

DIOCESE OF KILDARE AND LEIGHLIN

PRAY WITHOUT CEASING

PRAYERS FOR WEEKDAY LITURGIES IN PARISHES
DURING PRIESTS' CONFERENCE



JUNE 13-15, 2016

INTRODUCTION

Many of the priests of the diocese will be attending a priests' conference with Bishop Denis from Sunday, June 12 – Wednesday, June 15. This will mean that in a number of the parishes of our diocese there will not be a priest available to celebrate weekday Mass on June 13-15. However, Bishop Denis is encouraging parishes to keep their normal schedule of weekday liturgy during these days and for parishioners to continue to gather for prayer on those days when they normally celebrate Mass.

As we read in Acts, gathering for public prayer on a weekday has been part of the earliest tradition of the Church, even in the absence of an ordained priest. Over time a particular prayer form emerged for these weekday gatherings, namely the Liturgy of the Hours (or what some might have heard referred to as the Divine Office). To this day, the Liturgy of the Hours, with its principal hours of Morning and Evening Prayer, is the daily prayer of the Church. This prayer continues to be prayed across the world; it is rightfully the prayer of the people of God. When Mass cannot be celebrated in the parish the Church recommends this prayer or a Celebration of God's Word in which parishioners can continue to be nourished by the weekday cycle of readings, as the most suitable alternatives.

As a people we can be assured that, even in the absence of an ordained priest, when we gather to pray in God's name Christ is with us, nourishing us with his presence. When we proclaim the Word of God it is Christ who speaks to us, nourishing us with his Word.

This resource book is offered by Kildare and Leighlin Faith Development Services and the Kildare and Leighlin Diocesan Commission for Liturgical Formation to support parishioners in praying together during these days. Its content can also serve as a model for other times when a priest is not available to celebrate Mass on a weekday.

Julie Kavanagh, June 2016

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ADVERTISING PARISH SCHEDULE DURING CONFERENCE DAYS

BULLETIN NOTICE TEMPLATES

The following two notices are offered for use by parishes as required. They can be adapted locally to best suit needs.

WEEKDAY LITURGY SCHEDULE FOR JUNE 12-15: PRAY WITHOUT CEASING

Bishop Denis and many of the priests of the diocese will be in conference together from June 12-15. During this time, Bishop Denis is inviting parishes to continue their normal schedule of gathering for liturgy. To this end, resources have been provided for parishes to use at their normal Mass time on these days.

We will be keeping the following schedule in our church this week: *(indicate times and days and form of celebration, i.e. Morning Prayer/ Celebration of the Word)*

(If applicable) Masses will be available locally in the coming week as follows:
(Day, time, church)

WHY ARE WE PRAYING MORNING PRAYER?

(The text in bold is a shorter form that can be used as an alternative to the longer notice.)

As recorded in Scripture, alongside the primary gathering that was Sunday Eucharist, people continued to assemble on weekdays for the daily nourishment of shared prayer. In this way they were responding to the call to pray without ceasing. **While undergoing different forms over the centuries, what we know today as the Liturgy of the Hours (or what some might have heard referred to as the Divine Office) is considered to have been the daily prayer of Christians from the beginning.**

To this day, the Liturgy of the Hours, with its principal hours of Morning and Evening Prayer, continues to be the daily prayer of the Church. Every day this prayer is prayed across the world; it is rightfully the prayer of the people of God. When Mass cannot be celebrated in the parish the Church recommends this prayer, or a Celebration of God's Word, as the most suitable alternative.

The psalms have been called the prayer book of the Christian and at the heart of the Liturgy of the Hours is the praying of the psalms. Alongside Scripture, prayers of intercession and hymns of praise, the Liturgy of the Hours gives us an opportunity to connect with this Christian prayer book in a new way as the psalms are prayerfully recited by the community who have gathered to pray together.

Words of Introduction for Morning Prayer Each Day

Monday

On this day we gather as a Christian community as we normally would but, because our priest cannot be with us, we are unable to celebrate the Mass. However, we have the gift of Morning Prayer that we can pray together. This is the prayer of the Church, the prayer which belongs to the people of God and which has been prayed throughout the centuries across the Christian Church. Because we gather in the name of the Lord we can be assured that Christ is with us and among us.

In this time let us offer our praise to God and bring our needs and the needs of the people of the diocese to him in prayer, as we join in prayerful union with our bishop and the priests of the diocese. (pause)

Today the Church celebrates the memorial of St Anthony who died in Padua in 1231 at the age of thirty six. Born in Portugal, he joined the Franciscans and preached against heresy throughout France and Italy, bringing many back to the faith.

And so as we begin, let us thank God for our faith and let us hold Bishop Denis, our priests, our parish and our diocese in prayer. Let us take a moment to call to mind any particular prayer intentions we have this day. (pause)

Tuesday

On this day we gather as a Christian community as we normally would but, because our priest cannot be with us, we are unable to celebrate the Mass. However, we have the gift of Morning Prayer that we can pray together. This is the prayer of the Church, the prayer which belongs to the people of God and which has been prayed throughout the centuries across the Christian Church. Because we gather in the name of the Lord we can be assured that Christ is with us and among us.

And so as we begin, let us hold Bishop Denis, our priests, our parish and our diocese in prayer. Let us take a moment to call to mind any particular prayer intentions we have this day. (pause)

Wednesday

On this day we gather as a Christian community as we normally would but, because our priest cannot be with us, we are unable to celebrate the Mass. However, we have the gift of Morning Prayer that we can pray together. This is the prayer of the Church, the prayer which belongs to the people of God and which has been prayed throughout the centuries across the Christian Church. Because we gather in the name of the Lord we can be assured that Christ is with us and among us.

And so as we begin, let us hold Bishop Denis, our priests, our parish and our diocese in prayer. Let us take a moment to call to mind any particular prayer intentions we have this day. (pause)

Words of Introduction for A Celebration of the Word Each Day

Monday

On this day we gather as a Christian community as we normally would but, because our priest cannot be with us, we are unable to celebrate the Mass. As we gather in prayer, we remember the belief of the Church that it is God who speaks to us whenever the Scriptures are proclaimed in church. This is a living Word that speaks directly and personally to each one of us here today. We ready ourselves to welcome this Word from God once more into our lives. (pause)

Today the Church celebrates the memorial of St Anthony who died in Padua in 1231 at the age of thirty six. Born in Portugal, he joined the Franciscans and preached against heresy throughout France and Italy, bringing many back to the faith. (pause)

And so as we begin, let us thank God for our faith and let us hold Bishop Denis, our priests, our parish and our diocese in prayer. And so as we begin, let us hold Bishop Denis, our priests, our parish and our diocese in prayer. Let us take a moment to call to mind any particular prayer intentions we have this day. (pause)

Tuesday

On this day we gather as a Christian community as we normally would but, because our priest cannot be with us, we are unable to celebrate the Mass. As we gather in prayer, we remember the belief of the Church that it is God who speaks to us whenever the Scriptures are proclaimed in church. This is a living Word that speaks directly and personally to each one of us here today. We ready ourselves to welcome this Word from God once more into our lives. (pause)

And so as we begin, let us hold Bishop Denis, our priests, our parish and our diocese in prayer. Let us take a moment to call to mind any particular prayer intentions we have this day. (pause)

Wednesday

On this day we gather as a Christian community as we normally would but, because our priest cannot be with us, we are unable to celebrate the Mass. As we gather in prayer, we remember the belief of the Church that it is God who speaks to us whenever the Scriptures are proclaimed in church. This is a living Word that speaks directly and personally to each one of us here today. We ready ourselves to welcome this Word from God once more into our lives. (pause)

And so as we begin, let us hold Bishop Denis, our priests, our parish and our diocese in prayer. Let us take a moment to call to mind any particular prayer intentions we have this day. (pause)

READING FOR MORNING PRAYER EACH DAY

The reader at Morning Prayer reads the assigned reading from the ambo without any introductory or concluding phrases, i.e. the reader does not say “A reading from” or “The Word of the Lord”.

Monday Morning Prayer

Hebrews 13:7-9a

Remember your leaders, who preached the word of God to you, and as you reflect on the outcome of their lives, imitate their faith. Jesus Christ is the same today as he was yesterday and as he will be for ever. Do not let yourselves be led astray by all sorts of strange doctrines.

Tuesday Morning Prayer (Page 571 in Lectionary 1)

1 John 4:11-16

My dear people, since God has loved us so much, we too should love one another. No one has ever seen God; but as long as we love one another God will live in us and his love will be complete in us.

We can know that we are living in him and his is living in us because he lets us share his Spirit.

We ourselves saw and we testify that the Father sent his Son as saviour of the world. If anyone acknowledges that Jesus is the Son of God, God lives in him, and he in God.

We ourselves have known and put our faith in God's love towards ourselves. God is love and anyone who lives in love lives in God and God lives in him.

Wednesday Morning Prayer

Jeremiah 29:11-14

For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope. Then when you call upon me and come and pray to me, I will hear you. When you search for me, you will find me; if you seek me with all your heart, I will let you find me, and I will restore your fortunes and gather you from all the nations and all the places where I have driven you, and I will bring you back to the place from which I sent you into exile.

