

Introduction



United States Bishops are sponsoring a three-year National Eucharistic Revival from 2022 through 2025. It is meant to bring together all aspects of the church, involving clergy, religious laity, organizations, and parish and diocesan leaders.

The purpose is to “inspire and prepare the People of God to be formed, healed, converted, united, and sent out to a hurting and hungry world through a renewed encounter with Jesus in the Eucharist – the source and summit of our Catholic faith.” You can learn more at the official website: EucharisticRevival.org.

Timeline

The process began in June 2022, and each year has a distinct focus:

- * **Year 1: Diocesan Revival** (2022-2023) is focused on diocese-wide planning and events.
- * **Year 2: Parish Revival** (2023-2024) will shift the focus to the parish, with formation, prayer, and other activities there.
- * **Year 3: Missionary Sending** (2024-2025) will begin with a pilgrimage of an anticipated 80,000 Catholics to a July 2024 National Eucharistic Congress in Indianapolis. That year will focus on sending Catholics to go out to the peripheries of their communities as “eucharistic missionaries.”

Why Now?

Our bishops see this as a critical time, including the effects of the pandemic. Their concerns include the following:

- * General upheaval in our society and beyond: political polarization, worldwide conflicts, and a

variety of impacts from COVID-19.

- * Mass attendance has declined for over 50 years, and the pandemic caused an even more dramatic drop.
- * Surveys suggest that large numbers of Catholics do not believe in the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist.
- * Over 40% of Millennials do not consider themselves affiliated with any religion. The Revival website states, “Many young Catholics find the faith to be irrelevant to the meaning of their lives and challenges.”

The Revival is an opportunity for the church to meet the needs of our neighborhoods, our country, and our world.

Many Voices

As the Revival rolls out, we will hear many perspectives and voices on how to approach it. And that’s the whole point. It’s designed to be a *movement* we can all participate in, shape, and implement.

Your parish leadership must reflect on how you are called to respond in your local community.

This Pastoral Toolkit

We are providing this free kit as our gift to you. It includes key principles, questions to ponder, a wide variety of options, and references to tools that can make planning and implementing your Revival plan easy and effective.

As you begin your planning and discernment, bring your prayers with you each week to Mass and let Christ and the blessings of the Eucharist enter into your process. Be fueled by your desire to share this precious gift with others.

Parish Objectives

Even if you love the *idea* of a Eucharistic Revival, you may not know where to start in your parish. How can you plan for and implement a strategy that will make a difference?

The bottom line is that the Revival calls for *change*, not business as usual. It will not be enough to preach to the choir or to add a bulletin insert.

We have built this kit around eight parish objectives that can have a real impact on your community. You will find additional handouts and worksheets to help you with each one.

1 Revive Eucharistic Formation

A central part of your Revival strategy should include formation to help your people better understand and appreciate the Mass, Eucharist, and our mission as Christian disciples in the world. Some of this formation will be focused more on your leaders and insiders to equip them to invite better and serve those who are on the margins of or outside the church.

2 Revive Your Welcome & Hospitality

As leaders or insiders, it isn't easy to assess how welcoming your parish will feel to a newcomer. We're comfortable, know where things are, and see familiar faces around us. If we want more people to attend and participate in Mass regularly, then we need to be intentional about removing barriers that keep them away or on the periphery. Learn more about how you can invite and welcome in God's name.

3 Revive the Sunday Experience

We can teach people about the Mass and why they should attend until we're blue in the face, but if

their experience of it is not compelling, they will not return regularly. This does not mean that Sunday mornings should be about entertainment or what attendees "like." Our goal should be to celebrate Mass in a way that helps people to *pray together well*. When we do this effectively and consistently, people will not only attend regularly, but also invite their friends.

4 Revive the Mass for Families

Attending Mass with their children can be a nightmare for parents. It's difficult enough to get families to prioritize Mass against youth sports schedules or sleeping in on Sundays, but if it's a miserable experience, we definitely won't see them. There are concrete steps we can take to make the Sunday experience an excellent one for families.

5 Revive First Communion

The First Eucharist preparation process is an opportunity to evangelize and engage each family, especially regarding the themes of this Revival. But leaders often complain that they do not see many of these families at Mass before, during, or after the preparation process. We must bring parents into the process and offer a compelling process that coaches them on their role in sharing faith and why the Eucharist is so essential.

6 Revive Eucharistic Adoration

Everyone should have the opportunity to slow down and have quiet prayer before the Blessed Sacrament, especially in our fast-paced, always-on culture. How can you introduce your parishioners to this kind of prayer and provide access to an appropriate prayer space when they can use it?

7 Revive Eucharistic Ministry to the Sick

Many parishioners cannot physically attend Mass and therefore are not able to participate in the sacrament of the Eucharist. This number has substantially increased since the on-again-off-again pandemic has kept those with health vulnerabilities home. The need for eucharistic visitors to the sick is more significant than ever, and lay people can fulfill this role well when priests cannot keep up with the demand. However, this ministry is about more than simply bringing the Blessed Sacrament in the form of bread. It is also about bringing the presence of Christ through the minister and providing pastoral care. Our free Leading Eucharistic Visitors kit offers best practices for starting and sustaining a ministry to the sick and homebound.

The companion kit *Forming Eucharistic Visitors* gives an excellent framework for initial and ongoing formation.

8 Revive the Lectionary Readings

How many times have you heard someone say that Mass isn't "relevant" to their lives? It can be challenging for an everyday Catholic to make meaningful connections between the Sunday lectionary readings and their daily experience. The more we can help them with this relevance, the more nourishment they will find in the Mass each week. Explore a list of free and affordable tools that will help you provide this to your parishioners.

Who Will You Reach?

The intention of the Eucharistic Revival is to move beyond the “usual suspects.” We hope to reach out to those on the margins of the parish (and beyond) and invite them closer to Christ and the church. We also strive to *go out*, to be a church in the world, helping God to transform it.

Committed Parishioners

The Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate (CARA) provides helpful U.S. statistics about those we hope to reach. Of all baptized Catholics here, 17% attend Mass every week. For the most part, this includes our ministry leaders and those who most support the parish financially. These, including your staff, are your committed “insiders.”

AN INSIDE-OUT FOCUS

In most parishes, we are used to focusing on our insiders. This is natural, as we know these people well and know how to reach them. We make announcements at Mass, in the bulletin, and perhaps through the parish email list.

But if we want to embrace the spirit of the Revival and move beyond our inner circle, we will need to change our *modus operandi*. We must be very intentional about who we want to reach and how we will do so.

REVIVAL FOR INSIDERS

The Eucharistic Revival’s primary challenge to those in this group is to reach out from the inner circle to invite, accompany, and serve others. Our “regulars” need to fully embrace the parish’s mission and their call to be intentional disciples.

The Revival can help insiders to grow in their personal faith. It can enable them fully recognize and experience the Real Presence and the Mass. But if we are truly deepening our Christian faith, it will point us outward.

A EUCCHARISTIC WORKFORCE

The parish Revival effort requires a workforce beyond the parish staff (and even a small team of volunteers). Faith is shared person-to-person. We need the whole Body of Christ involved.

Your Revival effort should treat all of your insiders as a team. Help them to understand the big picture, their responsibility to invite and to make everyone feel welcome, and ways they can make a difference. Equip them to be intentional disciples.

Marginal Parishioners

A growing number of Catholics are not fully committed to their parish but remain connected in some regular way. For example:

- * 15% of baptized Catholics attend once a month (but not weekly).
- * 39% attend less than monthly
- * Many Catholics with low levels of commitment come to the parish for baptism or First Eucharist for their children or marriage.

WHY ON THE MARGINS?

There are *reasons* why all of these people are on the margins. These obstacles to deeper commitment are varied and differ from person to person. Each person will have a different level of resistance, from indifference to hostility. Some will have misconceptions about the faith, while some may understand the faith very well.

Some believe that the church has marginalized them. They may have suffered through a divorce or an abortion. They may identify as LGBTQ+, be married outside the church, or feel the patriarchal nature of the church disrespects them as a woman. They may be poor or an immigrant. They may believe they are not welcome to receive communion for some reason (and may be wrong about that).

REVIVAL FOR THOSE ON THE EDGES

Our hopes for Catholics on the margins of the parish are ultimately the same as for insiders. In fact, we'd love for them to *become* committed parishioners living as intentional disciples.

The good news is that these people remain connected to the church and likely have some openness to the parish.

MEETING THE MARGINAL

Marginal Catholics may still be *coming to us* in the parish, but not all that often. Every time they set foot in the parish (or tune in online), we have the opportunity to be Christ to them (and make an impression). Every minute we have with them is precious.

We should consider a person's experience when visiting the parish. Will everything from the signage to interactions with the parish secretary make them feel welcome? How might we find ways to get to know them and help them?

Consider particularly those who you only see at Christmas and Easter. Deliver the message you most want them to hear *during* those holiday Masses. Or, if you wish to invite them to an additional event, schedule it for soon after those holidays and pitch it dramatically during those services.

