



Year of the Eucharist in the Archdiocese of Milwaukee

Ten Suggestions for Celebrating the Year of the Eucharist in the Parish October 2004 – October 2005 Archdiocese of Milwaukee

1. Enhance or re-establish the parish Prayer and Worship Commission. Renew and plan formation for all parish liturgical ministries, paying special attention throughout the year to enhancing the work of these ministries. Where necessary, reorder or give a stable location to places of celebration (altar, ambo, sanctuary), and to the custody of the Eucharist (tabernacle, chapel of adoration), provide liturgical books; highlight the truth and beauty of the signs (vestments, vessels, environment).
2. Give special attention to liturgical singing, taking into account the Holy Father's recent document on sacred music. Re-emphasize participation in the key moments of the ritual, and concentrate on developing the beauty of the sound of the assembly's song.
3. Schedule, in different periods of the year, specific formation sessions on the Eucharist in the life of the Church and of the Christian. A special occasion for adults and children may be the time of preparation for First Communion.

The Archdiocese has prepared a special Lenten program for the Year of the Eucharist, and all parishes are encouraged to participate in this program.
4. Study, especially among those responsible for the preparation of the liturgy and the music, the General Instruction of the Roman Missal, The Introduction to the Lectionary of the Mass, and the recent encyclical of the Pope, *Ecclesia de Eucharistia*.
5. Promote formation of the assembly throughout the year on participation in the Eucharistic celebration: what one must do on entering the church; genuflection or profound reverence before the Most Holy Sacrament; an atmosphere of recollection, especially at certain moments (silent times, personal prayer after reception of Communion), and education in full participation.
6. Celebrate appropriately the anniversary of the dedication of one's church.
7. Rediscover your own parish church, knowing the meaning of what is usually seen in it: the altar, the ambo, tabernacle, iconography, stained-glass windows, vestibule, etc. The visible in the church favors contemplation of the Invisible.
8. Promote Eucharistic worship and personal and community prayer before the Most Holy Sacrament: visits to the Blessed Sacrament in the tabernacle, adoration of the Most Holy Sacrament and Eucharistic blessing, Forty Hours, Eucharistic processions. After the Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday, re-emphasize the time of Eucharistic adoration.
9. Examine and enhance the regularity and dignity with which Communion is taken to the sick. Where necessary, establish this ministry and train, or re-train, ministers in the procedures for bringing Communion to the homebound and those in hospitals or nursing homes.
10. Make known the teaching of the Church on the viaticum, reception of the Blessed Sacrament by those who are dying.

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