Intercessions for Each Day – Morning Prayer / Celebration of the Word

MONDAY INTERCESSIONS: READER

1. We pray for each other, that our lives may be lived in love, free of pride, jealousy and deceit. (pause) We pray to the Lord. **R. Lord hear our prayer.**
2. We pray for those who, like St Anthony of Padua, preach the word of God, that they may share it freely and generously, with prayer and preparation, mercy and love. (pause) We pray to the Lord. **R. Lord hear our prayer.**
3. We pray for Christians and other people of other faiths persecuted for their beliefs, that they will retain peace of heart free of hatred and desires for revenge. (pause) We pray to the Lord. **R. Lord hear our prayer.**
4. We pray for God's blessing upon our bishop, Denis and the priests of our diocese. May they be strengthened and renewed to lead your people. (pause) We pray to the Lord. **R. Lord hear our prayer.**
5. Send your blessing upon the people of our parish and diocese, each one according to their need. (pause) We pray to the Lord. **R. Lord hear our prayer.**
6. In a moment of silence we pray for those intentions that we come with today. (pause) We pray to the Lord. **R. Lord hear our prayer.**

TUESDAY INTERCESSIONS: READER

1. God of all nations, we join with you in longing for peace among all peoples of the earth. Help us to be promoters of peace in all our relationships, especially where there is conflict or division. (pause) *R. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.*
2. God of Life, be with those who are ill this day and with those who care for them. Bring them into the presence of your healing love. (pause) *R. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.*
3. God of wisdom, give strength and guidance to our young people as they continue to sit their state exams. May they persevere and find support among one another, their community and their families. (pause) *R. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.*
4. God of hope, be with Bishop Denis and our priests in these days of conference as they ponder your Word and pray for your guidance. (pause) *R. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.*
5. We remember and pray for all the prayer intentions of our fellow parishioners and our own intentions as we pray in silence. (pause) *R. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.*

WEDNESDAY INTERCESSIONS: READER

1. We pray for Bishop Denis and the priests of the diocese. May they be graced and strengthened in these days of conference. (pause) Lord, hear us. **Response:** Lord, graciously hear us.
2. We pray for an increase in vocations to the priesthood and religious life. May each one of us play our part in encouraging and supporting vocations. (pause) Lord, hear us. **Response:** Lord, graciously hear us.
3. We pray in gratitude for all who give of their time and talent in our parish and who contribute in making our parish a witness to God's love in action. May everyone in our parish feel welcome to share their gifts with our faith community. (pause) Lord, hear us. **Response:** Lord, graciously hear us.
4. We pray for those who are homeless and who yearn for permanent, safe shelter both here in this land and across the world. (pause) Lord, hear us. **Response:** Lord, graciously hear us.
5. We pray for those in our parish and in our families who are suffering this day with mental ill health, that they will know God's love for them and experience healing in mind. (pause) Lord, hear us. **Response:** Lord, graciously hear us.
6. We pray for the many needs of the people of our parish, for those who are remembering the anniversaries of loved one's gone before them, and for all our intentions named and unnamed. (pause) Lord, hear us. **Response:** Lord, graciously hear us.

OUTLINE OF THE FORMAT OF MORNING PRAYER

Indicates parts that can be sung	
OPENING VERSE	
STAND	
Leader: O God, come to our aid. All: O Lord, make haste to help us. Glory be to the Father...Alleluia	
<i>ALTERNATIVELY FOR MORNING PRAYER</i>	
Leader: O Lord, open our lips. All: And we shall praise your name. Glory be to the Father... Alleluia	
HYMN	
PSALMODY*	
SIT	
Antiphon 1 read by leader. A Morning Psalm Antiphon repeated by all. (Silent prayer)	Antiphon 2 read by leader (An Old Testament Canticle) Antiphon repeated by all. (Silent prayer)
Antiphon 3 read by leader. A Psalm Antiphon repeated by all. (Silent prayer)	
<i>*The number of psalms prayed can be reduced. This might be particularly wise in the early stages as people get used to this form of prayer.</i>	
SCRIPTURE READING (Silent Prayer /Reflection)	
SHORT RESPONSORY*	
<i>*May be omitted.</i>	
GOSPEL CANTICLE	
STAND	
Antiphon read by leader Canticle of Zechariah (the Benedictus) Antiphon repeated by all.	
INTERCESSIONS	
THE LORD'S PRAYER	
CONCLUDING PRAYER & CONCLUSION OF THE HOUR	
Leader: May the Lord bless us, and keep us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life. All: Amen.	

ACCOMPANYING NOTES ON MORNING PRAYER

SET UP Aside from other set up considerations, before people gather for this prayer, any candles that are usually in place near or on the ambo and altar are lit.

THE OPENING VERSE The prayer leader begins the prayer from their appointed place. The leader does not sit in the presider's chair (or the priest's chair) but is in a position where he/she is both visible and audible. Just as we do at any other liturgical prayer in the church, we stand for the opening. Remembering the promise of Jesus, 'Where two or three are gathered in my name I am there', in our posture of standing we are showing honour to Christ and greeting the risen Lord in our midst.

As is also customary, we mark ourselves with the Sign of the Cross. This is typically done as people make the response to the leader, 'O Lord, make haste to help us'/'And my mouth will proclaim your praise'. This verse can be recited or sung.

THE HYMN The opening hymn is intended to be a familiar hymn that all present can sing, for example 'Christ be beside Me' or 'Be Thou my Vision'. It might speak to the time of day. It might speak of praise, creation, or gathering. During the seasons of Advent/Christmas, Lent/Easter, a seasonal hymn can be used. In many instances in a local parish this will be without accompaniment so care should be taken in its selection. *Incense may be placed in a bowl during the singing of this hymn.*

WORDS OF INTRODUCTION These have been provided for the leader for each day.

PSALMODY Just as we do at other celebrations, people sit for the praying of the psalms. The psalms have often been called the Christian prayer book and the praying of the psalms is at the heart of the Liturgy of the Hours. Over the course of four weeks, through the various Hours that are prayed by the Church, practically all 150 psalms are prayed. Thus, in a four week cycle each Hour is assigned particular psalms and canticles.

The key to praying the psalms in the Liturgy of the Hours is to strive to pray them meditatively, without rush or undue haste.

For a local community starting out with this prayer, it may be too ambitious to do all the psalms assigned to a particular hour on a particular day. A community may decide to do two, or even one, initially. A community may also decide to settle on a particular set of psalms and repeat them daily/weekly, before over time, expanding the repertoire of psalms prayed. For this week of prayer two texts have been selected on each day.

A psalm may be sung using a psalm tone or it may be sung using a responsorial style, as we experience at Mass. The psalms can also be recited in a number of different ways: 1) alternating between two groups, i.e. men/women, one side of the church and the other; 2) alternating between the leader and the whole group or 3) recited by just one person. Typically, recited or chanted psalms conclude with the prayer, Glory be...

Each psalm is assigned an **antiphon** for the particular Hour. This is usually a verse of a psalm or other piece of Scripture. The antiphon text contains the fundamental thought of the psalm to which it is allotted, and indicates the point of view from which the psalm can be understood.

The **silence** between the psalms is very necessary, allowing time for what we have just prayed in the psalm to enter deeper into our hearts before moving onto the next

one. The two psalms of the hour are traditionally accompanied by an Old Testament Canticle (hymn) in the morning and a New Testament Canticle in the evening.

SCRIPTURE READING This can be led from the ambo (the place from where readings are normally proclaimed in church) and is read by someone other than the prayer leader. Unlike in the Mass, the reader simply proclaims the verses without an introduction or conclusion, i.e. without saying 'A Reading From...The Word of the Lord'. Each Liturgy of the Hours on a given day has a particular reading assigned to it. As this is a very short reading, its verses may be extended. After this reading people are given time to ponder, pray and reflect on the Word of God they have just received.

SHORT RESPONSORY This verse is assigned to follow the Scripture reading. When used, it is led by the leader with the people responding. The responsory is linked to the reading that has gone before it. It serves as a kind of acclamation, enabling God's Word to enter deeper into the heart and mind of the one listening or reading.

GOSPEL CANTICLE The leader introduces the Canticle (Hymn) by standing and reciting its antiphon. This Gospel text is the highpoint of Morning Prayer. We mark this highpoint by moving to a standing posture and by blessing ourselves at the beginning of the Canticle. It can be further emphasised through the use of incense. This might be as simple as placing grains of incense on the coal as the Canticle begins.

Ideally the Canticle is sung. It might be part of the goals of a leadership group to work towards having a setting for the Benedictus that is both familiar and popular in your particular parish. This is especially recommended given that the Gospel Canticle will be prayed every time you gather for Morning Prayer. The Benedictus in this resource can be sung to the air of 'The King of Love My Shepherd is'.

INTERCESSIONS While remaining standing, we present our prayers and intercessions to God. Again there are intercessions assigned to the Hour but these can be adapted or added to, depending on local needs. It is at this point that parishes are invited to pray for the intentions that have been written by people. As shared prayer, these prayers can be led by someone other than the prayer leader. A well-known response can also be sung.

THE LORD'S PRAYER The prayer leader invites all to pray the Lord's Prayer together. The praying of the Lord's Prayer at Morning Prayer flows from the early Church tradition of Christians praying the Lord's Prayer thrice daily. Recited or sung, it reminds us of the daily nourishment we receive from God, even in the absence of Eucharist.

CONCLUDING PRAYER AND CONCLUSION OF HOUR The prayer leader draws the time of prayer to a close with a concluding prayer. This concluding prayer may be one that 1) is taken from the Hour of the day, 2) is repeated at each gathering or 3) may be one that is seasonal in nature and tone. In this resource we are using the text of the diocesan prayer as the concluding prayer for each day. After this prayer, those gathered make the Sign of the Cross as the prayer leader asks God's blessing on him/her and those gathered. The people respond, Amen. This conclusion can be sung or recited.

PREPARATION MEETING GUIDE FOR LEADERS OF MORNING PRAYER

The following steps are suggested to groups as they meet and work with the prayer, preparing it in order to take it from a text to an experience of shared, communal prayer.

1. Read the text fully

Each participant reads through the full text of the prayer by themselves, noting the different elements as they already saw on their previous handout on the format of Morning Prayer. Try to imagine the prayer beyond the text and how it might be prayed in your particular church building.