If you want to engage those who only come for the sacraments, do so through the preparation process. Our *Growing Up Catholic* sacramental preparation processes for baptism, First Reconciliation, and First Eucharist are all designed to evangelize and engage parents and bring them closer to the church.

REACHING THE MARGINAL

Since we don't see them very often, we also need to make an intentional effort to reach them where they are at. A bulletin announcement is next to useless with this group.

Many marginal Catholics know connected parishioners—they may be their parents, siblings, other family members, friends, or neighbors. A personal invitation from someone they know will be the most effective way to reach them.

The parish should also consider all forms of communication that will reach people where they are at. Postal mailings and emails are obvious methods,

but you may also be surprised by the effectiveness of a clever banner outside your church, online advertisement, or flyer in the local coffee shop.

THE MESSAGE MATTERS

As important as it is to ensure you reach the right people, the message must be provocative and well-presented to get the attention of those on the margins. The message has to overcome whatever obstacles are keeping them from deeper commitment. To engage the marginal, you need to understand their perspective. Telling people that they should attend Mass so they will not go to hell is unlikely to be effective.

Outsiders

We should not ignore those who do not self-identify as Catholic (including those who left the church). Consider:

- * 30% of those baptized consider themselves former Catholics. Paradoxically, many occasionally attend Mass or bring their children to receive sacraments.
- * Former Catholics (and others) attend individual events—such as a funeral, wedding, or baptism—at the parish.
- * A growing number of young people have never been exposed to Catholicism (or Christianity) beyond what they learn from the news, school, and the surrounding culture.

Within your parish boundaries, you can find many people with openness and perhaps even some curiosity about the Catholic faith. The Eucharistic Revival is an excellent opportunity to help them better understand our faith in a positive light, whether or not they convert to Catholicism.

Most of what we said about marginal Catholics also applies to these “outsiders.”

Widening the Tent

The bottom line is that our efforts for Eucharistic Revival will look very different if we prioritize outsiders. Jesus regularly reached out to and ate with people from the margins. We are called to follow.

① Revive Eucharistic Formation

A central part of your Revival strategy should include formation to help your people better understand and appreciate the Mass, Eucharist, and our mission as Christian disciples in the world. Some of this formation will focus more on your leaders and insiders to equip them to invite better and serve those on the margins of or outside the church.

We have created separate pages that list available options for certain kinds of Eucharist-related resources (e.g., Bible studies or retreats/sessions) to help you or your community learn about and reflect on the Revival themes. Here we will make some big-picture observations.

Formation Themes

The Eucharist Revival is asking us to focus on *big* topics. There is so much we could say about the Eucharist and the Mass. Our challenge is to catechize and evangelize in a focused way that will resonate with those we reach, especially those who are not yet committed disciples. How can we invite conversion?

RULES FOR RECEPTION

A particular item of concern is a wide misunderstanding about who is allowed to receive Communion at Mass each week. This disconnect results in many faithful Catholics regularly depriving themselves of the sacrament. This is a particular concern among Latino Catholics, only 21% of whom always receive Communion when attending Mass, compared with 56% of white Catholics (learn more at <https://bit.ly/revival-latinos>).

We must emphatically clarify our teaching in this area as widely as possible. Sunday liturgies are the best place for this. Find an example homily by Fr. Michael A. Van Sloun at this link: <https://bit.ly/eucharist-sins-homily>.

Here are some key points:

- * As Pope Francis has emphasized, the Eucharist is bread for sinners, not a reward for saints. If sinners were not allowed to receive Eucharist, *no one* could receive it!
- * If you have sinned since your last confession, you can—and are *encouraged* to—receive Communion, unless you have committed a mortal (extremely serious) sin.
- * In fact, the Sacrament of Eucharist *forgives* these less serious (venial) sins. (See CCC #1394.) Very few people realize this.
- * You are most definitely not excluded from the Lord's table for something you did not do (e.g., your sexual orientation or your parent's divorce).

LENS OF THE DISMISSAL

Pope Benedict XVI suggested formation that connects the Mass to mission through the lens of the dismissal:

After the blessing, the deacon or the priest dismisses the people with the words: “*Ite, missa est.*” These words help us to grasp the relationship between the Mass just celebrated and the mission of Christians in the world.... The People of God might be helped to understand more clearly this essential dimension of the Church's life, taking the dismissal as a starting-point.

—Pope Benedict XVI,
The Sacrament of Charity, 51

Gregory Pierce took this idea and ran with it in his short book *The Mass Is Never Ended: Rediscovering Our Mission to Transform the World*. The book is one of our favorites: compelling and entertaining. We

find this approach to be intuitive, easy to understand, and meaningful for any Catholic.

The problem is that it's difficult to get most people in the pews to read books, even if you give them away. Here are some options:

- * Have your leaders and other insiders read the books: *The Mass Is Never Ended* by Greg Pierce and William Droel's *Monday Eucharist: Connecting Sunday Liturgy with Daily Work and Relationships*.
- * We have adapted *The Mass Is Never Ended* into a teaching Mass script so that you can introduce this idea to *all* your mass goers.
- * We are using this approach in our next edition of *Growing Up Catholic Eucharistic Revival Project* and *First Eucharist Preparation* (2023 Edition), adapted for children and parents.

PASCHAL MYSTERY HOLINESS

The paschal mystery is at the center of our faith and the Eucharist. God calls us to enter into this mystery, learning the art of self-giving love and dying to self as the pathway to holiness (as developed in chapter five of the *Constitution on the Church*).

The key here is that when we die to ourselves in self-giving love as parents, neighbors, children, co-workers, friends, or "enemies," we live a eucharistic way of life. The Eucharist shows us how, nourishes us, and empowers us to do this.

The *Sanctus Retreat* offers a process by which you can regularly invite your parishioners into this paschal mystery-centered holiness. Find more tools at <https://pastoral.center/holiness>.

REAL PRESENCE

One of the concerns driving the Eucharistic Revival is the results of recent surveys suggesting a surprising drop in the number of Catholics who believe in Christ's Real Presence in the Eucharist over eight years.

These numbers should be taken with a grain of salt, as the difference may come down to a difference in the survey questions' wording. Whether

its 37% or 65%, a significant number of Catholics doubt the Real Presence, and at least a third of Catholics don't even seem to know church teaching.

The Eucharistic Revival is an excellent opportunity to clarify that we believe Christ's presence in the Eucharist is true, real, and substantial. This is a mystery we come to know through our experience, not something we can prove. So the most powerful way to share this teaching is through personal testimonial. Who in your parish can speak to how they have experienced Christ's Real Present through the Eucharist?

UNDERSTANDING THE MASS

Some people are "turned off" by the Mass or find it irrelevant because they do not understand what is happening. When liturgy is celebrated well, it should need little explanation. Nonetheless, some catechesis and reflection can be helpful. If we expect Mass goers to participate consciously and actively, it's fair that we give them some clarity. This is the perfect time to do so.

The "Eucharistic Learning Events" handout lists a variety of resources for hosting retreats, classes, and other events that teach about the Mass. They incorporate elements of catechesis, prayer, reflection, and sharing.

Mass Appeal

At the risk of becoming a broken record, we remind you again that our goal is for the Revival and its message to reach as many people as possible. Think creatively about how you can reach beyond the walls of your parish with your formation.

- * Consider what a Catholic on the margins would likely attend or read. What events are "invitation friendly"?
- * What themes are most urgent to communicate to the people you hope to reach?
- * Brainstorm with your insiders on how to intentionally reach beyond your inner circle.

Teaching Masses

As changes have been introduced to the Mass—from the major developments flowing from the Second Vatican Council to the most recent English translation of the Roman Missal instituted in 2011—much of the focus of formation has been on *what* is changing, and not as much on *why* we worship the way we do.

The Eucharistic Revival sponsored by the U.S. Bishops gives us a fresh opportunity to help Catholics better understand the Mass so they can participate more fully and better appreciate what we do when we gather to pray together in this way.

Liturgical guidelines provide an excellent mechanism—through the roles of the commentator and the presider—to offer this kind of formation on special occasions during the Mass itself. We recommend that parishes offer a series of teaching Masses to “break open” the liturgy, focusing on:

- * The purpose behind parts of the Mass.
- * The assembly’s role during the liturgy.
- * How the Mass prepares and orients us for our mission in the world.
- * Historical context that puts the Mass in perspective.

Won't It Take Too Long?

One of the biggest concerns about offering teaching Masses is that they will extend the length of the service too much.

This partially comes from an expectation that parishioners’ highest priority is to keep Mass as brief as possible. In our experience, Catholics are hungry to learn more about their faith and are happy to spend a little more time to do so, if that information is presented well.

With that said, there is no reason that a teaching Mass has to take significantly more time than a regular Mass. This may be an important if you have a tight Sunday Mass schedule.

