

LITURGY PILLAR FAMILY ACTION PLAN TEMPLATE

Family of Parishes: _____

Date: _____

Liturgy Pillar Lead(s): _____

Meeting Time: _____

Section 1 – Foundational Tasks (Confirmed as complete or underway)

Foundational Task	Status (✓/In Progress)	Completion Target Date
Unified weekend and weekday Mass schedule across all parishes aligned with Clergy availability		
Established Family Liturgy Committee with parish representatives		
Shared Family liturgical calendar (major feasts, seasons, and events)		
Common standards for liturgical training and hospitality		
Sacristy and liturgical processes and supply review completed		

Section 2 – Seasonal & Monthly Planning Framework

Month / Season	Focus / Theme	Key Tasks	Team Lead	Radical Hospitality Insert (Concrete Action)	Completion
January	Prepare for Lent	Plan Ash Wednesday & Stations rotations		Add "Welcome Back" banner & invite cards	15-Feb

February	Lent Preparation	Finalize Triduum planning		Lenten "Warm Welcome" greeters & coffee	1-Mar
March	Review Lent & plan Easter	Coordinate Easter music & décor		Easter welcome baskets for families	1-Apr
April	Evaluate Easter & plan Summer Masses	Schedule outdoor or Family Mass		Picnic-style fellowship	15-May
May	Volunteer appreciation	Recognition event for ministers	Work with Stewardship Pillar	Personalized thank-you cards	31-May
June	Reflection & planning	Document best practices		Parishioner survey on worship	30-Jun
July	Long-range prep	Plan Advent & Christmas themes		Brainstorm Advent outreach	1-Aug
August	Advent prep continues	Finalize Advent schedule & theme		Hospitality refresher training	15-Sep
September	Evaluate Summer & plan Fall	Create Family "Welcome Home" liturgy		Fellowship after Mass	30-Sep
October	Prepare for Advent	Plan Reconciliation, Advent Vespers		Include candlelight hospitality night	30-Oct
November	Review & reflect	Annual evaluation & report		Gratitude Mass with testimonials	30-Nov
December	Record & renew	Submit 2026 goals		Send Advent prayer cards to parishioners	31-Dec

Section 3 – Goal Progression				
Year	Focus	Sample Goals	Responsible Lead	Completion Target
Year 1 (2025-2026)	Foundation Completion & Unification	Establish a Cohesive and Smooth Working Liturgy Pillar, create shared calendar, begin Advent & Lent collaboration		Aug-26
Year 2 (2026-2027)	Collaboration & Formation	Develop formation for liturgical ministers, rotate Family liturgies, share music ministry		
Year 3 (2027-2028)	Mission & Vibrancy	Launch Family Worship Life Plan, expand youth involvement, integrate outreach liturgies		

Section 4 – Metrics and Evaluation					
Metric	2024-25 Baseline	Current 2025-26	Target	Review Frequency	Comments
Average weekend Mass attendance				Quarterly	
Number of active liturgical ministers				Semi-annually	
Family participation in joint liturgies				Annual	
Parishioner feedback (hospitality & welcome)				Annual survey	
Volunteer retention & satisfaction				Annual	

Section 5 – Reflection on Continuous Prompts for the Liturgy Pillar
What worked well in this past liturgical season?
How did we show radical hospitality in our worship?
Where did we notice spiritual growth or renewed participation?
What can we improve for the next liturgical season?
- Attract more - registered but not participating parishioners, younger people, etc.

Section 6 Suggested 3-Year Liturgy Pillar Growth Pathway

Grouped these under **five dimensions**:

1. *Worship Quality*
2. *Radical Hospitality*
3. *Collaboration & Efficiency*

4. *Minister Formation & Participation*
5. *Mission & Outreach*

These suggestions/ideas build progressively so a Family of Parishes can adapt them over 3 years — from foundational improvements to innovative, evangelizing actions.

LITURGY PILLAR: CREATIVE IDEAS & PROGRESSIVE GOALS (3-Year Outlook)

A. Worship Quality & Liturgical Excellence

Year 1 – Strengthen Foundations

- Create a “**Liturgy Playbook**”: a common guide for readers, ministers, musicians, and sacristans across the Family.
- Introduce a “**Pre-Mass Ministry Huddle**” (2 minutes of prayer and coordination before Mass begins).
- Evaluate acoustics, sound systems, and microphone placement for clarity and consistency.
- Begin a “**Liturgy of Welcome**” moment—intentional greeting and introduction before Mass begins.

Year 2 – Elevate Experience

- Develop a **Family Music Ministry Network**: shared repertoire, training nights, and seasonal concerts.
- Standardize **visual consistency** (altar cloth colors, banners, floral arrangements) across the Family.
- Design a “**Teaching Mass Weekend**” – Narrative describes/explains what is happening and why? Adult version and Children’s Version.
- Introduce **liturgical art rotations**—rotating banners, icons, or art displays among parishes to share beauty and resources.

- Host a “**Liturgy Appreciation Evening**” where parishioners learn why we do what we do at Mass.