2. Consider the following as a group

As you do so, bear in mind all the time the people in your parish who ultimately you hope will pray this prayer, or similar, in your particular church when Mass is not possible.

a) **The prayer space** Think of the setting of this prayer, the space in which people will gather. How will this space be prepared? Where will be the focus of people's attention? If people are praying before the sanctuary, the altar candles and any candles by the ambo are lit for this prayer. Will you make any particular set up changes in the church for this prayer? Consider the seating arrangement of all who gather and where the prayer leader will sit. Think about the lighting, heat and sound that might be needed.

b) **The final text to be used** Again, consider the people who will gather for this prayer. In light of this, are you happy to go with the text as provided or do you need to make any amendments? For example, is there an alternative opening hymn you would like to use? Are there other intercessions you would prefer to use?

c) **Praying the psalms** How will the psalms be prayed in your particular setting? It might be a combination of alternating verses between a reader and people, between men and women, between one side of the church and another, reading the psalm through together or with a single voice. Depending on resources, one or more of the texts might even be sung! If recited, think about **how you will facilitate the psalm being prayed meditatively and slowly** rather than being rushed through!

d) **Verbal elements** Think of the verbal elements of this prayer, for example, the opening and closing of the prayer time, the psalms and Scripture, intercessions, invitation to pray the Lord's Prayer and the concluding prayer and to whom these elements are being addressed. When proclaiming texts to the assembly, for example scripture, remember to actually look at the people as much as you can, rather than having your head buried in a text. Anyone leading these verbal elements should do so slowly and clearly.

Who will speak these different verbal elements? How many people do you need from the point of view of readers and prayer leader? How will you ensure that these people can be heard? (Note: A folder can be left on the ambo before the prayer starts with the day's reading and intercessions.)

e) **Music** Consider when music might be used during this prayer. Whilst you might wish to start modestly, the full set of possibilities include: opening and closing verse, the opening hymn, psalmody, Benedictus, response to intercessions and the Lord's Prayer. At a minimum could you sing the opening hymn and the Benedictus? The text of the Benedictus provided in this Morning Prayer resource can be sung to the air of 'The King of Love My Shepherd is'.

f) **Non-verbal elements** Consider the non-verbal elements in the prayer, such as movement, posture (standing/ sitting), gesture (sign of the cross, bowing) and pace of the prayer. How might these non-verbal elements be carried out with reverence and grace? How will the use of silence be best utilised to enhance the prayer experience? How will you ensure that the silence will happen? **Will incense be used during the singing of the opening hymn and the Gospel Canticle?** Something as simple as leading the prayer with the use of a folder rather than loose sheets of paper speaks volumes!

g) **Participation of the people & hospitality to them** What do you think will help people's participation in this prayer? How can you help to involve them in the prayer? How will they be welcomed and how will they have what they need in order to pray this prayer? Will it be clear in any welcome before the prayer that the prayer leaders are there on behalf of and in the name of the parish in this instance when your priest cannot be with you for the celebration of Mass, if this is the case? Any instructions to people, for example about how the psalms will be prayed, ought to be done before the prayer begins and not during. Who will do this from among your group? A vital part of hospitality requires that those leading prayer arrive in good time and have everything in place before people arrive for prayer!

h) **Openings and closings** Think about how this prayer will begin and finish. How will the prayer leader take his/her place among people and how will they depart? Remember that it is worth taking those extra few seconds to settle and be present in a space before beginning. A prayer leader might spend some moments seated in quiet prayer before standing to begin the prayer.

i) **Assigning tasks** Having looked at this prayer and having made some decisions together, what ministers do you need to assign to it: prayer leader, readers, music, hospitality, set up & putting away, instruction giver (!), other? Begin to put names beside the tasks.

j) **Final check** Have you everything in place that you need in order to pray this prayer? Is there any one that needs to be communicated with ahead of time, i.e. sacristan, parish secretary, key holder...? Is everyone clear on what they have to do? Is there any clarification needed?

MORNING PRAYER
MONDAY, JUNE 13, 2016

INTRODUCTION

Please Stand

Leader: O God, come to our aid.

All: O Lord, make haste to help us.

(Sign of the Cross) Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Alleluia.

HYMN

Be thou my vision

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
be all else but naught to me save that thou art.
Be thou my best thought in the day and the night,
both waking and sleeping,
thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom, be thou my true word.
Be thou ever with me and I with thee, Lord.
Be thou my great Father, and I thy true child.
Be thou in me dwelling and I with thee one.

WORDS OF INTRODUCTION

PSALMODY

Please Sit

Antiphon 1:

Psalm 62 (63)

Leader: To you, O God, I keep vigil at dawn, to look upon your power.

O God, you are my God, for you I long;
for you my soul is thirsting.
My body pines for you
like a dry, weary land without water.
So I gaze on you in the sanctuary
to see your strength and your glory.

For your love is better than life,
my lips will speak your praise.
So I will bless you all my life,
in your name I will lift up my hands.
My soul shall be filled as with a banquet,
my mouth shall praise you with joy.

On my bed I remember you.
On you I muse through the night
for you have been my help;

in the shadows of your wings I rejoice.
My soul clings to you;
your right hand holds me fast.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning, is now, and
ever shall be,
world without end. Amen.

All: To you, O God, I keep vigil at dawn,
to look upon your power.

Silence

Antiphon 2

Psalm 149

Leader: Let Sion's children exult in their king.

Sing a new song to the Lord,
God's praise in the assembly of the faithful.
Let Israel rejoice in its Maker,
Let Sion's children exult in their king.

Let them praise God's name with dancing
And make music with timbrel and harp.
For the Lord takes delight in his people.
He crowns the poor with salvation.

Let the faithful rejoice in their glory,
Shout for joy and take their rest.
Let the praise of God be on their lips
And a two-edged sword in their hand,

To deal out vengeance to the nations
And punishment on all peoples;
To bind their kings in chains,
And their nobles in fetters of iron;

To carry out the sentence pre-ordained:
This honour is for all his faithful.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit,

as it was in the beginning, is now,
and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen.

All: Let Sion's children exult in their king.

Silence

SHORT READING

Hebrews 13:7-9a

In silence we ponder and pray on God's Word

SHORT RESPONSORY

Leader: You are Christ, Son of the living God.
Have mercy on us.

All: You are Christ, Son of the living God. Have mercy on us.

Leader: You are seated at the right hand of the Father.

All: You are Christ, Son of the living God. Have mercy on us.

Leader: Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit.

All: You are Christ, Son of the living God. Have mercy on us.

GOSPEL CANTICLE

Please Stand

Antiphon:

Benedictus

Leader: *Blessed be the Lord, our God.*

Now bless the God of Israel (*Sign of the Cross*),
who comes in love and pow'r,
who raises from the royal house
deliv'rance in this hour.

Through holy prophets God has sworn
to free us from alarm,
to save us from the heavy hand
of all who wish us harm.

Remembering the covenant,
God rescues us from fear,
that we might serve in holiness
and peace from year to year.

And you, my child, shall go before
to preach to prophesy,
that all may know the tender love,
the grace of God most high.

In tender mercy, God will send
the dayspring from on high,
our rising sun, the light of life
for those who sit and sigh.

God comes to guide our way to peace
that death shall reign no more,
sing praises to the Holy One!
O worship and adore!

All: Blessed be the Lord, our God.

INTERCESSIONS

R. Lord, hear our prayer.

LORD'S PRAYER

PRAYER FOR OUR DIOCESE

Lord,
bless the faith community of Kildare and
Leighlin which traces its origins to Brigid,
Conleth and Laserian.
May it be outstanding in charity as St.
Brigid of Kildare,
may it be constant in faith as St. Conleth
of Old Connell,
wise and prayerful as St. Laserian of
Leighlin.
Bless its Bishop, priests, religious and
laity.
Fill them with the light of your love.
Bless its young people.
Help them to seek your truth.
Bless all who are poor or weak or
wounded by life's hurts.
Grant them justice, light and hope.
Sin é ár nguí tré Críost ár dTiarna. Amen.

CONCLUDING VERSE

Leader: *May the Lord bless us, (Sign of the Cross) and keep us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life. All: Amen*

MORNING PRAYER
TUESDAY, JUNE 14, 2016

INTRODUCTION

Please Stand

Leader: O God, come to our aid.

All: O Lord, make haste to help us. (Sign of the Cross) Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Alleluia.

HYMN

Christ be beside me, Christ be before me,
Christ be behind me, King of my heart.
Christ be within me, Christ be below me,
Christ be above me, never to part.

Christ on my right hand, Christ on my left hand,
Christ all around me, shield in the strife.
Christ in my sleeping, Christ in my sitting,
Christ in my rising, light of my life.

Christ be in all hearts thinking about me,
Christ be on all tongues telling of me.
Christ be the vision in eyes that see me,
In ears that hear me, Christ ever be.

WORDS OF INTRODUCTION

PSALMODY

Please Sit

Antiphon 1

Psalm 84 (85)

Leader: Lord, you blessed your land; you forgave the guilt of your people.

O Lord, you once favoured your land
And revived the fortunes of Jacob,
You forgave the guilt of your people
And covered all their sins.
You averted all your rage,
You calmed the heat of your anger.

Revive us now, God, our helper!
Put an end to your grievance against us.
Will you be angry with us for ever,
Will your anger never cease?

I will hear what the Lord God has to say,
A voice that speaks of peace,
Peace for his people and his friends
And those who turn to him in their hearts.
His help is near for those who fear him
And his glory will dwell in our land.

Mercy and faithfulness have met;
Justice and peace have embraced.
Faithfulness shall spring from the earth
And justice look down from heaven.

The Lord will make us prosper
And our earth shall yield its fruit.
Justice shall march before him
And peace shall follow his steps.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning, is now, and
ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

All: Lord, you blessed your land; you forgave the guilt of your people.