Some strategies addressing the length question:

- * Use scripts that are succinct.
- * Work with your music ministers to open up more time for the commentator. For example, beginning or ending songs instrumentally can allow for extra speaking time. The number of sung verses could also be reduced.
- * Omit the homily or drastically shorten it. (Note: Do not just *announce* that you will limit the homily, then proceed to give a substantial one. Prepare in advance what will be said at this time, as extemporaneous speaking can easily expand.)
- * If necessary, split a script across multiple Masses. For example, you could offer commentary on the Introductory Rites the first week, Liturgy of the Word the next week, etc. Or you might do every other comment the first week and the others the second week.
- * Announce teaching Masses well in advance to set expectations and allow parishioners to make alternate plans if they prefer.

Ministerial Roles

ROLE OF THE COMMENTATOR

The *General Instruction on the Roman Missal*, initially written in anticipation of the major changes to the Mass after Vatican II, defines a ministerial role to provide formation during a Mass:

The commentator... provides the faithful, when appropriate, with brief explanations and commentaries with the purpose of introducing them to the celebration and preparing them to understand it better. The commentator’s remarks must be meticulously prepared and clear though brief. [GIRM, #105]

In addition, the *GIRM* notes that the commenta-

tor should be clear about the text they will be using and that they should not improvise. “Harmonious planning and carrying out of the rites will greatly assist in disposing the faithful to participate in the Eucharist” [*GIRM*, #353].

ROLE OF THE PRESIDER

The *GIRM* also assigns responsibility to the priest presider to introduce and explain various parts of the Mass (see *GIRM*, #31). The document makes it clear that this should be done briefly and in line with the explanatory text found in the Missal. During a teaching Mass, you will have to decide if it’s helpful for the presider to offer explanations, or if it’s most effective for all instruction to come from the commentator.

Planning

SCHEDULING

- * We highly recommend scheduling these Masses at your regular Sunday liturgy times. After all, the main purpose is to help all of your regulars to participate more fully. If you really want to maximize the impact, offer it on Easter Sunday. How many might it convince to return?
- * Consider repeating them over the span of weeks or months. This gives word-of-mouth a chance to attract others.
- * Coordinate with your ministries. These are great events for RCIA candidates, confirmation sponsors, families preparing for First Communion, family faith formation, youth ministry, etc.

SPREAD THE WORD

- * Promote your teaching Masses well in advance and explain the value well. Make sure regulars are not surprised so they are tolerant if Mass goes a little longer than usual.
- * Encourage your regulars to invite others. This is a great opportunity for evangelization: those curious about Catholicism, family members who might not be regularly attending any more, etc.

- * List the Masses in your local community events calendar or through other means.

FIND YOUR COMMENTATORS

- * It is crucial to identify volunteers who have the right gifts to serve as commentators. It may be natural to draw from your pool of lectors, but others in your parish may also be a good match.
- * An ideal commentator would be able to speak clearly, use a warm, conversational style, and be willing to put in the necessary practice and preparation.

POSITION THE COMMENTATOR

- * The *GIRM* states that “the commentator stands in a suitable place within sight of the faithful, but not at the ambo” [#105]. Choose a prominent position where the presider will also be able to see them clearly. Provide a good microphone.

PREPARATION & PRACTICE

- * Note: A teaching Mass can be a powerful experience, but *it is tricky and requires careful planning and practice*.
- * The presider, music leader, and commentator will need to work closely to plan in advance so the Mass will flow smoothly.
- * The handoffs between each role will be tricky. The presider, in particular, will need to be careful to not go on “autopilot” and talk over the commentator.
- * Place tiny sticky notes or (even better) sticky note “flags” as reminders in the Missal—or any other texts that the presider reads from—wherever the commentator will be reading.
- * The presider, music leader, and commentator *must* practice together in advance. Even if you don’t have time to go through the entire Mass, try running through a good portion.
- * Alert other ministers (lectors, cantors, whoever makes announcements) who will be affected.

② Revive Your Welcome & Hospitality

As leaders or insiders, it isn't easy to assess how welcoming your parish will feel to a newcomer. We're comfortable, know where things are, and see familiar faces around us. If we want more people to attend and participate in Mass regularly, then we need to be intentional about removing barriers that keep them away or on the periphery. Learn more about how you can invite and welcome in God's name.

General Parish Leader Kit

Our *How to Invite and Welcome in God's Name Parish Leader Kit* provides resources for leaders and helpful handouts to give to your visitors and regulars to help you become a genuinely welcoming and hospitable community. The kit includes the following:



- * **Introductory handout** explaining how we can help active parishioners reach out to others.
- * **How to Speak of Faith (without being annoying)**, a flier to help people grapple with this and learn how to do it well. (in English & Spanish)
- * **We Are the People of God... and you're part of the family**, a flier your active members can hand to inactive ones, letting them know that we love them and will welcome them home.
- * **How to Welcome Everyone Litany & Overview** is a reflection on welcoming and a "Wel-

come Litany" suitable for your liturgies. This is a self-explanatory and very widely-used way to communicate to everyone that we welcome all to share in the grace of Christ.

- * **How to Welcome Parish Meeting Agenda**, a sample agenda for a meeting of parish leaders, to help move the conversation in your parish into active welcoming as Pope Francis is calling us to do.
- * **Hospitality & Welcome Examination of Conscience** is a detailed checklist of ways a parish may or may not be actively welcoming and hospitable.

Welcoming Holiday Visitors

Our *Room at the Inn: Pastoral Planning Kit to Prepare for Christmas Visitors* will help you to prepare systematically for Christmas (or Easter) visitors. Make the most of the opportunity to impress these occasional visitors: to make them feel welcome and make a case for why the Catholic faith and your parish matter in their lives. This very practical guide includes the following:

- * suggestions on how to form a leadership team and structure meetings
- * single-page handouts on key approaches with specific ideas for implementation, designed for easy group discussion



- * a calendar listing suggested action steps by when they should occur
- * links to two of our free resources that can be used as gifts for your attendees

The kit costs just \$12/parish. Learn more and preview it at <https://pastoral.center/room-at-the-inn>.

Additional Pastoral Tools

Find other tools for your growing hospitality ministry at <https://pastoral.center/hospitality-and-welcome-ministry>, including:

- * cards and booklets for following up with your visitors
- * the excellent book *Unwelcome: 50 Ways Churches Drive Away First-Time Visitors*
- * other books and booklets for leaders and for spreading a culture of hospitality to all your parishioners.



③ Revive the Sunday Experience

We can teach people about the Mass and why they should attend until we're blue in the face, but if their experience of it is not compelling, they will not return regularly. This does not mean that Sunday mornings should be about entertainment or what attendees "like." Our goal should be to celebrate Mass in a way that helps people to *pray together well*. When we do this effectively and consistently, people will not only attend regularly, but also invite their friends.

Praying Well Together

Liturgical questions and preferences can be controversial. So let's focus on what is most important:

- * The Church "earnestly desires that all the faithful should be led to that fully conscious and active participation in liturgical celebrations which is demanded by the very nature of the liturgy" (*Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy*, #14). Mass is not a spectator sport.
- * We gather to worship and pray together. We gather to hear God's Word, give thanks, celebrate the Eucharist, and be sent forth on mission.

As parish leaders, we need to approach liturgy with humility. If the Mass as celebrated in your community is *getting in the way* of some of these things for some people, we should do something about it. Even better, how can we make Mass as compelling as possible each week?

Simple Changes

Let's begin with a couple of small, easy weekly things you can do to make a noticeable difference:

- * Begin each liturgy with a "Welcome Litany"

similar to the one in our free *How to Invite and Welcome in God's Name Parish Leader Kit* (see Objective #2).

- * Introduce the First and Second Readings with the brief introductions written by the late Bishop Ken Untener. In just a sentence or two, they provide helpful context that focuses readers on the reading to follow. The Diocese of Saginaw sells them in English and Spanish at <https://littlebooks.org/scripture-intros/introduction-to-the-sacred-scriptures>.

Revive Homilies

It is challenging to preach well, but Sunday homilies make a significant impression (positive or negative) on those who attend Mass.

- * Recognize the importance of preaching and prioritize it. Good preaching takes a lot of preparation. This is easier said than done for today's overworked priests, but nonetheless, this is at the top of a priest's or deacon's responsibilities and needs the time it deserves.
- * The goals of the Eucharistic Revival emphasize the need to connect Mass with our mission in the world. Homilies should break open God's Word to help lay people discern how to put it into action in the world. Spend more time concretely exploring what this may look like than making abstract theological points.
- * Several excellent books on crafting homilies have been published recently. Our favorite continues to be the classic *Preaching Better: Practical Suggestions for Homilists*, also by Bishop Untener. Explore many good options at <https://pastoral.center/preaching>.

- * One wise recommendation from *Preaching Better* is for homilists to surround themselves with a group that can offer feedback and insights. We can't expect priests to be experts on what life is like for the lay apostolate on their own.

Revive Liturgical Music

It is difficult to overestimate the importance of liturgical music in praying together as a community. It makes an impression and stirs passions (and sometimes bitter disagreements).

A pastoral leader once told us, "A liturgy can recover from a poor homily if the music is strong. But a good homily cannot save a liturgy from bad music." If you want to chase people away from your Masses, poor music may be the most effective tool.