Year 3 – Inspire and Renew

- Offer **multi-sensory liturgies** (e.g., Taizé evenings, candlelit vespers, bilingual liturgies, sacred music vigils).
- Form a **Liturgical Design Team** to create annual worship themes linking art, music, and environment.
- Pilot a “**Mass Outside**” or “**Family Unity Mass**” outdoors to reach inactive Catholics.
- Introduce a **Liturgy of Gratitude** near Thanksgiving recognizing ministries and volunteers.

B. Radical Hospitality & First Impressions

Year 1 – Build Awareness

- Designate **Hospitality Coordinators** at every Mass.
- Create clear, friendly **signage and greeter stations** at each parish entrance.
- Begin **Welcome Sundays** with refreshments and “new parishioner introductions.”
- Ensure **Mass guides or worship aids** are welcoming, legible, and bilingual where needed.

Year 2 – Deepen Culture

- Train all liturgical ministers in “**Hospitality as Ministry**”—eye contact, body language, tone, and attentiveness.
- Create a “**Welcome Table**” for visitors after Mass with information about what your Family of Parishes has to offer.

- Add **post-Mass connection opportunities** (coffee, fellowship, or brief testimonies).
- Encourage parishioners to adopt a **“3-Minute Rule”**: engage someone they don’t know within 3 minutes after Mass each weekend.

Year 3 – Radiate Invitation

- Create a **“Bring a Friend to Mass” weekend** twice a year with social follow-up.
- Launch a **Radical Hospitality Recognition Program** for greeters, ushers, and volunteers who embody welcome.
- Partner with other Pillars to coordinate a **Family Welcome Weekend** blending liturgy, service, and fellowship.
- Design a **Hospitality Mentorship Team** to train new volunteers throughout the year.

C. Collaboration & Efficiency

Year 1 – Align & Communicate

- Synchronize parish calendars and avoid event overlaps.
- Create a **shared volunteer scheduling system** for ministers across parishes.
- Consolidate and standardize liturgical supplies to avoid duplication.
- Start **joint bulletin and website sections** for liturgical news.

Year 2 – Integrate & Optimize

- Share musicians, choirs, and cantors across parishes.
- Develop **Family-wide seasonal planning templates** (Advent, Lent, Holy Week).
- Create a **centralized environment team** to assist all parishes with decorating.
- Coordinate **joint Holy Day liturgies** to share priests and improve attendance.

Year 3 – Innovate & Multiply Impact

- Introduce **Family Liturgy Coordinators Network** (monthly planning, idea exchange).
- Digitize liturgical training (videos, quick guides, QR-code links to instructions).
- Implement **eco-friendly practices**—digital worship aids, reduced printing, reusable candles or decorations.
- Establish a “**Liturgy Innovation Fund**” for trying new music, décor, or technology enhancements.

D. Minister Formation & Participation

Year 1 – Build Capacity

- Offer formation nights for lectors, EMHCs, altar servers, and musicians.
- Provide a **training packet for new liturgical ministers**—common expectations and best practices.
- Begin mentoring programs (experienced ministers paired with new volunteers).
- Include a brief “**Liturgy Moment**” after Communion once a month explaining a part of the Mass.

Year 2 – Expand Participation

- Offer **youth-led liturgies** once per quarter.
- Develop a **Family “Liturgical Leadership Academy”**—short workshops for coordinators and MCs.
- Encourage **testimonies or reflections** from ministers during parish meetings or newsletters.
- Partner with schools or youth groups to integrate liturgical service hours.

Year 3 – Sustain and Multiply

- Commission **Family Liturgical Leaders** with annual blessing at Mass.
- Create a “**Next Generation Ministry Pipeline**” for youth and young adults.

- Offer a **Liturgical Retreat** for ministers focused on spirituality and prayer.
- Produce a **Family of Parishes Worship Guidebook** capturing best practices and innovations.

E. Mission & Outreach through Liturgy (Collaborate with InReach/OutReach Pillar)

Year 1 – Reconnect

- Conduct a **Mass attendance outreach survey** (why people attend / why they don't).
- Send handwritten invitations to inactive parishioners for Holy Week or Christmas.
- Celebrate **special intention Masses** for civic groups, veterans, first responders, etc.
- Partner with the InReach/OutReach Pillar to visit nursing homes and invite residents to livestreamed or home-based liturgies.

Year 2 – Rebuild

- Develop a **“Liturgy Beyond the Walls”** outreach (Mass at a nearby park, shelter, or mission site).
- Begin an annual **Family Day of Prayer and Music Festival**.
- Host a **“Back to Mass” weekend** with testimonials from returning parishioners.
- Integrate multicultural expressions into liturgy—language, music, and prayer styles.

Year 3 – Reignite

- Commission a **Family Mission Liturgy** annually—an outdoor, evangelizing Mass that highlights unity and service.
- Offer a **Community Thanksgiving Mass** inviting the community
- Develop a **Family “Come Home to Mass” Campaign**—invitations, social media videos, and welcome testimonies.

- Partner with Forming Disciples Pillar to offer **post-Mass discussion groups** (“Coffee & Catechesis”).

Optional Stretch Goals

- Introduce **family-friendly pew kits** (quiet toys, coloring sheets, children’s bulletins).
- Collaborate with local artists to create **sacred art installations** for feast days.
- Partner with the Stewardship Pillar to develop a **“Time & Talent in the Liturgy”** recruitment drive.