Silence

Antiphon 2

Psalm 66 (67)

Response: Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.

O God be gracious and bless us
And let your face shed its light upon us.
So will your ways be known upon the earth
And all nations learn your saving help. **R.**

Let the nations be glad and exult
For you rule the world with justice.
With fairness you rule the peoples,
You guide the nations on earth. **R.**

The earth has yielded its fruit
For God, our God, has blessed us.
May God still give us his blessing
'til the ends of the earth revere him. **R.**

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. **R.**

Silence

SHORT READING

1 John 4:11-16

In silence we ponder and pray on God's Word

SHORT RESPONSORY

Leader: My helper is my God: I will place my trust in him.

All: My helper is my God: I will place my trust in him.

Leader: God is my refuge; he sets me free.

All: My helper is my God: I will place my trust in him.

Leader: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

All: My helper is my God: I will place my trust in him.

GOSPEL CANTICLE

Please Stand

Antiphon:

Benedictus

Leader: *Blessed be the Lord, for he has visited us and freed us.*

Now bless the God of Israel (*Sign of the Cross*), who comes in love and pow'r, who raises from the royal house deliv'rance in this hour.

Through holy prophets God has sworn to free us from alarm, to save us from the heavy hand of all who wish us harm. Remembering the covenant, God rescues us from fear, that we might serve in holiness and peace from year to year.

And you, my child, shall go before to preach to prophesy, that all may know the tender love, the grace of God most high.

In tender mercy, God will send the dayspring from on high, our rising sun, the light of life for those who sit and sigh.

God comes to guide our way to peace that death shall reign no more, sing praises to the Holy One! O worship and adore!

All: Blessed be the Lord, for he has visited us and freed us.

INTERCESSIONS

R. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

LORD'S PRAYER

PRAYER FOR THE DIOCESE

Lord,
bless the faith community of Kildare and Leighlin which traces its origins to Brigid, Conleth and Laserian.
May it be outstanding in charity as St. Brigid of Kildare,
may it be constant in faith as St. Conleth of Old Connell,
wise and prayerful as St. Laserian of Leighlin.
Bless its Bishop, priests, religious and laity.
Fill them with the light of your love.
Bless its young people.
Help them to seek your truth.
Bless all who are poor or weak or wounded by life's hurts.
Grant them justice, light and hope.
Sin é ár nguí tré Críost ár dTiarna. Amen.

CONCLUDING VERSE Leader: *May the Lord bless us, (*Sign of the Cross*) and keep us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life.*

All: Amen.

MORNING PRAYER
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 15, 2016

INTRODUCTION

Please Stand

Leader: O God, come to our aid.

All: O Lord, make haste to help us. (Sign of the Cross) Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Alleluia.

HYMN

Be still and know that I am God,
be still and know that I am God,
be still and know that I am God.

I am the Lord that healeth thee,

I am the Lord that healeth thee,

I am the Lord that healeth thee.

In thee, O Lord, do I put my trust,
In thee, O Lord, do I put my trust,
In thee, O Lord, do I put my trust.

WORDS OF INTRODUCTION

PSALMODY

Please Sit

Antiphon 1:

Psalm 85 (86)

Leader: Give joy to your servant, Lord, for to you I lift up my soul.

Turn your ear, O Lord, and give answer
for I am poor and needy.
Preserve my life, for I am faithful:
Save the servant who trusts in you.

You are my God, have mercy on me, Lord,
for I cry to you all the day long.
Give joy to your servant, O Lord,
for to you I lift up my soul.

In the day of distress I will call
and surely you will reply.
Among the gods there is none like you, O
Lord;
or work to compare with yours.

All the nations shall come to adore you
and glorify your name, O Lord:
For you are great and do marvellous deed,
you who alone are God.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning, is now, and
ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

All: Give joy to your servant, Lord, for to you I lift up my soul.

Silence

Antiphon 2:

Psalm 97 (98)

Leader: Acclaim the king, the Lord.

Sing a new song to the Lord
For he has worked wonders.
His right hand and his holy arm
Have brought salvation.

The Lord has made known his salvation;
Has shown his justice to the nations.
The Lord has remembered his truth and love
For the house of Israel.

All the ends of the earth have seen
The salvation of our God.
Shout to the Lord all the earth,
Ring out your joy.

Sing psalms to the Lord with the harp,
With the sound of music.
With trumpets and the sound of the horn
Acclaim the King, the Lord.

Let the sea and all within it, thunder;
The world, and all its peoples.
Let the rivers clap their hands
And the hills ring out their joy.

Rejoice at the presence of the Lord,
for he has come to rule the earth.
He will rule the world with justice
and the peoples with fairness.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever
shall be, world without end. Amen. Alleluia.

All: Acclaim the king, the Lord.

Silence

SHORT READING

Jeremiah 29:11-14

In silence we ponder and pray on God's Word

SHORT RESPONSORY

Leader: Bend my heart to your will, O God.

All: Bend my heart to your will, O God.

Leader: By your word, give me life.

All: Bend my heart to your will, O God.

Leader: Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit.

All: Bend my heart to your will, O God.

GOSPEL CANTICLE

Please Stand

Antiphon:

Benedictus

Leader: Show us your mercy, O Lord; remember
your holy covenant.

Now bless the God of Israel (*Sign of the Cross*),
who comes in love and pow'r,
who raises from the royal house
deliv'rance in this hour.

Through holy prophets God has sworn
to free us from alarm,
to save us from the heavy hand
of all who wish us harm.

Remembering the covenant,
God rescues us from fear,
that we might serve in holiness
and peace from year to year.

And you, my child, shall go before
to preach to prophesy,
that all may know the tender love,
the grace of God most high.

In tender mercy, God will send
the dayspring from on high,
our rising sun, the light of life
for those who sit and sigh.

God comes to guide our way to peace
that death shall reign no more,
sing praises to the Holy One!
O worship and adore!

**All: Show us your mercy, O Lord; remember
your holy covenant.**

INTERCESSIONS

R. Lord, graciously hear us.

LORD'S PRAYER

PRAYER FOR THE DIOCESE

Lord, bless the faith community of
Kildare and Leighlin
which traces its origins to Brigid, Conleth
and Laserian.
May it be outstanding in charity as St. Brigid
of Kildare,
may it be constant in faith as St. Conleth of
Old Connell,
wise and prayerful as St. Laserian of Leighlin.
Bless its Bishop, priests, religious and laity.
Fill them with the light of your love.
Bless its young people.
Help them to seek your truth.
Bless all who are poor or weak or wounded
by life's hurts.
Grant them justice, light and hope.
Sin é ár nguí tré Críost ár dTiarna. Amen.

CONCLUDING VERSE

Leader: May the Lord bless us, (*Sign of the
Cross*) and keep us from all evil, and bring
us to everlasting life. **All: Amen.**

Outline of the Format for a Celebration of the Word

**Elements in () are offered as suggestions. 🎵 Indicates parts that can be sung where resources allow.*

INTRODUCTORY RITES

OPENING HYMN 🎵
(CARRYING IN OF THE LECTIONARY)

STAND

SIGN OF THE CROSS AND GREETING

Leader: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. All: Amen.

Leader: Your word, O God, is a lamp for our steps. All: And a light for our path.

(WORDS OF INTRODUCTION)

PENITENTIAL ACT 🎵

COLLECT

LITURGY OF THE WORD

SIT

FIRST READING

SILENCE

RESPONSORIAL PSALM 🎵

SILENCE

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION 🎵

STAND

GOSPEL

SILENCE

SIT

(SHORT REFLECTION)

(SUNG RESPONSE 🎵)

STAND

INTERCESSIONS 🎵

STAND

OUR FATHER 🎵

CONCLUDING RITE

CONCLUDING PRAYER

(GESTURE OF REVERENCE TO THE SCRIPTURES)

CLOSING VERSE WITH SIGN OF THE CROSS

Leader: Let us bless the Lord. People: Thanks be to God. Or

Leader: May the Lord bless us, and keep us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life.

People: Amen. 🎵

DISMISSAL

Leader: Go in the peace of Christ.

People: Thanks be to God.

CLOSING HYMN 🎵

Accompanying Notes on a Celebration of the Word

SET UP Aside from other set up considerations, before the liturgy begins, any candles that are usually in place near or on the ambo and altar are lit.

OPENING HYMN The opening hymn unites into one voice all who have gathered as they stand to greet the risen Lord in their midst and begin their time of prayer together. Therefore this hymn, of necessity, is one that is known and familiar to those who have gathered. Familiar seasonal hymns are also very appropriate. The opening hymn typically begins when the prayer leader stands in his/her place, marking the beginning of the time of prayer. Again, the prayer leader does not sit in the presider's chair (priest's chair) but should be positioned in a location where he/she is both visible and audible.

CARRYING IN OF THE LECTIONARY Given the focus of this liturgy on the Word of God, it would be very appropriate for a member of the community to carry the Lectionary (the ritual book containing the readings) in procession to the ambo during the singing of the opening hymn and to place it on the ambo.

OPENING GREETING The text of this exchange between prayer leader and people once more highlights the importance of God's Word. It begins with all present making the Sign of the Cross upon themselves.

WORDS OF INTRODUCTION These words, spoken by the prayer leader, might acknowledge from the outset that we are gathering in the absence of an ordained priest and, because of this, we are unable to celebrate the Eucharist. Alternatively, they may very succinctly look forward to something that will be heard in the readings to come or they might make reference to the particular day in the liturgical calendar on which the celebration is taking place. Words of introduction are provided in the text in this resource book. On other occasions, these or similar words might be used.