Liturgical music can be incredibly moving when done well. Music can add an emotional element to our prayer (re the psalms) and have an impressive force when sung together. This applies to all genres: simple chants, complex choral hymns, folk-style songs from the 1970s and 1980s, mariachi-style, more contemporary liturgical songs from recent years, and more. Liturgical music should be *powerful*.

Here are some points that we hope will provoke some thought on music in your parish:

- * Musical competence is essential for leading the assembly in song. This is just as true for "contemporary" music, so don't underinvest or expect less from leaders of more modern music. Invest strongly in your liturgical music.
- * Liturgical music is not performed for a passive "audience." When the assembly does not regularly sing along, this is symptomatic of a deeper problem. Do the people misperceive the music as a performance? Do the music selections or style dissuade the people from singing along? How different are the songs vocally and stylistically from what they might sing out loud in their shower or car?
- * There is no "correct" type of liturgical music. As church leaders, we need the humility to consider which music will best help those on the margins (e.g., young adults) to pray well and

that it may differ from our preference.

- * We often go out of our way to find contemporary music that will engage children, tweens, and teens in their faith. But when those same young people advance to adulthood/parenthood, do we now expect that they will prefer more traditional forms of music? Why?

- * Robust, vibrant music ministries—regardless of musical style—result in unusually faithful congregations that sing out and expand through personal invitation. Why? Because music that helps people *pray together well* is irresistible!

Revive Liturgical Ministries

Lay people play an important, visible role in most liturgies, and the ministry they do matters: altar servers, lectors, eucharistic ministers, music ministers, and those who prepare the liturgical environment. Each parish should intentionally assign, train, and support its ministers.

- * Assign and schedule ministers based on their current gifts. If a lector cannot be understood, they are not a good fit for their ministry, no matter how many years they served in the role.
- * Train ministers well. Help them learn to move with reverence, understand their role, and practice as needed.
- * Help them grow spiritually and connect through faith sharing and resources.

Various resources can help you prepare, equip, and nurture your liturgical ministers. See <https://pastoral.center/liturgical-ministries>.

Revive Sunday for Families

Note that this handout is just part one. See the next section for ways to revive Sunday Mass specifically for families.

More for Liturgical Revival

Go deeper by taking advantage of the many books written about liturgy. Explore top titles at <https://pastoral.center/mass-for-leaders>.

④ Revive the Mass for Families

Attending Mass with their children can be a nightmare for parents. It's difficult enough to get families to prioritize Mass against youth sports schedules or sleeping in on Sundays, but if it's a miserable experience, we definitely won't see them. There are concrete steps we can take to make the Sunday experience an excellent one for families.

Wiggly Kids

Many parents' worst nightmare is keeping their unruly child quiet during Sunday Mass. It's even more anxiety-inducing when the parent sees heads turning and gets the impression that their child is not welcome.

It's not difficult to understand parents who give up on attending Mass once they have a newborn or toddler. Many never return. But even older children can be challenging because their attention spans are not very compatible with Sunday liturgies.

If children can experience Mass over time, they will become more comfortable with the rhythms of the service and grow into the prayer. But if their parents give up, the kids will never have a chance.

Helping Parents

How can we support parents and caregivers to make the Mass a more family-friendly experience? Here are some simple ideas to get started:

- * Place a rocking chair in the rear of your sanctuary for use by parents with infants. This is an incredibly welcoming sight to parents in this situation that broadcasts that they are welcome in your parish.
- * Provide diaper-changing tables in both the men's and women's restrooms. Let's just say that experiencing a diaper blowout is frustrating

enough without having to search for an appropriate place to take care of it.

- * Set up a book lending library at the back of the sanctuary, offering "fresh" faith-oriented children's books for preschool through early elementary ages. It can be as simple as a basket with a dozen choices.

Form a Family Culture

Your parish must be proactive to offset the "disapproving look" effect. Regularly remind your parishioners that you are a family-friendly community with points like the following:

- * Children are not just the future church. They are the present church. We want them here!
- * We know it is challenging for parents to come to Mass with their kids. We thank you for all you do to raise them Catholic and get here.
- * We know that kids are not silent, and that's okay. That is the sound of a church that is alive!
- * (Point out family-friendly amenities, such as those suggested in the previous section.)
- * If you are a parent with a child who is wiggly, unhappy, or very loud, feel free to move around with them. We don't mind! Do what you need to do to keep.
- * Let us know how we can support you as a community. We're sure someone nearby would be happy to help if you need a hand. Or pass on any requests to the parish staff.

The above points could be announced during Mass occasionally (perhaps monthly or quarterly). They will bring new parents up to speed and remind everyone else in the congregation to be cheerful and

attentive to families. You can also print the points on an attractive pew card.

Children's Liturgy of the Word

For families with children in the lower elementary grades, a children's Liturgy of the Word program is one of the best gifts you could offer. We have seen this ministry—when done well—make a huge difference. While a vibrant CLW can attract and retain families, what is most important is how we can help children worship better and learn the value of liturgy.

With this program, children (and parents who want to accompany them) are dismissed at the beginning of the Liturgy of the Word to another nearby space. Once there, they celebrate this part of the Mass using more age-appropriate language and methods before returning to the sanctuary.

This allows parents who stay behind to concentrate on the readings and homily without focusing on their children. Parents who attend with their children learn how to engage them on the readings.

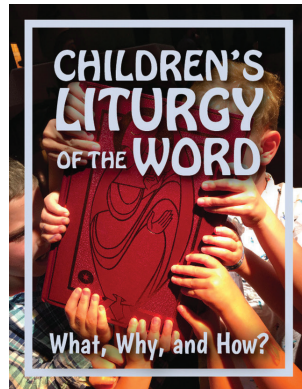
We know of a parish that introduced a CLW track for preschoolers and their parents. It started small but grew dramatically, drawing in families that hadn't been attending church and forming an impressive parent community. Parents took turns facilitating each week.

Our free *Children's Liturgy of the Word: What, Why, and How?* guide explains how the program can work and points you to tools to help you facilitate.

Helping Kids & Families Understand Eucharist

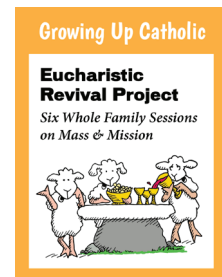
Helping children and their families to better understand the Mass—what happens during it and why—can deepen their worship, prayer, and appreciation of the Eucharist.

The following resources, which are covered in more detail on the separate resource sheet titled



“Resources: Family Catechesis”:

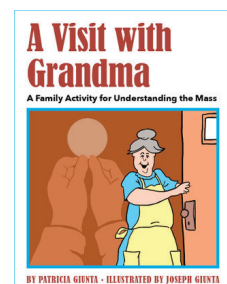
✱ **Growing Up Catholic Eucharistic Revival Project: Six Whole Family Sessions on Mass & Mission** • Coach parents to teach their children about the Mass through the lens of the dismissal. Designed for parish-hosted sessions or at-home use, the booklets in this series put parents in an active role, guiding them step-by-step on how to share their faith with their children. (*Fall 2023*)



✱ **Growing Up Catholic Vacation Bible School: Come to the Table • A VBS for Eucharistic Revival** • Through worship and drama, Bible study, art and science projects, and active games, children are welcomed to taste and share at God's table, where there is always enough! (*Late 2023*)



✱ **A Visit with Grandma / Un visita con Abuela: Family Activity Sheets for Understanding the Mass** • This storyboard tells the story of two children who visit their Grandma's house to attend a special family dinner. Each game card



describes a part of the Mass that corresponds to an event in the story. • *English or Spanish*

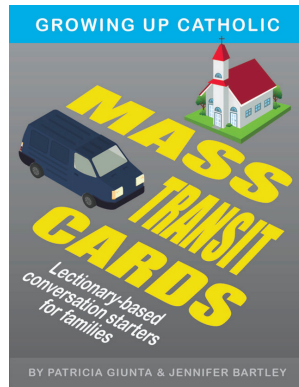
✱ **Communion A-Z: Banner Leader Kit for Teaching the Sacrament** • This downloadable leader kit will help you teach children about Eucharist through a banner-making process, story script, worship service/celebration, and additional activities. Includes reproducible illustration templates to highlight each term from A-Z on the banner. (*Fall 2023*)

✱ **My First Little Eucharistic Adoration Booklet** • A bulk-priced booklet for children and families.

Get Families Talking

Just as sports and academic challenges require preparation, so does Mass. Children (and parents!) can ready their hearts and minds to participate actively in the Eucharist. In helping their children understand the week's Gospel message and apply it to their lives, parents will become more aware of all the Mass has to offer them in their daily journey, with all its joys and struggles.

Families keep our *Mass Transit Cards* in their glove compartment to discuss on their way to and from Mass. Each card includes the lectionary reading citations, a key quotation from one of the readings, a family-friendly reflection, a one or two-sentence prayer, and a reflection question. We coach you on how to hold a raffle with completed cards



each week in your faith formation classes.

