



Suggestions for the Sunday Masses of Launch Week

During Launch Week we will celebrate the great feasts of Pentecost and Trinity Sunday. This will be the moment when most of our congregations come into contact with the aims of the week. Here are some suggestions of ways you might like to emphasise the importance of the Sacraments of Initiation in our lives and mark the launch of the With You Always programme.

The journey of Christian Initiation. (See suggestions for prayer stations).

Ask people entering church on Pentecost Sunday to write their name on a footprint printed onto card. During the week these cards are cut out and stuck to the floor of the church indicating the path into the church to the font, through confirmation to the altar, to the door and into the world. People can look for their own footprint as they make the pilgrimage around the prayer stations during the week or on the following Sunday.

Alternatively you might like to ask children in your school to make the footprints and decorate them with pictures showing our life as Christians today, being the disciples of Jesus in the world. Again they can be used to indicate the path around the prayer stations.

If you don't have prayer stations the footprints can still lead from the door, to the font, to the altar and out to the door again.

On Trinity Sunday the renewal of baptismal promises might replace the Profession of Faith as at Easter.

Penitential Rite: Suggestion adapted from Penitential Rite B (c. vi)

Lord Jesus, in baptism you raise us to new life. Lord have mercy...

Christ Jesus, in Confirmation you give us the fullness of the Spirit. Christ have mercy...

Lord Jesus, in Eucharist you feed us with your body and blood. Lord have mercy...

Prayer of the Faithful: Suggested prayers for inclusion in the intercessions are given on a separate sheet.

At the preparation of the gifts a catechist, a candidate for confirmation or first Holy Communion, a family, can bring up the gifts of bread and wine. They might also first bring up some symbols of the sacraments of Initiation which can be placed before the altar: e.g. a glass bowl of water, a flame, a glass bowl of oil, a baptismal shawl and candle etc. There might be a simple introduction: "We thank God for our membership of the Church and we ask God's blessing on our parish as we rededicate ourselves to welcoming and supporting many new members into God's Church."

This can be done either or on both Sundays.

Dismissal on Pentecost Sunday. Before the final blessing and dismissal copies of the prayer leaflets (see separate sheet) can be handed to each person by those preparing for Confirmation and Holy Communion. They are asking for our prayer for God's blessing on the With You Always programme and all who are taking part in it. People are asked to say the prayers for each day during the weekdays of Launch Week.

Dismissal on Trinity Sunday. Copies of St. Teresa's Prayer, "Christ has no body now but yours" can be handed out after the Post-Communion Prayer and can be read together. People are reminded to take the gift of Christ they have received into the world.

**Intercessions which can be included in the Prayer of the Faithful.
Pentecost Sunday and Trinity Sunday, 2011**

On one of the weekends of Launch Week you may wish to invite a few different members of your parish to write and then read their own prayer for the Prayer of the Faithful.

If they have not written prayers before you may wish to remind them that each petition is addressed to the people inviting them to pray for a particular intention or cause and after announcing each intention time should be given for the congregation to pray before the reader gives the cue-line such as 'Lord, hear us,' 'Let us pray to the Lord,' or 'Lord in your mercy' – and the people give their response.

E.g. a young person, a catechist, a parent, a grand-parent, a member of the clergy, a member of the parish welcome team.

The congregation is invited to pray for this group of people as they make their prayer.

Or you might invite a member of the following groups to read one of these prayers.

We the parents of this parish of St. X ask for God's help today.

Let us pray for wisdom and courage for all parents.

May they receive the support and encouragement they need to hand on the faith to their children and be the best parents they can be.

Lord in your mercy.

We the young people of St. X ask for God's help today.

Let us pray that the spirit of wonder and awe be alive in our young people.

May our young people always be friends of Jesus in all they do and say.

Lord in your mercy.

We the grandparents of the parish pray for God's help today.
Let us pray for discernment and understanding for all grandparents.
May they support their children in their vocations as Christian mothers and fathers.
Lord in your mercy.

We the catechists of the parish of St. X ask for God's help today.
Let us pray for knowledge and reverence for our catechists.
May our catechists support the families of our community to pass on their faith to their children.
Lord in your mercy.

You might like to use some of the following prayers during the Prayer of the Faithful remembering also other situations in the world or in your community that need our prayer.

We pray for Pope Benedict, Patrick our Archbishop and all who lead God's Church.
May they be given the strength and wisdom they need to encourage us all to be the instruments of God's Holy Spirit in the world.
Lord in your mercy.

We pray for our Archdiocese as we launch the "With You Always" programme for the sacramental preparation of our young people.
We ask for the guidance of the Holy Spirit for our children, parents, catechists and clergy.
Lord in your mercy.

We pray for all who will celebrate the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist in the coming year.
May they always treasure the great blessing of being members of God's Church.
Lord in your mercy.

We pray for our all who come to our church.
May they find here a place of welcome and a clear witness to the love of God alive and at work among us.
Lord in your mercy.

We pray for all parents.

May they be given the wisdom and love they need
to live well the calling they have received.

Lord in your mercy.

We pray for our priests, deacons, parish catechists and for all who teach in our
Catholic schools.

May they be guided by God's Holy Spirit in all they say and do.

Lord in your mercy.

We pray that with the help of the Holy Spirit we may all play our part in
handing on the great gift of faith to the next generation.

Lord in your mercy.

We ask Mary, the Mother of the Church and our Mother, to join her prayers to
ours. HAIL MARY ...