For example: Once again we gather here to be Church. Christ is present with us, as he promised: present in this assembly of his people and in the proclamation of God's Word. As an ordained priest cannot be with us we are unable to celebrate the Eucharist. Today, let us be united in the spirit of Christ with the Church around the world, let us hear and respond to God's Word and give God thanks and praise. We look forward to when we can once more gather together to celebrate the Eucharist.

PENITENTIAL ACT To prepare ourselves to hear the Word of God we acknowledge our need for God's mercy and love in the Penitential Act using formulae similar to those which we find in the Mass.

COLLECT This prayer is led by the prayer leader. As in the case of all opening and closing prayers, the prayer begins with an invitation to the people to pray, *Let us pray*, which is followed by a moment of silence. In this silence, people bring their own prayer to the common prayer to follow. In this way, the common prayer literally *collects* the people's prayers into one. The people give their assent to this prayer with their Amen.

LITURGY OF THE WORD – TEXTS

The Liturgy of the Word in a celebration such as this one will typically employ the texts for the Mass of the day. However, on particular occasions parishes may choose to deviate from these texts. Volume III of the Lectionary provides a selection of readings for various needs and occasions. While what is happening in the life of the parish might suggest other readings.

THE READINGS The readings are proclaimed by a variety of parish readers and by people other than the prayer leader. As is always the case, there is no need to say ‘The first reading’ or ‘The responsorial psalm, the response is...’ The Gospel is introduced with the following words: ‘A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to N.’

THE PSALM If possible we are led in the singing of a responsorial psalm. To this end, we might build up a small repertoire of psalms and use these often, rather than using the psalm of the day. Alternatively, the response might be sung with spoken verses or all of the psalm might be recited by a reader with people reciting the response.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION All stand for the Gospel Acclamation which is intended to be sung.

SILENCE Silence is observed between all the readings in order for people to have time to ponder God’s Word. This silence can be developed as time goes on and people get used to it. Any sense of rush should be avoided to the utmost. People will need to be invited to sit for a time of silence after the reading of the Gospel.

REFLECTION The prayer leader or other member of the community may read a reflection or commentary on the readings. There is a growing body of commentaries available for such use, for example livingspace.sacredspace.ie

SUNG RESPONSE Having pondered God’s Word, the people stand and join in singing a hymn in response to the gift and nourishment of the Word.

INTERCESSIONS All stand for the intercessions, which can have a sung response.

OUR FATHER The prayer leader invites people to pray the Lord’s Prayer.

CONCLUDING PRAYER As in the case of the Opening Prayer, a set prayer can be put in place for any Celebrations of the Word that take place in the parish or this prayer might take a seasonal tone. Again, a prayer of the day is provided in this resource.

GESTURE OF REVERENCE TO THE SCRIPTURES As one of the final actions of this prayer, parishes might consider inviting those who have gathered to make a gesture of reverence to the Scriptures. Depending on circumstance, this might involve one of the readers of the day coming forward at this point and holding the closed Lectionary aloft while the prayer leader and the congregation bow to it. Or it might involve all who have gathered coming forward to kiss the Lectionary.

CLOSING VERSE AND DISMISSAL The prayer closes with the invitation to bless the Lord after which all respond and make the Sign of the Cross, before concluding with the words of dismissal and response. Again both of these verses can be sung if desired.

CLOSING HYMN A well known hymn concludes the celebration. Again this can be seasonal in nature. Alternatively people may depart in silence.

Preparation Meeting Guide for a Celebration of the Word

The following steps are suggested to parishes as members meet to prepare the prayer in order to take it from a text for prayer to an experience of shared, communal prayer.

1 Read the text fully

Each participant reads through the full text of the Celebration of the Word by themselves, noting the different elements as they already saw on their previous handout on the format of a Celebration of the Word. Try to imagine the prayer beyond the text.

2 Consider the following as a group:

As you do so, bear in mind all the time the people in your parish who ultimately you hope will pray this prayer, or similar, in your particular church when Mass is not possible.

a) The prayer space

Think of the setting of this prayer, the space in which people will gather. How will this space be prepared? Where will be the focus of people's attention? If people are praying before the sanctuary, the altar candles and any candles by the ambo are lit for this prayer. Will you make any particular set up changes in the church for this prayer? Consider the seating arrangement of all who gather and where the prayer leader will sit. Think about the lighting, heat and sound that might be needed.

b) The final text to be used

Again, consider the people who will gather for this prayer. In light of this, are you happy to go with the text as provided or do you need to make any amendments? For example, do you need to change any of the hymn suggestions?

c) Verbal elements

Think of the verbal elements of this prayer, for example, the opening and closing of the prayer time, the psalms and scripture, intercessions, invitation to pray the Lord's Prayer and the concluding prayer. When proclaiming texts to the assembly, for example, scripture, remember to actually look at the people as much as you can, rather than having your head buried in a text. Anyone leading these verbal elements should do so slowly and clearly.

Who will speak these different verbal elements? How many people do you need from the point of view of readers and prayer leader? How will you ensure that these people can be heard? Will someone source and read a reflection on the readings?

d) Non-verbal elements

Consider the non-verbal elements in the prayer, such as movement, posture (standing/sitting), gesture (sign of the cross, bowing) and pace of the prayer. How might these

non-verbal elements be carried out with reverence and grace? How will the use of silence be best utilised to enhance the prayer experience? How will you ensure that the silence will happen? Will the Lectionary be carried in at the beginning? Will people be invited to reverence the Lectionary with a bow before the conclusion of the celebration?

e) Participation of the people & hospitality to them

What do you think will help people's participation in this prayer? How can you help to involve them in the prayer? How will they be welcomed and how will they have what they need in order to pray this prayer? Will it be clear in any welcome before the prayer that the prayer leaders are there on behalf of and in the name of the parish in this instance when your priest cannot be with you for the celebration of Mass, if this is the case? Any instructions to people, for example about how the psalms will be prayed, is better done before the prayer begins and not during. This can be done by someone other than the individual prayer leader assigned to the prayer. A vital part of hospitality requires that those leading prayer arrive in good time and have everything in place before people arrive for prayer!

f) Openings and closings

Think about how this prayer will begin and finish. How will the prayer leader take his/her place among people and how will they depart? Remember that it is worth taking those extra few seconds to settle and be present in a space before beginning. A prayer leader might spend some moments seated in quiet prayer before standing to begin the prayer.

g) Assigning tasks

Having looked at this prayer and having made some decisions together, what ministers do you need to assign to it: prayer leader, readers, reflection, music, hospitality, set up (& putting away!), other?

Begin to put names beside the tasks.

h) Final check

Have you everything in place that you need in order to pray this prayer next time you gather?

Is there any one that needs to be communicated with ahead of time, i.e. sacristan, parish secretary, key holder...?

Is everyone clear on what they have to do? Any clarification needed?

A CELEBRATION OF THE WORD
MONDAY, 13 JUNE
MEMORIAL OF ST ANTHONY OF PADUA

INTRODUCTORY RITES **Please Stand**

OPENING HYMN **Be thou my vision**

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
be all else but naught to me save that thou art.
Be thou my best thought in the day and the
night,
both waking and sleeping,
thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom, be thou my true word.
Be thou ever with me and I with thee, Lord.
Be thou my great Father, and I thy true child.
Be thou in me dwelling and I with thee one.

GREETING

Leader: *(The sign of the Cross)* In the name of the
Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen

Leader: Your word, O God, is a lamp for our
steps.

All: And a light for our path.

WORDS OF INTRODUCTION

PENITENTIAL ACT

Leader: My brothers and sisters, let us
acknowledge our sins, that we may receive
God's Word with faith. **Silent Prayer**

Leader: Have mercy on us, Lord.

All: For we have sinned against you.

Leader: Show us, O Lord, your mercy.

All: And grant us your salvation.

Leader: May almighty God have mercy on us,
forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting
life.

All: Amen.

COLLECT

Leader: Let us pray.

Pause for silent prayer

Almighty, ever living God,
who gave Saint Anthony of Padua to your
people
as an outstanding preacher
and an intercessor in their need,
grant that, with his assistance,
as we follow the teachings of the
Christian life,
we may know your help in every trial.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity
of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

All: Amen.

LITURGY OF THE WORD **Please Sit**

FIRST READING

A Reading from the first book of Kings

Naboth has been stoned to death.

Silence

PSALM

**Response: Give heed to my groaning, O
Lord.**

Silence

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION **Please Stand**

**Alleluia, Alleluia! Your word is a lamp for
my steps and a light for my path. Alleluia!**

GOSPEL

**A Reading from the Holy Gospel
according to Matthew**

*I say this to you: offer the wicked
man no resistance*

Silence: **Please Sit**
Pray, ponder and reflect on the Word

(REFLECTION ON THE WORD)

SUNG RESPONSE

Please Stand

Be Still and Know

Be still and know that I am God,
be still and know that I am God,
be still and know that I am God.

I am the Lord that healeth thee,
I am the Lord that healeth thee,
I am the Lord that healeth thee

In thee, O Lord, do I put my trust,
In thee, O Lord, do I put my trust,
In thee, O Lord, do I put my trust

Or

Be Still for the Presence of the Lord

Be still for the presence of the Lord
The Holy One is here
Come bow before Him now
With reverence and fear
In Him no sin is found
We stand on holy ground
Be still for the presence of the Lord
The Holy One is here

Be still for the glory of the Lord
Is shining all around
He burns with holy fire
With splendour He is crowned
How awesome is the sight
Our radiant King of light
Be still for the glory of the Lord
Is shining all around

INTERCESSIONS

Response: Lord, hear our prayer.

PRAYER FOR OUR DIOCESE

Lord,
bless the faith community of Kildare
and Leighlin
which traces its origins to Brigid, Conleth and
Laserian.