Find English and Spanish editions of this reproducible resource at <https://pastoral.center/lectionary-eresources>.

Other Mass Adaptations

If one of your Masses is attended primarily by families, you might consider other changes to make families feel more welcome.

- * Three Eucharistic Prayers for Masses with Children are approved for liturgies at which most attendees are children. They are much easier for children to understand.
- * Especially if no Children's Liturgy of the Word is offered, consider how the homily may be adapted to better engage children.
- * Welcome children and families into liturgical ministries. One great way to do so is to ask families to serve together as greeters or ushers who take the collection. Older children can serve in a variety of ministries.

5 Revive First Communion

The First Eucharist preparation process is an opportunity to evangelize and engage each family, especially regarding the themes of this Revival. But leaders often complain that they do not see many of these families at Mass before, during, or after the preparation process. We must bring parents into the process and offer a compelling process that coaches them on their role in sharing faith and why the Eucharist is so essential.

Why Parents?

If we are concerned that families are not attending Mass, we must address the root cause. Parents are the ones who decide whether the family comes to Sunday liturgy each week. No matter how well we may try to evangelize or catechize their children, they are unlikely to change their parents' minds.

Studies have consistently shown that parents are the most influential factor in whether their children remain Catholic into adulthood. Catholic parents who show that faith is essential to them—through their words and actions—are much less likely to have children who leave the faith.

Therefore, we need to focus more on evangelizing, engaging, and equipping *parents* than their children. The Eucharist sits at the very center of this challenge.

A Whole Family First Eucharist Process

The *Growing Up Catholic First Eucharist* has been our top-selling resource for over a decade. This is because it is a compelling way to teach families



Watch a webinar video about this topic at <https://vimeo.com/787612832>



about the Mass and Eucharist and coach parents to talk to their children about faith in general and bring faith into their homes.

We are working hard to complete a brand new “revival” edition for early Fall 2023 that will do an even better job addressing families on the margins and helping them understand the connection between the Mass and our mission in the world.



More Parent Tools for First Eucharist

You can find various other tools to engage parents around First Eucharist at this link: <https://pastoralcenter.com/first-eucharist-parents>. They include:

- * First Communion retreats for parents or whole families.
- * Books, booklets, and flyers to help parents understand the sacrament and how they can engage their children in it.

⑥ Revive Eucharistic Adoration

Everyone should have the opportunity to slow down and have quiet prayer before the Blessed Sacrament, especially in our fast-paced, always-on culture. How can you introduce your parishioners to this kind of prayer and provide access to an appropriate prayer space when they can use it?

Eucharist: Communal and Individual

When we celebrate Mass, we do so communally through a sacrament of unity. The elements are consecrated in the midst of the People of God gathered. We are encouraged to actively participate in the liturgy with those around us during the Mass rather than focusing on private devotion.

On the other hand, Eucharistic adoration offers a private opportunity outside of Mass for reverent prayer before the Blessed Sacrament. This is when we can focus more deeply on our personal relationship with Christ and what Christ has done for us.

Fundamentally, the Eucharist always connects us more fully to the whole Body of Christ and points toward our shared mission in the world.

Forms of Adoration

We have several options for offering adoration in our parishes. We recommend that you check with your diocesan office for any local guidelines.

- * **Basic adoration** involves private prayer before the Blessed Sacrament in a tabernacle. Usually this happens when a church is open to the public. This is generally individual prayer, although it could be done as a group or family.
- * **Perpetual adoration** is an organized practice in which individuals take turns silently praying

before the Blessed Sacrament, usually for an hour at a time. Therefore, community members will pray continuously before the Eucharist for some time (e.g., 24 hours). This practice will preferably include some liturgical elements at transition times. The parish/group should make arrangements for the safety and security of participants throughout the period.

- * **Exposition** is prayer before the Blessed Sacrament when it is outside the tabernacle, either in a ciborium or displayed in a monstrance. This practice is an opportunity to focus more deeply on the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist. This usually takes place for a set period, and perpetual exposition generally requires your bishop's permission. The Eucharistic Liturgy always takes precedence over other devotional practices, so the Blessed Sacrament is reposited in the tabernacle during Mass.

- * **In eucharistic processions**, the Blessed Sacrament is carried through the streets in a solemn procession with singing, with permission of the local bishop. Corpus Christi is a typical day to make an annual procession.

For more information, refer to the documents *Holy Communion and Worship of the Eucharist Outside of Mass* (1976) and *Order for the Solemn Exposition of the Holy Eucharist* (1992).

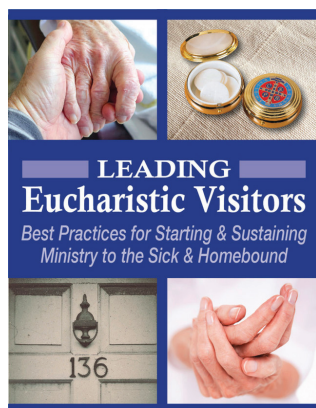
Whether or not you arrange for exposition, perpetual exposition, or a eucharistic procession, consider how you can make basic adoration accessible to your parishioners—especially during the three years of the National Revival. Schedule it at times compatible with various work schedules and publicize the opportunities well.

7 Revive Eucharistic Ministry to the Sick

Many parishioners cannot physically attend Mass and therefore are not able to participate in the sacrament of the Eucharist. This number has substantially increased since the on-again-off-again pandemic has kept those with health vulnerabilities home. The need for eucharistic visitors to the sick is more significant than ever, and lay people can fulfill this role well when priests cannot keep up with the demand. However, this ministry is about more than simply bringing the Blessed Sacrament in the form of bread. It is also about bringing the presence of Christ through the minister and providing pastoral care.

Organizing Visitors

Leading Eucharistic Visitors: Best Practices for Starting & Sustaining Ministry to the Sick & Homebound is our gift to you, a free guide by the former hospital chaplain, spiritual director, and parish eucharistic visitors coordinator Ann Naffziger. It covers the following points:



- * **A Growing Need.** Even if they are not on your radar, your parish almost certainly has homebound or sick members who are not being served. When we visit the sick or those “imprisoned” in their homes, we visit Christ.
- * **Jesus Deserves That We Do This Well.** However, good intentions are not enough. Eucharistic visitors must be formed and prepared well for this sometimes challenging ministry. It is not

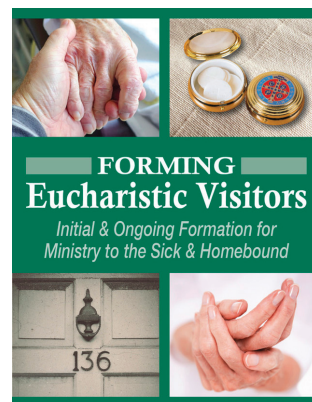
only distributing the Eucharist but also providing pastoral care.

- * **Gathering Your Team.** We provide tips for assessing candidates’ gifts, thinking creatively about who to recruit, setting expectations early on, and choosing a coordinator.
- * **Who to Visit?** Identifying those who need a visit is not always as easy as it sounds. We offer an outreach checklist to get you started.
- * **Training & Formation.** Guidelines for both initial and ongoing formation for your team.
- * **Equipping & Commissioning.** Suggestions for formally commissioning your ministers and giving them tools to equip them for this ministry.
- * **Additional Resources.** An extensive list organizing resources topically.

Forming Visitors

Forming Eucharistic Visitors: includes everything a leader needs to plan and present formation sessions for new or established ministers: talking points, hand-outs, tips, and guidelines. It includes:

- * sample training schedules & guidelines
- * a review and demonstration of a model service
- * interactive participant practice with sample scenarios



- * discussion of the rhythm and flow of a service, including a helpful case study
- * an introduction to active and sacred listening
- * a breakdown of pastoral issues by setting
- * guidelines for handling tough situations
- * handouts offering a short historical background of the ministry and suggestions for spiritual preparation

Additional Tools

For more tools to support this ministry, peruse <http://pastoral.center/eucharistic-ministry-to-sick>. You will find:

- * Ritual books with rites for Communion and pastoral care of the sick and dying.
- * Books and booklets for pastoral care, hospital visits, ministering to those with dementia, and more.

8 Revive the Lectionary Readings

How many times have you heard someone say that Mass isn't "relevant" to their lives? It can be challenging for an everyday Catholic to make meaningful connections between the Sunday lectionary readings and their daily experience. The more we can help them with this relevance, the more nourishment they will find in the Mass each week.

Our popular week-by-week reproducible eResources make it easy and affordable (or free!) for you to offer this connection. You can find them all for purchase and preview at <https://pastoral.center/lectionary-eresources>.

