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BARNABAS Worship Workshops



WEEK 6 - LEADING THE DAILY OFFICE (MORNING & EVENING PRAYER)

Prepare early so you can be ready on time. If you are using the ePray app, just check that the correct readings and prayers are included.

As leader, you decide which readings to use and where or not to keep a saints day – but be mindful of the customs of the community (eg at SBC, we don't read the first reading at MP during the week).

Lead with confidence. Read clearly.

Whatever you do, do it confidently and the people will follow!

Give instructions when you notice someone you don't recognise is present... also if you see someone unsure, better to give too much instruction than not enough (eg page numbers, which items we say together, etc).

ALWAYS READ THE RUBRICS! Page 431 for Morning and Evening Prayer

A Prayer Book for Australia, page 383-422

Light the candles.

1 The Leader starts and reads the sentence with the congregation responding.

During Lent and Advent, the Doxology (glory to God...) can be omitted.

- 2 The congregation usually reads the Opening Canticle together.
- 3 The Leader prays the Opening Prayer
- 4 The Leader introduces the psalm. They are found in A Prayer Book for Australia, pages 224-380

If people are using the prayerbook, always give the page number and then when people have found it, tell them the psalm and verse numbers again.

The psalm/s to be read can be found in the lectionary.

There are 3 common ways to read the psalms (as Leader you can decide how it is read - be sure to tell people!)

- One person or group reads to the colon and the other group (or person) reads the second half
- One person or group reads alternate verses
- The psalm is read together

- 5 The Leader prays this prayer (or can use another during Lent, Easter and Advent from page 431-2)
- 6 The Reader reads the Old and New Testament readings (according to the Lectionary)
- 7 The congregation usually reads the Canticle together.
- 8 The creed may be said on Sundays (or mid-week).
- 9 The Leader starts the Prayers, and the congregation says the lines in bold.
- 10 The congregation prays the Lord's Prayer together (it can be found on page 386) Collect of the Day is read by the Leader

A Prayer Book for Australia page 448-474 for the date of the previous Sunday

A helpful hint is to look at the lectionary and use the number in square brackets after the Sunday's title and match that with the prayer of the week in the prayer book.

- 11 The Leader offers some thanksgiving and prayers...
 Can be prayers led by the Leader only
 Can be prayers by the congregation
 Can be a time of silence
 Can use one of the options from page 184-187 or a litany from page 192-196
- 12 The Morning collect is said by the Leader
- 13 The final responses are said by the Leader and the congregation says the lines in bold.

The final sentence can be said by the Leader or by the whole congregation.

Extinguish the candles (preferably with the candle snuffer and not blown out.)

Complete and sign the service register.

Using the Lectionary

The lectionary is a complementary tool with the Christian calendar in our spiritual formation and discipleship. The lectionary is a pattern for reading Scripture. It offers a three-year cycle, with the gospels of Matthew, Mark, and Luke providing the basis of each cycle. Selections from John are read during Eastertide in each year.

The lectionary helps remind us the both the Old and New Testaments are telling one single, coherent story: **God is rescuing humanity from sin and death**. There are times that the connection between the Old and New Testament readings is evident. And other times it's not. The most important theme that ties the readings together is that they're about God.

The lectionary doesn't read straight through the Bible. It assumes our knowledge of the big picture. **The lectionary isn't about us knowing the Bible better. It's about us knowing God better.** The readings point us to God.

