

This short guide is intended for use alongside the short video exploring the Introductory Rites of the Mass that can be found on www.kandle.ie and www.iCatholic.ie

It is designed to be easily adapted for use in a variety of settings, for example:

- an informal watching of the video with a chat over a cup of tea after morning Mass
- as part of the on-going formation of a Parish Liturgy Group
- to accompany an individual watching of the video
- a Faith Formation Series hosted by the parish.

We hope that you find it of help as you dig deeper into our Sunday experience.

VIDEO CONTENT:

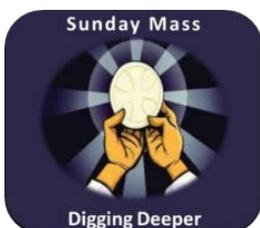
- What key points about Sunday Mass and the Introductory Rites did you take from the video? *and/or*
- What was striking you about what was being said as you watched?

RELATING TO YOUR OWN EXPERIENCE IN THE PARISH:

- What connections can you make, if any, between what was expressed in the video and your own experience of coming to Sunday Mass and celebrating the Introductory Rites in your parish?
- Is there anything expressed in the video that you would like to experience at a deeper level in the parish? How might this come about? (see page two for some check in questions)

WHAT YOU WILL TAKE FOR YOURSELF FROM THE VIDEO:

- In light of watching the video and your own personal reflection (and group discussion) is there anything you will bring to your own participation in the Introductory Rites of the Mass in the future?



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CONSIDER THIS

The following is offered as a practical tool for Liturgy Groups, local parish teams and those who share responsibility for preparing liturgy in the parish.

AS A LOCAL FAITH COMMUNITY, WE ARE INVITED TO CREATE:

- A welcoming environment
- A welcoming presence
- A sense of expectancy and preparation – that something of deep importance is about to be celebrated
- A sense of community
- A space for people to gather as a community to worship their God.

What are things that help us and what are things that hinder us in creating the above?

Check in questions to consider before we begin to celebrate:

- ✓ Is the church clean, uncluttered, inviting and accessible?
- ✓ Are passers-by given any sense of invitation to come in and worship from any notice outside the church building?
- ✓ Is there a well-informed presented notice board?
- ✓ Do the items of the liturgy – vestments, ritual books, vessels and symbols - communicate the dignity and importance of our celebration?
- ✓ Are people welcomed as they come into the church?
- ✓ Can people tell from the church space what stage of the Liturgical Year, i.e. Lent, Easter, we are currently in?
- ✓ Have enough ministers been assigned for a rich celebration of the Mass?
- ✓ Does a member of the community ever introduce the Mass?



Check in questions to consider for the celebration of the Introductory Rites:

- ✓ Is there an opening procession?
- ✓ Is there an opening hymn? If yes, is the congregation / assembly facilitated to sing it?
- ✓ Is the cross and altar ever incensed during this part of the Mass?
- ✓ Does the assembly stand throughout the Introductory Rites?
- ✓ Are all the different options for the Penitential Act, and the blessing and sprinkling of water, drawn upon over the course of the Liturgical Year?
- ✓ Is the Gloria ever sung?
- ✓ Is a moment of silence a recognisable feature within the Opening Prayer?

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