Questions of the Week

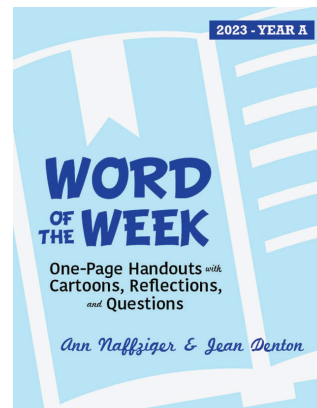
Here is a simple, free tool to offer your parishioners perspective on the lectionary readings. Our popular free eResource includes two questions based on the Sunday readings: one for adults and one for children. Use the questions for faith sharing, print them in your bulletin, send them in a weekly email, or post them on your parish's Facebook page.

It also provides citations and themes of each reading and "How to Lead Faith Sharing" guide.

Deeper Reflections

We offer three page-length reflections that dig deeper into the readings with deeper insights and reflection questions.

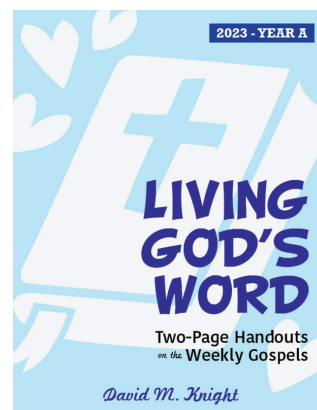
*** Word of the Week / Palabra de la semana •** These one-page handouts include cartoons, thoughtful, down-to-earth reflections, and questions to provoke thought. They are perfect for parish bulletins or to hand out.



*** Bringing Home the Gospel for Parents / Llevando el evangelio a casa para los padres •** These one-page reflections speak to parent experiences and includes family and parent questions.



*** Living God's Word: Two-Page Handouts on the Weekly Gospels •** Perfect for Sunday bulletins. These in-depth reflections on the Sunday Gospel, insights on the daily Gospels, and prompts for living out the week.



Short Reflections

The following paragraph-length reflections are for bulletins, social media, and emails.

- * **Creation Care Tips: Weekly Prompts to Care for Our Common Home**



- * **Weekly Justice Challenges**

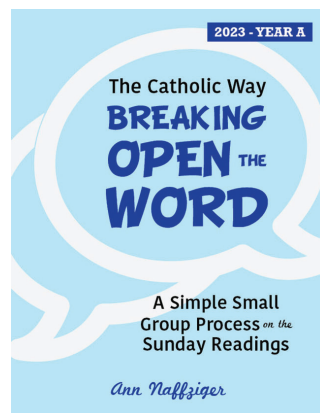


Small Group Faithsharing

The following paragraph-length reflections are for bulletins, social media, and emails.

- * **Breaking Open the Word: A Simple Yet Powerful Process**

- This two-page-per-week resource is for group faith sharing anywhere in the parish, with opening and closing prayers, commentary, and discussion questions. Form new groups and/or use them at the beginning of any parish meeting.



- * You can also use the *Question of the Week* with the included “How to Lead Faith Sharing” guide.

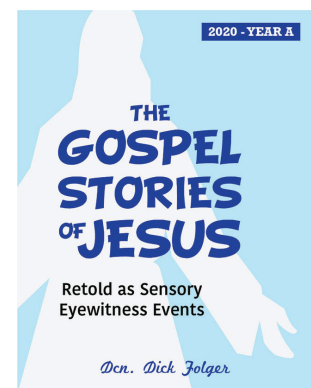
For Children

- * **The Hands-On Gospel 2023: Thought-Provoking Object Lessons on the Sunday Gospels**
 - Demonstrations based on the Sunday Gospels, with sticker symbols. Great for Children’s Liturgy of the Word or any other weekly children’s/family faith formation.



Gospel Reflections

- * **The Gospel Stories of Jesus: Sunday Gospel Reflections Retold as Sensory Eyewitness Events**
 - One-page illustrated handouts with creative but faithful storytelling.



Goals



*Grounded in prayer and seeking the guidance of the Holy Spirit,
the National Eucharistic Revival has four primary goals:*

Goal 1

To provide a more profound **encounter** with Jesus Christ in the Sunday liturgy as a point of unity among all Catholics, and through this powerful encounter, find personal healing and courage to take the Gospel to a world in need of authentic love – the love of Christ found in the Eucharist.

Goal 2

To spark personal **conversions** through the joyful discovery of a relationship with Christ by encountering the love of God present in Jesus in the Eucharist.

Goal 3

To elevate the truth and practices of our Catholic faith through the rediscovery of the **Real Presence** of Jesus Christ in the Eucharist – the source and summit of our Church and of who we are as a people of God.

Goal 4

To form, inspire, and launch **missionary disciples**, filled with love of God and neighbor that comes from an encounter with Jesus in the Eucharist, to the margins of the Church and the world.

From EucharisticRevival.org

Calendar Dates

Below we list some natural times during the church year to focus on Eucharistic Revival.

Advent/Christmas

- ☐ **Christmas Eve/Day.** On this feast, Catholics who you rarely see (and some non-Catholics) will fill your parking lot and Masses. This is a crucial time to ensure all visitors are fully welcomed and treated hospitably (including by your parish grounds). It is also one of the best opportunities for revival because everyone has come to you. How can you bring the Revival into the service (e.g., a teaching Mass script) and invite attendees to a compelling follow-up event that will move them deeper?

Lent/Easter Seasons

- ☐ **Holy Thursday.** On this day, we celebrate the Last Supper and the institution of the priesthood in a special way.
- ☐ **Easter Vigil/Sunday.** See Christmas Eve/Day. This is usually the day when you will have the greatest number of visitors.
- ☐ **3rd Sunday of Easter, Year A.** The gospel reading is the story of the walk to Emmaus, in which the Risen Christ is recognized in the breaking of the bread (Luke 24:13-35).
- ☐ **First Communion**s are often celebrated during Easter Season. Consider coordinating additional formation with them.

Ordinary Time

- ☐ **Body and Blood of Christ / Corpus Christi.** This June feast day focuses particularly on the Eucharist.
- ☐ **17th-20th Sundays of Ordinary Time, Year B.** The gospel readings on these Sundays follow John 6, beginning with the story of the multiplication of the loaves and continuing through the Discourse on the Bread of Life.
- ☐ **18th Sunday of Ordinary Time, Year A.** The gospel reading is Jesus feeding the 5,000 (Matthew 14:13-21).
- ☐ **28th Sunday of Ordinary Time, Year A.** The gospel reading is the parable of the wedding banquet (Matthew 22:1-14)
- ☐ **Summer months.** Vacation Bible School programs can be a magnet for kids and families. Consider choosing a theme that will support your Revival efforts. Our [Growing Up Catholic VBS](#) will offer "Come to the Table" as its theme for use beginning in the summer of 2024.

EUCCHARISTIC REVIVAL

Eucharistic Learning Events

All of the resources featured on this handout are flexible, pastoral eResources designed for use in parishes or schools. They come with a lifetime license to reproduce and share in your community.



Downloadable • We'll email you a link the same day you place your order.



Reproducible • Make all the copies you need for your parish or school.

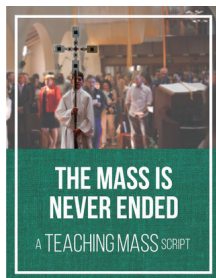
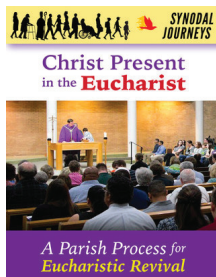
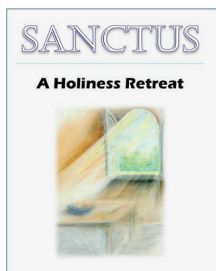


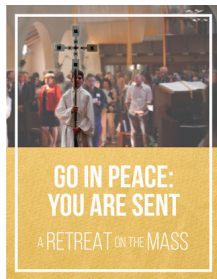
Shareable • Email to parishioners or share the links with your leaders.



Affordable • Priced per-parish, they're a real bargain!

Retreats/Sessions

RESOURCE	TYPE/USE	THEME/FOCUS	STRENGTHS	
 <p>THE MASS IS NEVER ENDED A TEACHING MASS SCRIPT</p>	<p>The Mass Is Never Ended: A Teaching Mass Script for Eucharistic Revival \$18/parish • PC501 by Gregory Pierce edited by Paul Canavese</p>	<p>Teaching Mass script for use at regular Sunday liturgies or special cases (e.g., preparation for First Eucharist/confirmation/catechumenate).</p>	<p>The Mass & missionary discipleship: understanding through the lens of the Dismissal</p>	<p>Potential broad impact; doesn't require extra event; compelling, easy-to-understand message; easy to implement</p>
 <p>Christ Present in the Eucharist in the Eucharist</p> <p>SYNODAL JOURNEYS</p> <p>A Parish Process for Eucharistic Revival</p>	<p>Christ Present in the Eucharist: A Synodal Parish Process for Eucharistic Revival \$40/parish • PV100 by The Pentecost Vigil Project</p>	<p>Four 90-minute sessions with large group slide presentation, small group process, and synod-style sharing.</p>	<p>The Mass & missionary discipleship</p>	<p>Combines synodality & Revival; deep, well-crafted, dynamic process; slide presentations</p>
 <p>SANCTUS A Holiness Retreat</p>	<p>Sanctus Retreat Kit: Parish-Based Retreat on Holiness \$22/parish • WHRT148 by The Pastoral Center Team</p>	<p>Full-day retreat on the core of our faith and calling as Christians. Designed to be offered regularly for personal renewal. (Includes similar leader retreat.)</p>	<p>The Paschal Mystery: the art of self-giving love and dying to self as the pathway to holiness</p>	<p>Compelling, daily-life message at the core of the Eucharist; can become a regular parish offering</p>



Go In Peace, You Are Sent:
Parish-Based Retreat on the Mass
\$11/parish • WHRT140
 by Bill Huebsch

Half-day retreat, with optional meal. Includes prayer, talking points for presentation and small group sharing.