May it be outstanding in charity as St. Brigid
of Kildare,
may it be constant in faith as St. Conleth
of Old Connell,
wise and prayerful as St. Laserian of Leighlin.
Bless its Bishop, priests, religious and laity.
Fill them with the light of your love.
Bless its young people.
Help them to seek your truth.
Bless all who are poor or weak or wounded
by life's hurts.
Grant them justice, light and hope.
Sin é ár nguí tré Críost ár dTiarna. Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

CONCLUDING PRAYER

(GESTURE OF REVERENCE TO THE LECTIONARY)

CLOSING VERSE

Leader: May the Lord bless us, and keep
us from all evil, and bring us to
everlasting life.

All: Amen.

DISMISSAL

Leader: Go in the peace of Christ.

All: Thanks be to God.

CLOSING HYMN **Holy God, We Praise Thy Name.**

Holy God, we praise thy Name;
Lord of all, we bow before thee!
All on earth thy scepter claim,
all in heaven above adore thee;
infinite thy vast domain,
everlasting is thy reign.

Hark! the loud celestial hymn,
angel choirs above are raising,
cherubim and seraphim,
in unceasing chorus praising;
fill the heavens with sweet accord:
Holy, holy, holy, Lord.

A CELEBRATION OF THE WORD
TUESDAY, 14 JUNE
11TH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

INTRODUCTORY RITES **Please Stand**

OPENING HYMN **Christ be beside me**
Christ be beside me, Christ be before me,
Christ be behind me, King of my heart.
Christ be within me, Christ be below me,
Christ be above me, never to part.

Christ on my right hand, Christ on my left hand,
Christ all around me, shield in the strife.
Christ in my sleeping, Christ in my sitting,
Christ in my rising, light of my life.

Christ be in all hearts thinking about me,
Christ be on all tongues telling of me.
Christ be the vision in eyes that see me,
In ears that hear me, Christ ever be.

GREETING

Leader: *(The sign of the Cross)* In the name of the
Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen

Leader: Your word, O God, is a lamp for our
steps.

All: And a light for our path.

WORDS OF INTRODUCTION

PENITENTIAL ACT

Leader: My brothers and sisters, let us
acknowledge our sins, that we may receive
God's Word with faith. **Silent Prayer**

Leader: Have mercy on us, Lord.

All: For we have sinned against you.

Leader: Show us, O Lord, your mercy.

All: And grant us your salvation.

Leader: May almighty God have mercy on us,
forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting
life.

All: Amen.

COLLECT

Leader: Let us pray.

Pause for silent prayer

O God, strength of those who hope in
you,
Feed us with your word this day,
graciously hear our prayers
and grant us always the help of your
grace.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the
unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

All: Amen.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Please Sit

FIRST READING

A Reading from the first book of Kings

You led Israel into sin.

Silence

PSALM

**Response: Have mercy on us, Lord, for
we have sinned.**

Silence

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Please Stand

**Alleluia, Alleluia! I give you a new
commandment: love one another just as I
have loved you. Alleluia!**

GOSPEL

**A Reading from the Holy Gospel
according to Matthew**

Love your enemies.

Silence:

Please Sit

Pray, ponder and reflect on the Word

(REFLECTION ON THE WORD)

SUNG RESPONSE

Please Stand
Be Still and Know

Be still and know that I am God,
be still and know that I am God,
be still and know that I am God.

I am the Lord that healeth thee,
I am the Lord that healeth thee,
I am the Lord that healeth thee

In thee, O Lord, do I put my trust,
In thee, O Lord, do I put my trust,
In thee, O Lord, do I put my trust

Or

Be Still for the Presence of the Lord

Be still for the presence of the Lord
The Holy One is here
Come bow before Him now
With reverence and fear
In Him no sin is found
We stand on holy ground
Be still for the presence of the Lord
The Holy One is here

Be still for the glory of the Lord
Is shining all around
He burns with holy fire
With splendour He is crowned
How awesome is the sight
Our radiant King of light
Be still for the glory of the Lord
Is shining all around

INTERCESSIONS

Response: Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

PRAYER FOR OUR DIOCESE

Lord, bless the faith community of Kildare
and Leighlin which traces its origins to Brigid,
Conleth and Laserian.
May it be outstanding in charity as St. Brigid
of Kildare,
may it be constant in faith as St. Conleth of Old
Connell,
wise and prayerful as St. Laserian of Leighlin.

Bless its Bishop, priests, religious and laity.
Fill them with the light of your love.
Bless its young people.
Help them to seek your truth.
Bless all who are poor or weak or wounded
by life's hurts.
Grant them justice, light and hope.
Sin é ár nguí tré Críost ár dTiarna. Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

CONCLUDING PRAYER

(GESTURE OF REVERENCE TO THE LECTIONARY)

CLOSING VERSE

Leader: May the Lord bless us, and keep
us from all evil, and bring us to
everlasting life.

All: Amen.

DISMISSAL

Leader: Go in the peace of Christ.

All: Thanks be to God.

CLOSING HYMN

How Great Thou Art

O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder,
consider all the worlds Thy Hands have made;
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,
Thy power throughout the universe displayed.

Then sings my soul, My Saviour God, to Thee,
how great Thou art, how great Thou art.
Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to Thee,
how great Thou art, how great Thou art!

When through the woods, and forest glades I
wander,
and hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees.
When I look down, from lofty mountain
grandeur
and see the brook, and feel the gentle breeze.

Then sings my soul, My Saviour God, to Thee,
how great Thou art, how great Thou art.
Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to Thee,
how great Thou art, how great Thou art!

A CELEBRATION OF THE WORD
WEDNESDAY, 15 JUNE
11TH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

INTRODUCTORY RITES

Please Stand

OPENING HYMN

Be still and know that I am God,
be still and know that I am God,
be still and know that I am God.

I am the Lord that healeth thee,
I am the Lord that healeth thee,
I am the Lord that healeth thee.

In thee, O Lord, do I put my trust,
In thee, O Lord, do I put my trust,
In thee, O Lord, do I put my trust.

GREETING

Leader: *(The sign of the Cross)* In the name of the
Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen

Leader: Your word, O God, is a lamp for our
steps.

All: And a light for our path.

WORDS OF INTRODUCTION

PENITENTIAL ACT

Leader: My brothers and sisters, let us
acknowledge our sins, that we may receive
God's Word with faith. **Silent Prayer**

Leader: Have mercy on us, Lord.

All: For we have sinned against you.

Leader: Show us, O Lord, your mercy.

All: And grant us your salvation.

Leader: May almighty God have mercy on us,
forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting
life.

All: Amen.

COLLECT

Leader: Let us pray.

Pause for silent prayer

O God, strength of those who hope in
you,
feed us with your word this day,
graciously hear our prayers
and grant us always the help of your
grace.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the
unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

All: Amen.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Please Sit

FIRST READING

A Reading from the second book of Kings

*A Chariot of fire appeared and Elijah went
up to heaven.*

Silence

PSALM

**Response: Let your heart take courage,
all who hope in the Lord.**

Silence

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION **Please Stand**

**Alleluia, Alleluia! Your word is a lamp for
my steps and a light for my path. Alleluia!**

GOSPEL

**A Reading from the Holy Gospel
according to Matthew**

*Your Father who sees all that is
done in secret will reward you.*

Silence:

Please Sit

Pray, ponder and reflect on the Word

(REFLECTION ON THE WORD)

SUNG RESPONSE

Please Stand

Be Still and Know

Be still and know that I am God,
be still and know that I am God,
be still and know that I am God.

I am the Lord that healeth thee,
I am the Lord that healeth thee,
I am the Lord that healeth thee

In thee, O Lord, do I put my trust,
In thee, O Lord, do I put my trust,
In thee, O Lord, do I put my trust

Or

Be Still for the Presence of the Lord

Be still for the presence of the Lord
The Holy One is here
Come bow before Him now
With reverence and fear
In Him no sin is found
We stand on holy ground
Be still for the presence of the Lord
The Holy One is here

Be still for the glory of the Lord
Is shining all around
He burns with holy fire
With splendour He is crowned
How awesome is the sight
Our radiant King of light
Be still for the glory of the Lord
Is shining all around

INTERCESSIONS

Response: Lord, graciously hear us.

PRAYER FOR OUR DIOCESE

Lord, bless the faith community of Kildare
and Leighlin which traces its origins to Brigid,
Conleth and Laserian.
May it be outstanding in charity as St. Brigid of
Kildare,
may it be constant in faith as St. Conleth of Old
Connell,

Wise and prayerful as St. Laserian of
Leighlin.

Bless its Bishop, priests, religious and
laity.

Fill them with the light of your love.

Bless its young people.

Help them to seek your truth.

Bless all who are poor or weak or
wounded by life's hurts.

Grant them justice, light and hope.

Sin é ár nguí tré Críost ár dTiarna. Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

CONCLUDING PRAYER

(GESTURE OF REVERENCE TO THE LECTIONARY)

CLOSING VERSE

Leader: May the Lord bless us, and keep
us from all evil, and bring us to
everlasting life.

All: Amen.

DISMISSAL

Leader: Go in the peace of Christ.

All: Thanks be to God.

CLOSING HYMN **Hail Holy Queen**

Hail, Queen of heav'n, the ocean star.
Guide of the wand'rers here below!
Thrown on life's surge
we claim thy care.
Save us from peril and from woe.
Mother of Christ, Star of the sea,
pray for the wanderer. Pray for me.

O gentle, chaste, and spotless Maid,
we sinners make our prayers thro' thee.
Remind thy Son
that He has paid
the price of our iniquity.
Virgin most pure, Star of the sea,
pray for the sinner. Pray for me.

CELEBRATION OF THE WORD
MONDAY, JUNE 13, 2016
11TH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME: MEMORIAL OF ST ANTHONY OF PADUA

Leader's copy

Before the liturgy begins, the prayer leader sits in his/her place in quiet preparation for a few moments. The opening hymn begins when the prayer leader stands.

