

Welcoming the New Translation for the leaders of Liturgy of the Word with Children



General Principles of Liturgy:

- Participation in liturgy forms our habits because we are ritual people and learn through repetition and copying.

As the leaders of Liturgy of the Word for Children you might avail of the formation for small groups within the parish in order to actively engage with the responses and postures within the new translation. The children of the parish repeat the symbolic actions they see.

- The purpose of adapting liturgy for children is to lead them into full, conscious and active participation in the liturgy of the parish.

In order that families have an opportunity to celebrate together it may be that Liturgy of the Word for Children is offered once a month rather than every week.

Introductory Rites

Children gathered with families in the main assembly: the Sign of the Cross + is experienced here.

- Celebrant invites and sends the children with these or similar words:

*My dear children,
you will now go to hear God's word,
to praise God in song,
and to reflect on the wonderful things
God has done for us.
we await your return
so that together we may celebrate the Eucharist.*

Liturgy of the Word with Children Guidelines, Liturgy Office, 1996

- Book of the Word for Children is processed.



Liturgy of the Word

As suggested in the Directory for Masses with Children (DMC 17) the children will now be experiencing the same readings of scripture and opportunity for reflection as the adults in the main assembly, albeit in a 'separate but not too distant room'.

- Prepare a specific place for the Book of the Word for Children.
- Encourage and invite attentiveness to Jesus speaking to us through Scripture.
- Acclamation?
- The Sign of the Cross is made now on the forehead, lips and breast in preparation to hear the Gospel. (Explain)

What will be different?

The Word of the Lord The Gospel of the Lord Be confident.

Responding to the Word through dialogue, questions and affirming the comments the children offer.

- If there is an opportunity the Apostles' Creed could be used. (dialogue?)

Various kinds of celebration may also play a major role in the liturgical formation of children in their preparation for the Church's liturgical life. By the very fact of such celebrations children easily come to appreciate some liturgical elements... but care must be taken that the instructive element does not become dominant in these celebrations. (DMC13)

Please see the other resources www.missal.org.uk