

General Instruction of the Roman Missal Celebrating the Mass

Formation — Introductory Day

Introductory Session

The session, a day, is a balance between information and formation.

It should be possible to cover items 1–5 in a morning — reserving feedback from item 5 as a start for the afternoon. The bulk of the afternoon is taken exploring the areas of liturgical formation previously identified.

1. Introduction

- Of the Group (if they do not all already know each other)
- Of the Place (if necessary – toilets; fire exits; meal and tea/coffee arrangements)
- Of the Day — Timetable

2. Our Context

- Question to the group: What are you expecting of the day? What are your expectations concerning GIRM/CTM? Buzz groups of 3 or 4
Alternative Questions might include: 'What have you already heard about GIRM/CTM?' or 'What is good about your parish's liturgy; what might be improved?'
- Take feedback and briefly address any particular expectations that will not be met (E.g. Are there other resources that you can point people to that will meet their needs?)

3. The Context of the General Instruction

Those preparing the day will need to decide how much information on general context is useful to the group

- Recent documents from Rome
PowerPoint presentations have been prepared for each suggested section together with an accompanying handout.
If you do not have access to a projector or a technophobe — the presentations, with notes, may be used simply to assist your own preparation. For the presentation itself there are the handouts together with copies of the documents themselves.
- Roman Missal, 3rd edition
You may wish to explore the revised Missal itself, but in many cases this will not be necessary. A handout is available for people to read afterwards. A separate handout is also available on the process of translation.

4. General Instruction & Celebrating the Mass

- What is a General Instruction? (Powerpoint)
- GIRM (Powerpoint)
- CTM (Powerpoint)
The purpose of this section is to introduce the documents. The level of introduction will vary depending on the needs of the group and whether they have had the opportunity to look at the documents prior to the sessions.
It may be important to stress that neither GIRM or CTM is calling for radical change



rather they provide an opportunity to reflect on and renew current practice.

It will be important to highlight what is new but also to stress the need to attend to the quality of participation and celebration in general.

Allow time for Questions — maybe pick up some of the issues raised in 2.

5. **Beginning to exploring the Texts**

- Group work — looking at short excerpts from the documents.

Questions: what strikes you, what challenges you?

Excerpts chosen to highlight the area/issue that will be a focus for the diocese. A range of different excerpts could be used.

Feedback

6. **Moving Forward**

The content of this session — which might form the bulk of the afternoon — should be determined by area/issues that the diocese has already identified and the resources that it has decided to use.

The three components will be:

- Specific area/issue and how to approach it

Use the 'Opportunities and Challenges' sheets together with accompanying process as groupwork.

Feedback to share responses and raise questions.

- An introduction to the available resources

Presentation of Resources and how they might be used.

A Powerpoint presentation exists to introduce the full range of resources produced by the Liturgy Office. This can, of course, be adapted to include only those resources the diocese wishes to use.

- Overview of diocesan plans for further formation

If you are planning to use In Communion with Christ and/or With Hearts and Minds a separate time is likely to be needed to explore how to prepare clergy and parishes for these.

This is an opportunity to present formation plans but also to invite suggestions.

7. **Conclusion**

Allow time for final thoughts and questions.

Bring the day to a conclusion, in particular place it in the context of the planned ongoing formation.

