy Communion

Wrap Up

Contact Deacon Peter Bernier or Lori Dahlhoff with questions or to arrange walk through at parish site and/or practical feedback as practice leading SCs





December 2020 - 20

What's Next

- Discern if this ministry is truly a fit for you and your gifts. If not, talk with your pastor about calling forth someone else
- After verify all background checks and Protecting God's Children training complete, you and pastor receive a formal letter of appointment from Bishop Deeley. The appointment will be for 3 years.
- OLFF making hard copies of ritual available at a discount (order link on resource page)
- Contact Deacon Peter or Lori if would like to schedule walk through at parish site and/or practical feedback (may be video conference)
- Will notify you as different resources become available to support you in this role

Resource Webpage

https://portlanddiocese.org/
scs-prayer-leader-resources



Thank you!

Loving Father, you sent your Son
so that all might come to
know the truth and be saved.
With the outpouring of the Holy Spirit,
you continue his work through the Church.
Your Son reminded his disciples

that the harvest was indeed plentiful

but the laborers few.



Like his earliest disciples, I humbly accept the responsibility to lead your community in prayer.

Through your grace, may my service

help strengthen the bonds among the faithful and
foster a love of the Eucharistic sacrifice in its fullness.

I ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen

adapted from a Diocese of Portland Prayer for Vocations by Bishop Joseph Gerry, OSB