



October, 2023

Special Dates:

St Francis of Assisi (October 4)

Our Lady of the Rosary (October 7)

Thanksgiving Day (October 9)

The launch of the Bishop's Annual Appeal (October 15)

‘ Believe, Love, Share... Jesus’: see your parish for details

World Food Day (October 16)

World Mission Sunday (October 22)

Featured Diocesan Event: Diocesan Pastoral Council / DPC (October 28)

WHEN October 28, 2023 9:00am to 3:30pm

WHERE Plaza 88

SPEAKERS

- Bishop Stephen Hero
- Mary Martin with the Diocesan Called and Gifted Team
- Responsible Ministry (protocol update)
- Diocesan Communications
- Finance Representative
- World Youth Day Representatives

Deadline for registration: Friday, October 20, 2023.

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Food for Thought!

The Church: A Companion in Growth and Change

“The church... believes that the key, the centre and the purpose of the whole of (human) history is to be found in its Lord and Master. She also maintains that beneath all the changes there is much that is unchanging, much that has its ultimate foundation in Christ, who is the same yesterday and today and forever” (*Pastoral Constitution on the Church in the Modern World, 10*). The church has a great deal to give young people, and can benefit enormously from their challenges, their honesty, and their searching faith.

Importance of Reflection

One of the great challenges in liturgy preparation is to enable the assembly to accept its role as liturgical minister. The individualism and consumerism which mark this age affect our worship to the point where an acceptable reason for skipping mass is “I don’t get anything out of it.” The patterned response “Well, have you put anything into it?” only continues the attitude. The reality is that liturgy is the life and work of the church and we, together with other baptized persons, form the church. At times our emotional experience will be minimal, but worship is far deeper than our personal feelings on a particular day. It is a lifelong commitment, and we become involved participants through regular practice and an attitude of the heart.

Our preparation and participation in liturgy is not “art for art’s sake,” nor is it an exercise in exactness and relationality, or in making people feel good. Liturgy is our communal act of worship of the God of the beatitudes, the God who heals the brokenhearted, feeds the hungry and clothes the naked, the God who comes to bring salvation to the nations. This common action must send us out into the world to be the body of Christ for those who may never come inside a church.

**Taken from ‘Preparing For Liturgy Series: Preparing to Celebrate with Youth’
by Marilyn J. Sweet, published by Novalis.