The Mass: Liturgy of the Word and Liturgy of the Eucharist

Simple structure and process; medium length; meaningful reflections

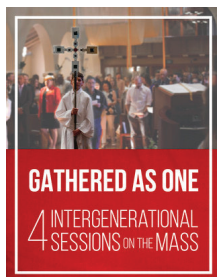


Take and Eat:
A Catechist Retreat on the Mass
\$11/parish • KC202
 by Kathy Coffey

5-6 hour catechist retreat including lunch. Includes prayer, talking points for presentation, and small group sharing.

The Mass: Learning about and reflecting on the parts of the liturgy

Specifically for catechists

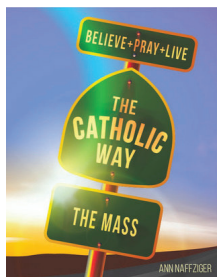


Gathered as One:
4 Intergenerational Sessions on the Mass
\$16/parish • XXFG102
 by Doris Murphy

Four 60- to 90-minute sessions for all ages. Includes prayer, talking points, and activity handouts.

The Mass: Learning about and reflecting on the parts of the liturgy

For all ages; a more dynamic, interactive process

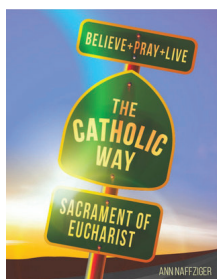


The Catholic Way
The Mass:
Sessions + Handouts for Praying, Learning, and Living the Faith
\$9/parish • CW256
 by Ann Naffziger

Two 60 minute sessions. Includes prayer, talking points, discussion prompts, and informational handouts (which can be distributed independently)

The Mass: Systematically learning about liturgy

More of a learning session, with prompts for brief discussion; strong informational handouts



The Catholic Way
Sacrament of Eucharist:
Session + Handouts for Praying, Learning, and Living the Faith
\$5/parish • CW236
 by Ann Naffziger

One 60 minute session. Includes prayer, talking points, discussion prompts, and informational handout (which can be distributed independently)

Sacrament of Eucharist: Including Eucharist in Scripture, meal/sacrifice, Real Presence, and its effects

More of a learning session, with prompts for brief discussion; strong informational handouts

EUCCHARISTIC REVIVAL

Bible Studies on Eucharist

Find all of these paperback resources at <https://pastoral.center/eucharistic-revival-bible>

RESOURCE	PROCESS	DESCRIPTION
	Threshold Bible Study: The Mass <i>Bulk priced from \$9.72-\$11.66 • TT857307</i> by Stephen J. Binz	30 lessons • Threshold Bible Study is a dynamic, informative, and inspiring way to enter into a deeper relationship with God through Scripture. Uses the lectio divina method of reading, study, reflection, and prayer. Great for personal reflection as well as group study.
	Threshold Bible Study: Eucharist <i>Bulk priced from \$9.72-\$11.66 • TT953571</i> by Stephen J. Binz	Explore the biblical springs of the Eucharist. Through texts from the Old Testament, the gospels, and New Testament letters, you will discover that the Eucharist unites the prayers, works, joys, and sufferings of our lives as an offering in union with Christ. Through meditation on these texts, you will learn to cultivate a Eucharistic life of prayer and active commitment in the world.
	Alive in the Word: Eucharist, Bread of Life <i>Bulk priced from \$5.56-\$7.85 • LP6601</i> by Fr. Joshua J. Whitfield	3 lessons • Alive in the Word brings you resources to deepen your understanding of Scripture, offer meaning for your life today, and help you to pray and act in response to God's word. Designed for use by individuals, small groups, or parish-wide events.





**Little Rock
Scripture
Study:**

**The Eucharist in
Scripture**

*Bulk priced from
\$11.86-16.85 •*

LP6515

by Clifford M.
Yeary

5 lessons • The Little Rock Scripture team is hungry for God's Word just like you. They work with a wide variety of Catholic biblical scholars and parish ministers as they develop Bible studies that involve a reasonable amount of study along with reflection.

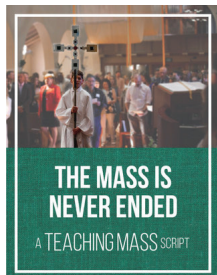
Explores the biblical theme of meals shared in faithful fellowship and in covenant relationship with God. Old Testament meals and promises provide a foundation for gospel meals with Jesus, culminating in the Last Supper as it is understood throughout the New Testament. Jesus' bread of life discourse and the early church's practice of "breaking bread" are also explored. Commentary, study and reflection questions, prayer, and access to online lectures are included.

EUCCHARISTIC REVIVAL

Resources: Lens of Dismissal

The following resources will help you understand and present this theme in your community.

RESOURCE

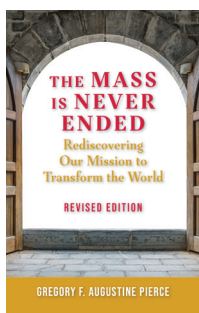


The Mass Is Never Ended: A Teaching Mass Script for Eucharistic Revival

Downloadable, reproducible eResource • \$18/parish • PC501

by Gregory Pierce; edited by Paul Canavese

Teaching Mass script for use at regular Sunday liturgies or special cases (e.g., preparation for First Eucharist/confirmation/catechumenate).



The Mass is Never Ended: Rediscovering Our Mission to Change the World

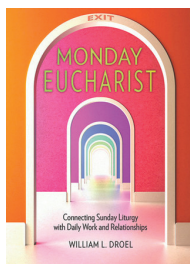
Paperback book • Revised for the Eucharistic Revival

\$12.95 • Bulk priced from \$11.50 to \$4 • AP7234

by Gregory F. Augustine Pierce

BULK PRICED FOR GIVEAWAY

At turns entertaining, profound, and practical, this book will renew appreciation for the beauty and wisdom of the Mass for Catholics everywhere. Examining the Mass through the lens of the dismissal, Greg Pierce reveals how our Christian mission has not changed since Jesus gave it to the original disciples and that our daily work aims toward building the kingdom of God.



Monday Eucharist: Connecting Sunday Liturgy with Daily Work and Relationships

Paperback book • Bulk priced from \$8.96-7.47 • AP1106

by William L. Droel

Sunday Eucharist only makes sense when it is connected to our Monday through Saturday lives. Bill Droel persuasively makes this argument in this compact book that is wonderful for adult education, RCIA, youth, young adults, and more. "I contend," he says, "that the Eucharist can provide a perspective, a lens, a pair of glasses, a map, even an engine to give order and meaning to the seemingly isolated and routine events of life. My claim, of course, is invalid if Eucharist is synonymous only with Sunday worship. The Eucharist, as used here, is a Sunday-carried-through-to-Saturday dynamic—what I call Monday Eucharist."

Growing Up Catholic

**Eucharistic
Revival Project**

*Six Whole Family Sessions
on Mass & Mission*



**Growing Up Catholic Eucharistic Revival Project:
Six Whole Family Sessions on Mass & Mission**

**Growing Up Catholic First Eucharist (2023 Edition):
Six Whole Family Preparation Sessions**

Available Fall 2023 • These two resources, based on the same core content, coach parents to teach their children about the Mass through the lens of the dismissal. Designed for parish-hosted sessions or at-home use, the booklets in this series put parents in an active role, guiding them step-by-step on how to share their faith with their children. The content takes both an evangelizing and catechizing approach, speaking to families who may be on the margins of parish life as much as those who are well-connected.

Each session incorporates a Gospel passage, prayer celebration, highlight on different parts of the Mass, learning activities, discussion prompts, and at-home goals. All of this is punctuated by the antics and insights of Jean Denton's "The Flock," cartoon sheep who are doing their best to follow in their own right.