INTRODUCTORY RITES

OPENING HYMN

Stand

As the opening hymn is sung a reader carries the Lectionary aloft through the body of the church, places it on the ambo and takes his/her place among the people.

Be thou my vision

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
be all else but naught to me save that thou art.
Be thou my best thought in the day and the night,
both waking and sleeping,
thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom, be thou my true word.
Be thou ever with me and I with thee, Lord.
Be thou my great Father, and I thy true child.
Be thou in me dwelling and I with thee one.

GREETING

Leader: (While making the Sign of the Cross) In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

Leader: Your word, O God, is a lamp for our steps.

All: And a light for our path.

INTRODUCTION

On this day we gather as a Christian community as we normally would but, because our priest cannot be with us, we are unable to celebrate the Mass. As we gather in prayer, we remember the belief of the Church that it is God who speaks to us whenever the Scriptures are proclaimed in church. This is a living Word that speaks directly and personally to each one of us here today. We ready ourselves to welcome this Word from God once more into our lives. (pause)

Today the Church celebrates the memorial of St Anthony who died in Padua in 1231 at the age of thirty six. Born in Portugal, he joined the Franciscans and preached against heresy throughout France and Italy, bringing many back to the faith. (pause)

And so as we begin, let us thank God for our faith and let us hold Bishop Denis, our priests, our parish and our diocese in prayer. (pause)

PENITENTIAL ACT

Leader: My brothers and sisters, let us acknowledge our sins, that we may receive God's Word with faith. **Silent Prayer**

Leader: Have mercy on us, Lord.

All: For we have sinned against you.

Leader: Show us, O Lord, your mercy.

All: And grant us your salvation.

Leader: May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.

All: Amen.

COLLECT

Leader: Let us pray. (Pause)

Almighty, ever living God,
who gave Saint Anthony of Padua to your people
as an outstanding preacher
and an intercessor in their need,
grant that, with his assistance,
as we follow the teachings of the Christian life,
we may know your help in every trial.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

AMEN.

Sit

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING

Lectionary II P 587

Read by the parish reader who carried in the Lectionary.

A Reading from the first book of Kings

21:1-16

Naboth has been stoned to death.

Silence

PSALM

Lectionary II P 588

If this psalm is recited, the same reader who proclaimed the first reading leads the psalm in the normal manner.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 5

Response: Give heed to my groaning, O Lord.

Silence

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Stand

When the leader stands, a familiar Alleluia can be sung by all the people. The verse may be recited.

Alleluia, Alleluia!

Your word is a lamp for my steps and a light for my path.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Lectionary II P 589

A parish reader, and not the leader, proclaims this reading.

A Reading from the Holy Gospel According to Matthew

5:38-42

I say this to you: offer the wicked man no resistance.

Silence: *Pray, ponder and reflect on the Word of God*

Sit

REFLECTION OPTION:

After a few moments of silence, another member of the parish, other than the leader may read the reflection on the readings of the day provided in livingspace.sacredspace.ie or another such resource.

SUNG RESPONSE

Stand

Be Still and Know that I am God

1. Be still and know that I am God,
be still and know that I am God,
be still and know that I am God.

2. I am the Lord that healeth thee,
I am the Lord that healeth thee,
I am the Lord that healeth thee

3. In thee, O Lord, do I put my trust,
In thee, O Lord, do I put my trust,
In thee, O Lord, do I put my trust

Or

Be Still for the Presence of the Lord

Be still for the presence of the Lord, the Holy One is here.
Come bow before Him now, with reverence and fear.
In Him no sin is found, we stand on holy ground.
Be still for the presence of the Lord, the Holy One is here

Be still for the glory of the Lord, is shining all around.
He burns with holy fire, with splendour He is crowned.
How awesome is the sight, our radiant King of light.
Be still for the glory of the Lord, its shining all around

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

Leader (*From their place*): In trust and confidence, we ask God to look with favour once more on the needs of our community of faith.

The reader returns to his/her place.

PRAYER FOR THE DIOCESE

Leader: Together we pray our Prayer for the Diocese...

Lord, bless the faith community of Kildare and Leighlin
which traces its origins to Brigid, Conleth and Laserian.
May it be outstanding in charity as St. Brigid of Kildare,
may it be constant in faith as St. Conleth of Old Connell,
wise and prayerful as St. Laserian of Leighlin.
Bless its Bishop, priests, religious and laity.
Fill them with the light of your love.
Bless its young people.
Help them to seek your truth.
Bless all who are poor or weak or wounded by life's hurts.
Grant them justice, light and hope.
Sin é ár nguí tré Críost ár dTiarna. Amen.

CONCLUDING RITE

LORD'S PRAYER

Leader: With trust in our Father in heaven, we pray as Jesus taught us, saying:
Our Father...

CONCLUDING PRAYER

Leader: Almighty ever-living God,
In Jesus you have given us the bread of life.
With his word you continue to nourish your people who hunger for you.
Having been fed by this Word
May our hearts now be stirred to live it
and so obtain life everlasting.
Through Christ our Lord. **All: Amen.**

CLOSING VERSE

Leader: (*While making the Sign of the Cross*) The Lord bless us ☩, and keep us from all
evil,
and bring us to everlasting life.
All: Amen.

DISMISSAL

Leader: Go in the peace of Christ.
All: Thanks be to God

CLOSING HYMN

Holy God, We Praise Thy Name.

Holy God, we praise thy Name; Lord of all, we bow before thee!
All on earth thy scepter claim, all in heaven above adore thee;
infinite thy vast domain, everlasting is thy reign.

Hark! the loud celestial hymn, angel choirs above are raising,
cherubim and seraphim, in unceasing chorus praising;
fill the heavens with sweet accord: Holy, holy, holy, Lord.

CELEBRATION OF THE WORD
TUESDAY, JUNE 14, 2016
11TH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

Leader's copy

Before the liturgy begins, the prayer leader sits in his/her place in quiet preparation for a few moments. The opening hymn begins when the prayer leader stands.

INTRODUCTORY RITES

OPENING HYMN

Stand

As the opening hymn is sung a reader carries the Lectionary aloft through the body of the church, places it on the ambo and takes his/her place among the people.

HYMN

Christ be beside me

Christ be beside me, Christ be before me,
Christ be behind me, King of my heart.
Christ be within me, Christ be below me,
Christ be above me, never to part.

Christ on my right hand, Christ on my left hand, Christ all around me, shield in the strife.
Christ in my sleeping, Christ in my sitting,
Christ in my rising, light of my life.

Christ be in all hearts thinking about me,
Christ be on all tongues telling of me.
Christ be the vision in eyes that see me,
In ears that hear me, Christ ever be.

GREETING

Leader: *(While making the Sign of the Cross)* In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

Leader: Your word, O God, is a lamp for our steps.

All: And a light for our path.

INTRODUCTION

On this day we gather as a Christian community as we normally would but, because our priest cannot be with us, we are unable to celebrate the Mass. As we gather in prayer, we remember the belief of the Church that it is God who speaks to us whenever the Scriptures are proclaimed in church. This is a living Word that speaks directly and personally to each one of us here today. We ready ourselves to welcome this Word from God once more into our lives. *(pause)*

And so as we begin, let us thank God for our faith and let us hold Bishop Denis, our priests, our parish and our diocese in prayer. *(pause)*

Let us call to mind any intention we bring with us this day (pause)

PENITENTIAL ACT

Leader: My brothers and sisters, let us acknowledge our sins, that we may receive God's Word with faith. **Silent Prayer**

Leader: Have mercy on us, Lord.

All: For we have sinned against you.

Leader: Show us, O Lord, your mercy.

All: And grant us your salvation.

Leader: May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.

All: Amen.

COLLECT

Leader: Let us pray. (Pause)

O God, strength of those who hope in you,
Feed us with your word this day,
graciously hear our prayers
and grant us always the help of your grace.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

AMEN.

Sit

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING

Lectionary II P 589

Read by the parish reader who carried in the Lectionary.

A Reading from the first book of Kings

21:17-29

You led Israel into sin.

Silence

PSALM

Lectionary II P 589

If this psalm is recited, the same reader who proclaimed the first reading leads the psalm in the normal manner.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 50

Response: Have mercy on us, Lord, for we have sinned.

Silence

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Stand

When the leader stands, a familiar Alleluia can be sung by all the people. The verse may be recited.

Alleluia, Alleluia!

I give you a new commandment: love one another just as I have love you.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Lectionary II P 589

A parish reader, and **not the leader**, proclaims this reading.

A Reading from the Holy Gospel According to Matthew

5:43-48

I say this to you: offer the wicked man no resistance.

Silence: *Pray, ponder and reflect on the Word of God*

Sit

REFLECTION OPTION:

After a few moments of silence, another member of the parish, other than the leader may read the reflection on the readings of the day provided in livingspace/sacredspace.ie or another such resource.

SUNG RESPONSE

Stand

Be Still and Know that I am God

1. Be still and know that I am God,
be still and know that I am God,
be still and know that I am God.

2. I am the Lord that healeth thee,
I am the Lord that healeth thee,
I am the Lord that healeth thee

3. In thee, O Lord, do I put my trust,
In thee, O Lord, do I put my trust,
In thee, O Lord, do I put my trust

Or

Be Still for the Presence of the Lord

Be still for the presence of the Lord
The Holy One is here
Come bow before Him now
With reverence and fear
In Him no sin is found,
We stand on holy ground
Be still for the presence of the Lord
The Holy One is here

Be still for the glory of the Lord
Is shining all around
He burns with holy fire,
With splendour He is crowned
How awesome is the sight
Our radiant King of light
Be still for the glory of the Lord
Is shining all around.

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

Leader (**From their place**): In trust and confidence, we ask God to look with favour once more on the needs of our community of faith.

