



ARISE Parish Team Meeting Seven: Reflection, Celebration, and Evaluation—Season Three

Where?	At the parish level
When?	Early Advent
Who?	ARISE parish team and small-community leaders
How?	Invitations to all small-community leaders two to three weeks prior to event
What?	A “pot luck” supper/luncheon or dessert and coffee
Time?	1.5 to 2 hours

In the name of the pastor, the *ARISE Together in Christ* parish team welcomes all small-community leaders to this event.

Goals

- Thank the small-community leaders for their service.
- Gather in gratitude for what Christ has done for us through *ARISE*.
- Share “good news” stories.
- Support one another in the challenges.
- Gather information from the small communities to assist the *ARISE* parish team coordinator in completing the Season Three evaluation survey (which you received in an email).

Process

- Welcome and introductions (have name tags available)
- Overview of the evening

Opening Song

Use an appropriate Advent hymn.

Invitation to Pray

Leader: Lord, Jesus, master of both the light and the darkness, send the Holy Spirit upon our evaluation time. We, who have so much to do, seek quiet spaces to hear your voice each day. We, who are anxious over many things, look forward to your coming among us. We, who are blessed in so many ways long for the complete joy of your kingdom. We, whose hearts are heavy; seek the joy of your presence. We are your people, walking in darkness, yet seeking the light. To you we say, "Come, Lord Jesus!"

All: Amen.

Proclaim the Gospel

Please choose the Gospel for the Sunday in Advent closest to your meeting date.

Invitation to Group Sharing

Take a few minutes of silence and then invite participants to share in groups of three or four.

1. As you look back on Season Three, how has your understanding of your call to discipleship grown, stretched, or been challenged during this season?
2. Share your experiences of how being a member of a small community has helped you relate better to the Church as a community and helped your engagement to the larger community.
3. Using the questions from the evaluation survey (which you received in an email), please share responses.

Reconvene the small groups into one and ask for some "good news" stories to be shared with the entire group.

Invitation to Closing Prayer

Give thanks to God (aloud or silently) for insights gained, for prayers answered, for the gift of one another's openness and sensitivity. Conclude with the following:

Leader: Let us pray.

All: O God, our Father, we ask not only your forgiveness but your loving help that we may turn away from being satisfied and complacent with our present lives and make our every living day a prayer of praise and thanksgiving to you by our attitudes and by our actions. We ask this through your Son Jesus Christ in union with the Holy Spirit. Amen.

© RENEW International, 2014. All rights reserved.
No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted, in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise, without the explicit permission in writing of the copyright holder.
RENEW International, 1232 George Street, Plainfield, NJ 07062-1717



ARISE Parish Team Meeting Seven: Reflection, Celebration, and Evaluation—Season Four

Where?	At the parish level
When?	Post Easter
Who?	ARISE parish team and small-community leaders
How?	Invitations to all small-community leaders two to three weeks prior to event
What?	A Resurrection celebration—“pot luck” or dessert and coffee
Time?	1.5 to 2 hours

In the name of the pastor, the *ARISE Together in Christ* parish team welcomes all small-community leaders to this event.

Goals

- Thank the small-community leaders for their service.
- Gather in gratitude for what Christ has done for us through *ARISE*.
- Share “good news” stories.
- Support one another in the challenges.
- Gather information from the small communities to assist the *ARISE* parish team coordinator in completing the Season Four evaluation survey. (A copy of the evaluation survey is available via the link sent to coordinators in an email.)

Process

- Welcome and introductions (have name tags available)
- Overview of the evening

Opening Song

Use an appropriate Easter song.

Invitation to Pray

All: **Father in heaven, you sent Jesus to die and rise, to teach and feed us. Just as he was present to the disciples of Emmaus and their eyes were opened, help us to recognize him this day and each day as he walks with us. Help us to follow his example and to listen with care and compassion to those in pain. Give us the wisdom to respond as he would in our place.**

Alleluia. Amen.

Proclaim the Gospel

Please choose the Gospel for the next Sunday closest to your meeting date.

Invitation to Group Sharing (in groups of five or six)

Invite participants to close their eyes and think back to October and November, to remember the faces of those in their small groups.

1. As you look back on Season Four, can you name an effective sign of the new heart and the new spirit that are ours through baptism in yourself, members of your small community, or in your parish?
2. How will you bring this newness of heart and spirit to life in your own life or in the life of the parish?
3. Using the questions from the evaluation survey (which you received in an email), please share responses.

Reconvene the small groups into one and ask for some "good news" stories to be shared with the entire group.

Invitation to Closing Prayer

Give thanks to God (aloud or silently) for insights gained, for prayers answered, for the gift of one another's openness and sensitivity. Conclude with the following:

Leader: Let us pray.

All: **Ever-present God, we are grateful that your Holy Spirit never leaves us. Help us become people whose words and actions reassure those who feel orphaned. Guide us to choose what is true and good, and thus continue your mission in our world. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

© RENEW International, 2014. All rights reserved.
No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted, in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise, without the explicit permission in writing of the copyright holder:
RENEW International, 1232 George Street, Plainfield, NJ 07062-1717