

ARISE Parish Team Meeting Three: Communicating the Vision of ARISE in the Parish

Purpose

- to provide an opportunity through prayer and faith sharing for the *ARISE* parish team members to grow together as a community
- to engender a climate of anticipation and enthusiasm for *ARISE* in the parish

Materials needed

- copy of the *ARISE* Prayer (Handout 29)
- Bible or *Lectionary* for the Sunday gospel reading
- copy of *PRAYER TIME*
- *ARISE* Season One CD and CD player
- copy of Handout 5, "Invitation Task List"
- copy of Handout 6, "Key Reasons for Signing Up for *ARISE Together in Christ*"

Opening Prayer (5 minutes)

Leader Let us spend a few moments in quiet, becoming more aware of God's presence ...
... God's presence in each one of us,
but especially in this community,
gathered in Jesus' name.

Song *Play or sing an appropriate song such as*
"Go Make a Difference," Steve Angrisano and Tom Tomaszek
(Spirit and Song) or
"All Are Welcome," Marty Haugen (GIA) (*ARISE CD 1, Track 7*)

Leader Let us pray together
All **Loving and gracious God,**
send forth wisdom to be with us and to empower us
so we may know and do what pleases you
and what is good for our parish.
We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

Faith Sharing (15 minutes)

Faith sharing, or telling our faith stories, is being aware of or recalling times, life events, words, or moments of grace when God touched our lives, challenged us, or spoke to us.

- **Scripture**
Proclaim the Gospel for the coming Sunday.
- **Reflection**
You could
 - use the reflection and one of the faith-sharing questions from *PRAYER TIME* for the appropriate Sunday.Or you could
 - allow time for reflection and ask:
“What word, phrase, or image from the scripture reading touched my heart or spoke to my life?”

Communicating the Vision of ARISE (30 minutes)

The *ARISE* process provides spiritual formation for everyone in the parish family. Its goals are

- Teaching and witnessing to the Word of God in Sacred Scripture
- Developing vibrant communities of faith and service
- Implementing a strategy for adult faith formation
- Providing a concrete and practical means of evangelization
- Enhancing the celebration of Sunday liturgy
- Developing ongoing small communities

To continue communicating the purpose, spirit, and essential elements of the *ARISE* process and to develop a climate of anticipation and enthusiasm in the parish, consider:

- sharing your understanding of and appreciation for *ARISE*
 - during Sunday Mass at an appropriate time (three-minute sharing at end of Mass)
 - at coffee-and-cake gatherings after Mass
 - at parish meetings of ministries, organizations, and societies
 - in the parish school and religious education program
 - through informal chats with parishioners
- distributing promotional material such as
 - brochures and flyers
 - copies of articles about *ARISE* in local or (arch)diocesan newspaper
- hosting opportunities for intercessory prayer for renewal
 - Evening Prayer
 - Holy Hour
- other options

Break (10 minutes)

Communicating the Vision of ARISE (40 minutes)

- Decide the who, when, and where of the methods your team has selected.

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- Flesh out a timeline for implementing your parish promotional activities: refer to Handout 5, “Invitation Task List.”

Next Steps (2 minutes)

- Remind participants of the date for the next parish team planning meeting.
- Read Handout 6, “Key Reasons for Signing Up for *ARISE Together in Christ*” prior to the next meeting.

Closing Prayer (10 minutes)

The leader should offer a brief prayer of quiet thanksgiving. Then:

Leader Let us pray for God’s help and guidance.

Leader For our Holy Father and all Church leaders that they may be strengthened with wisdom and grace, we pray to the Lord:

All Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader For our (arch)diocese, that trust might be restored where it has been broken, we pray to the Lord:

All Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader For all the parishes in our (arch)diocese, that God’s spirit of peace and understanding will permeate them, we pray to the Lord:

All Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader For our parishioners, that all may be open to this time of renewal and spiritual growth, we pray to the Lord:

All Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader. For all of us, that we may continue to grow closer in our relationship with Christ and with one another we pray to the Lord:

All Lord, hear our prayer.

Pause and invite others to offer intentions.

Leader Let us pray together the *ARISE* Prayer.

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