1. God of all nations, we join with you in longing for peace among all peoples of the earth. Help us to be promoters of peace in all our relationships, especially where there is conflict or division. (**pause**) R. *Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.*
2. God of Life, be with those who are ill this day and with those who care for them. Bring them into the presence of your healing love. (**pause**) R. *Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.*
3. God of wisdom, give strength and guidance to our young people as they continue to sit their state exams. May they persevere and find support among one another, their community and their families. (**pause**) R. *Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.*
4. God of hope, be with Bishop Denis and our priests in these days of conference as they ponder your Word and pray for your guidance. (**pause**) R. *Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.*
5. We remember and pray for all the prayer intentions of our fellow parishioners and our own intentions as we pray in silence. (**pause**) R. *Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.*

The reader returns to his/her place.

PRAYER FOR THE DIOCESE

Leader: Together we pray our Prayer for the Diocese...

Lord, bless the faith community of Kildare and Leighlin
which traces its origins to Brigid, Conleth and Laserian.
May it be outstanding in charity as St. Brigid of Kildare,
may it be constant in faith as St. Conleth of Old Connell,
wise and prayerful as St. Laserian of Leighlin.
Bless its Bishop, priests, religious and laity.
Fill them with the light of your love.
Bless its young people.
Help them to seek your truth.
Bless all who are poor or weak or wounded by life's hurts.
Grant them justice, light and hope.
Sin é ár nguí tré Críost ár dTiarna. Amen.

CONCLUDING RITE

LORD'S PRAYER

Leader: With trust in our Father in heaven, we pray as Jesus taught us, saying:
Our Father...

CONCLUDING PRAYER

Leader: Almighty ever-living God,
In Jesus you have given us the bread of life.
With his word you continue to nourish your people who hunger for you.
Having been fed by this Word
May our hearts now be stirred to live it
and so obtain life everlasting.
Through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

CLOSING VERSE

Leader: *(While making the Sign of the Cross)* May the Lord be Lord bless us, and keep us
from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life.

All: Amen.

DISMISSAL

Leader: Go in the peace of Christ.

All: Thanks be to God

CLOSING HYMN

How Great Thou Art

O Lord my God, When I in awesome wonder,
Consider all the worlds Thy Hands have made;
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,
Thy power throughout the universe displayed.

Then sings my soul, My Saviour God, to Thee, How great Thou art, How great Thou art.
Then sings my soul, My Saviour God, to Thee, How great Thou art, How great Thou art!

When through the woods, and forest glades I wander, And hear the birds sing sweetly in
the trees.

When I look down, from lofty mountain grandeur, And see the brook, and feel the gentle
breeze.

Then sings my soul, My Saviour God, to Thee, How great Thou art, How great Thou art.
Then sings my soul, My Saviour God, to Thee, How great Thou art, How great Thou art!

CELEBRATION OF THE WORD
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 15, 2016
11TH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

Leader's copy

Before the liturgy begins, the prayer leader sits in his/her place in quiet preparation for a few moments. The opening hymn begins when the prayer leader stands.

INTRODUCTORY RITES

OPENING HYMN

Stand

As the opening hymn is sung a reader carries the Lectionary aloft through the body of the church, places it on the ambo and takes his/her place among the people.

HYMN

Be still and know that I am God,
be still and know that I am God,
be still and know that I am God.
 I am the Lord that healeth thee,
 I am the Lord that healeth thee,
 I am the Lord that healeth thee.
In thee, O Lord, do I put my trust,
In thee, O Lord, do I put my trust,
In thee, O Lord, do I put my trust.

GREETING

Leader: *(While making the Sign of the Cross)* In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

Leader: Your word, O God, is a lamp for our steps.

All: And a light for our path.

INTRODUCTION

On this day we gather as a Christian community as we normally would but, because our priest cannot be with us, we are unable to celebrate the Mass. As we gather in prayer, we remember the belief of the Church that it is God who speaks to us whenever the Scriptures are proclaimed in church. This is a living Word that speaks directly and personally to each one of us here today. We ready ourselves to welcome this Word from God once more into our lives. *(pause)*

And so as we begin, let us thank God for our faith and let us hold Bishop Denis, our priests, our parish and our diocese in prayer. *(pause)*

Let us call to mind any intention we bring with us this day *(pause)*

PENITENTIAL ACT

Leader: My brothers and sisters, let us acknowledge our sins, that we may receive God's Word with faith. **Silent Prayer**

Leader: Have mercy on us, Lord.

All: For we have sinned against you.

Leader: Show us, O Lord, your mercy.

All: And grant us your salvation.

Leader: May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.

All: Amen.

COLLECT

Leader: Let us pray. **(Pause)**

O God, strength of those who hope in you,
Feed us with your word this day,
graciously hear our prayers
and grant us always the help of your grace.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

AMEN.

Sit

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING

Lectionary II P 589

Read by the parish reader who carried in the Lectionary.

A Reading from the second book of Kings

2:1.6-14

A chariot of fire appeared and Elijah went up to heaven.

Silence

PSALM

Lectionary II P 591

If this psalm is recited, the same reader who proclaimed the first reading leads the psalm in the normal manner.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 30

Response: Let your heart take courage, all who hope in the Lord.

Silence

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Stand

When the leader stands, a familiar Alleluia can be sung by all the people. The verse may be recited.

Alleluia, Alleluia!

If anyone loves me he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we shall come to him. Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Lectionary II P 593

A parish reader, and not the leader, proclaims this reading.

A Reading from the Holy Gospel According to Matthew

6:1-6,16-18

Your Father who sees all that is done in secret will reward you.

Silence: *Pray, ponder and reflect on the Word of God*

Sit

REFLECTION OPTION:

After a few moments of silence, another member of the parish, other than the leader may read the reflection on the readings of the day provided in livingspace.sacredspace.ie or similar.

SUNG RESPONSE

Stand

Be Still and Know that I am God

1. Be still and know that I am God,
be still and know that I am God,
be still and know that I am God.

2. I am the Lord that healeth thee,
I am the Lord that healeth thee,
I am the Lord that healeth thee

3. In thee, O Lord, do I put my trust,
In thee, O Lord, do I put my trust,
In thee, O Lord, do I put my trust

Or

Be Still for the Presence of the Lord

Be still for the presence of the Lord
The Holy One is here
Come bow before Him now
With reverence and fear
In Him no sin is found
We stand on holy ground
Be still for the presence of the Lord
The Holy One is here

Be still for the glory of the Lord
Is shining all around
He burns with holy fire
With splendour He is crowned
How awesome is the sight
Our radiant King of light
Be still for the glory of the Lord
Is shining all around

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

Leader (**From their place**): In trust and confidence, we ask God to look with favour once more on the needs of our community of faith.

Reader:

1. We pray for Bishop Denis and the priests of the diocese. May they be graced and strengthened in these days of conference. (**pause**) Lord, hear us. **Response:** Lord, graciously hear us.
2. We pray for an increase in vocations to the priesthood and religious life. May each one of us play our part in encouraging and supporting vocations. (**pause**) Lord, hear us. **Response:** Lord, graciously hear us.
3. We pray in gratitude for all who give of their time and talent in our parish and who contribute in making our parish a witness to God's love in action. May everyone in our parish feel welcome to share their gifts with our faith community. (**pause**) Lord, hear us. **Response:** Lord, graciously hear us.
4. We pray for those who are homeless and who yearn for permanent, safe shelter both here in this land and across the world. (**pause**) Lord, hear us. **Response:** Lord, graciously hear us.
5. We pray for those in our parish and in our families who are suffering this day with mental ill health, that they will know God's love for them and experience healing in mind. (**pause**) Lord, hear us. **Response:** Lord, graciously hear us.
6. We pray for the many needs of the people of our parish, for those who are remembering the anniversaries of loved one's gone before them, and for all our intentions named and unnamed. (**pause**) Lord, hear us. **Response:** Lord, graciously hear us.

The reader returns to his/her place.

PRAYER FOR THE DIOCESE

Leader: Together we pray our Prayer for the Diocese...

Lord, bless the faith community of Kildare and Leighlin
which traces its origins to Brigid, Conleth and Laserian.
May it be outstanding in charity as St. Brigid of Kildare,
may it be constant in faith as St. Conleth of Old Connell,
wise and prayerful as St. Laserian of Leighlin.
Bless its Bishop, priests, religious and laity.
Fill them with the light of your love.
Bless its young people.

Help them to seek your truth.
Bless all who are poor or weak or wounded by life's hurts.
Grant them justice, light and hope.
Sin é ár nguí tré Críost ár dTiarna. Amen.

CONCLUDING RITE

LORD'S PRAYER

Leader: With trust in our Father in heaven, we pray as Jesus taught us, saying:
Our Father...

CONCLUDING PRAYER

Leader: Almighty ever-living God,
In Jesus you have given us the bread of life.
With his word you continue to nourish your people who hunger for you.
Having been fed by this Word
May our hearts now be stirred to live it
and so obtain life everlasting.
Through Christ our Lord.
All: Amen.

CLOSING VERSE

Leader: *(While making the Sign of the Cross)* May the Lord be Lord bless us, and keep us
from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life.
All: Amen.

DISMISSAL

Leader: Go in the peace of Christ.
All: Thanks be to God

CLOSING HYMN

Hail Holy Queen

Hail, Queen of heav'n, the ocean star. Guide of the wand'rer here below!
Thrown on life's surge we claim thy care. Save us from peril and from woe.
Mother of Christ, Star of the sea, pray for the wanderer. Pray for me.

O gentle, chaste, and spotless Maid, we sinners make our prayers thro' thee.
Remind thy Son that He has paid the price of our iniquity.
Virgin most pure, Star of the sea, pray for the sinner. Oh, pray for me.