## **COMMUNION RITE**

### **PURPOSE:**

#### **COMING TO THE ALTAR AS CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY**

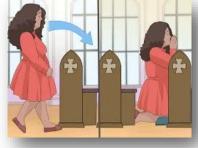
- Pray the OUR FATHER slowly and prayerfully
- Give each other the sign of peace and notice the action in the breaking of the bread
- To hear the invitation to Communion and respond

#### **WAYS OF TAKING PART**

- Gather children in a big circle around the altar to say the Our Father together
- Send them out to their families to take the peace from the altar
- Learn a simple Lamb of God for singing—repeat often
- Invite children to take part prayerfully in the procession for Communion

Draw everyone together in silence through a short

communion reflection



# **DISMISSAL**

- Before the dismissal children need to be reminded of the Big Message for today
- Express the connection with liturgy and life by giving a take home thought or action to do this week

### **EXPERIENCE OF FAMILY MASS**



## **INTRODUCTORY RITES**

## **PURPOSE: TO GATHER**

- We take on the form of a community
- We prepare ourselves to listen to God's word
- We move from outside towards a focus on prayer

#### **POSSIBLE WAYS OF TAKING PART:**

- Settling into prayer with appropriate music five minutes before Mass
- Taking part in Welcoming Ministry
- Use of the opening Procession (book of the Gospels)
- Rich use of symbols—incense of altar
- Sprinkling Rite very appropriate in Lent
- Sung Gloria with a simple refrain Eastertide

One or more of these introductory elements is completed by the **OPENING PRAYER**.

The Opening Prayer is an opportunity to gather everyone together in a focused way once more.

## **WORD OF GOD**

## **PURPOSE: TO HEAR GOD**

#### **SPEAKING TO US**

- We sit in prayerful listening
- We hear every word that is proclaimed
- We respond to God's word
- We connect this with our lives as Christians

## **WAYS OF TAKING PART:**

- Introductory comments
- Sharing of readings among ministers
- Selection of readings
- Use of silence between readings
- Priority of singing psalm and Gospel acclamation
- Use of visual PPT presentation with words and or images
- Dialogue homily with families
- Apostles Creed

The emphasis here should be on quality rather than quantity.

Less is more.

Silence speaks too......

Simple music for psalm and acclamation really helpful.

Avoid show and tell.



# PURPOSE: TO GIVE PRASE & THANKS TO GOD and TO REMEMBER WHAT GOD HAS DONE FOR US

- To notice the actions
- To take part in responding
- To realise the importance of thanking and praising
- To remember the story of how Jesus gave his life for us

#### **WAYS OF TAKING PART:**

- Bringing forward the gifts
- Setting the table
- Singing responses
- Standing and kneeling appropriately
- Use of Children's Eucharistic prayers\*
- Watching the actions of the priest as they happen



\*THERE ARE THREE EUCHARISTIC PRAYERS SPECIFICALLY FOR USE WITH CHILDREN, No. 3 is for EASTER.\*