Growing Up Catholic Sacraments

First Eucharist

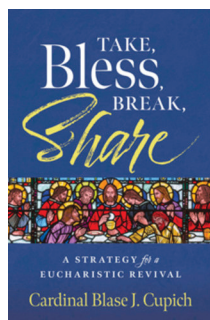
*Six Whole Family
Preparation Sessions*



EUCCHARISTIC REVIVAL

Leader Tools for Revival

Preview, learn more, and order any of the below resources at <https://pastoral.center/eucharistic-revival>

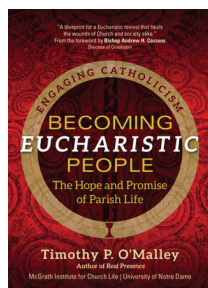


Take, Bless, Break, Share: A Strategy for a Eucharistic Revival

Booklet • Bulk priced from \$3.46 - \$4.85 • TT856942

by Cardinal Blase J. Cupich

Reviving and enlivening our encounter with the person of Jesus is a lifelong journey. In these five sessions, Cardinal Blase Cupich proposes five strategies to help Catholics deepen this encounter through a profound experience of the Eucharist—one that leads to living rich, faith-filled lives. Perfect for parish-wide and small group sharing, each session features thoughtful questions for reflection and conversation, and encourages Catholics to ponder and pray about their participation in Christ's abundant gift of the Eucharist and its connection to daily life in a complex world.



Becoming Eucharistic People: The Hope and Promise of Parish Life

Paperback book • Bulk priced from \$11.21 - \$13.15 • AM801565

by Timothy P. O'Malley, McGrath Institute for Church Life

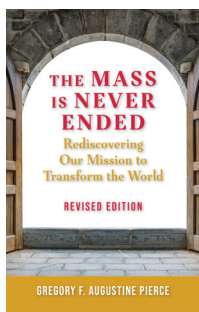
We can't just *talk* about Christ's presence in the Eucharist; we have to *believe* it, *celebrate* it, and *live* it both individually and as a community of the faithful. And we must cultivate a culture in our parishes that treats Real Presence not only as an important Catholic doctrine, but also as the most important part of parish identity.

Theologian Timothy P. O'Malley outlines four essential dimensions of a Eucharistic culture in a parish—one that fosters reverence and unity among the faithful, includes every dimension of human life in the mystery of Christ's Body and Blood, and invites people back to parish life or to become Catholic for the first time. He leads you through discovery and discernment about how to create a parish culture where each person is called to holiness and receives the spiritual, theological, and pastoral help they need to meet Christ fully present in the Eucharist and to become a witness to him in the world.

EUCCHARISTIC REVIVAL

Eucharistic Revival Books for All

Preview, learn more, and order any of the below resources at <https://pastoral.center/eucharistic-revival>



The Mass is Never Ended: Rediscovering Our Mission to Change the World

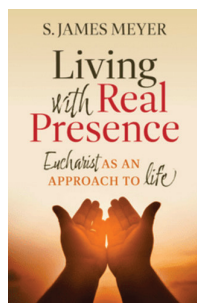
Paperback book • Revised for the Eucharistic Revival

\$12.95 • Bulk priced from \$11.50 to \$4 • AP7234

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BULK PRICED FOR GIVEAWAY

At turns entertaining, profound, and practical, this book will renew appreciation for the beauty and wisdom of the Mass for Catholics everywhere. Examining the Mass through the lens of the dismissal, Greg Pierce reveals how our Christian mission has not changed since Jesus gave it to the original disciples and that our daily work aims toward building the kingdom of God.

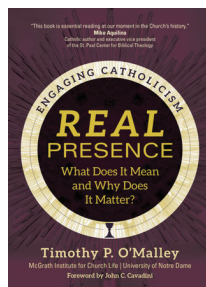


Living with Real Presence: Eucharist as an Approach to Life

Paperback book • Bulk priced from \$11.21 - \$13.15 • TT857185

by S. James Meyer

In this transformative new book, best-selling author S. James Meyer introduces us to a whole-life encounter with the living Christ, awakening a fresh awareness that the Eucharist is about life, love, and relationship. *Living with Real Presence* reminds us that our lives, Christ's life, and all lives are united in a sacred communion with our Creator and creation. A spiritual journey for personal reflection or small-group discussion, Meyer's "Eucharistic living" is a timely call for Catholics to engage in the Eucharistic Revival.



Real Presence: What Does It Mean and Why Does It Matter?

Paperback book • Bulk priced from \$11.21 - \$13.15 • AM800551

by Timothy P. O'Malley, McGrath Institute for Church Life

Most Catholics don't believe that Jesus is really present in the Eucharist. Rather, they see the bread and wine of Holy Communion as mere symbols of Christ's body and blood. Is that disbelief just a misunderstanding or is it a blatant rejection of one of the central beliefs of the faith?

University of Notre Dame theologian Timothy P. O'Malley clears up the confusion and shows you how to learn to love God and neighbor through a deeper understanding of the doctrine of real presence. He offers a concise introduction to Catholic teaching on real presence and transubstantiation through a biblical, theological, and spiritual account of these doctrines from the early Church to today. He also explores how real presence enables us to see the vulnerability of human life and the dignity of all flesh and blood.

Planning Worksheet

The following questions will help you consider any change you hope to implement.

Assessment

* What is your goal? What are you ultimately trying to accomplish?

* What are you already doing to address this need? What are you doing well? What could you do better?

* Who are you trying to reach with this change? Do you understand their perspective well? How could you bring them into the conversation/process?

* What outside resources or insights could help you in this process?

* How might Jesus want us to make this change?

Planning

* What changes do you hope to introduce?

* Who will direct the changes? Who will help?

* How much will this cost, and where will the money come from?

* When will the changes be made?

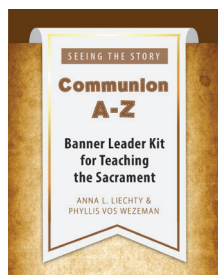
* What will need to be regularly maintained related to the changes? How often will this happen and by whom?

EUCCHARISTIC REVIVAL

Resources: Family Catechesis

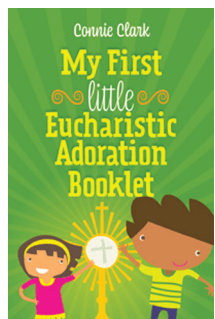
Find all of these resources at <https://pastoral.center/eucharistic-revival-families>

RESOURCE	DESCRIPTION
 <p>Growing Up Catholic Eucharistic Revival Project Six Whole Family Sessions on Mass & Mission</p>	<p>Growing Up Catholic Eucharistic Revival Project: Six Whole Family Sessions on Mass & Mission</p> <p>Available Early Fall 2023 • These two resources, based on the same core content, coach parents to teach their children about the Mass through the lens of the dismissal. Designed for parish-hosted sessions or at-home use, the booklets in this series put parents in an active role, guiding them step-by-step on how to share their faith with their children. The content takes both an evangelizing and catechizing approach, speaking to families who may be on the margins of parish life as much as those who are well-connected.</p> <p>Each session incorporates a Gospel passage, prayer celebration, highlight on different parts of the Mass, learning activities, discussion prompts, and at-home goals. All of this is punctuated by the antics and insights of Jean Denton's "The Flock," cartoon sheep who are doing their best to follow in their own right.</p>
 <p>Growing Up Catholic Sacraments First Eucharist Six Whole Family Preparation Sessions</p>	<p>Growing Up Catholic First Eucharist (2023 Edition): Six Whole Family Preparation Sessions</p>
 <p>Growing Up Catholic Vacation Bible School: Come to the Table A VBS for Eucharistic Revival</p>	<p>Available Late 2023 • When you eat with Jesus, anything can happen! • An interactive VBS where children learn that everyone is welcome at God's table. The five Bible stories in this curriculum explore stories about Jesus from the Gospels of Luke and John, showing Jesus eating with unexpected people, providing food for a crowd, demonstrating humility, and extending welcome and forgiveness. Through worship and drama, Bible study, art and science projects, and active games, children are welcomed to taste and share at God's table, where there is always enough!</p>
 <p>A Visit with Grandma A Family Activity for Understanding the Mass</p>	<p>A Visit with Grandma / Un visita con Abuela: Family Activity Sheets for Understanding the Mass Bulk priced from \$1.09-1.29 •</p> <p>Help parents teach their children about the Mass with this engaging activity. • The storyboard tells the story of two children who visit their Grandma's house to attend a special family dinner. Each panel/picture represents one event in the story, giving a short description. Each game card describes a part of the Mass that corresponds to an event in the story. • <i>Includes 11"x17" story board, instructions, and game cards to cut out.</i> • Available in all English, all Spanish, or Bilingual (Spanish parent/English Child).</p>



**Communion A-Z:
Banner Leader
Kit for Teaching
the Sacrament**
\$14/parish

Available Early Fall 2023 • This downloadable leader kit will help you teach children about Eucharist through a banner-making process, story script, worship service/celebration, and additional activities. Includes reproducible illustration templates to highlight each term from A-Z on the banner.



**My First Little
Eucharistic
Adoration
Booklet**
*Bulk priced from
\$2.81 to \$2.22*

Created with an understanding of today's realities for children, this kid-sized eucharistic contemplation booklet is filled with activities, prayers, and practices to introduce the reverent practices of listening, reflecting, respecting, and adoring. Using traditional and even some nontraditional practices such as coloring and brief stories, this booklet is perfectly suited for use in any Catholic school, home, or parish setting—to help build lifelong devotion to the practice of eucharistic adoration.