

During the Time of Election of a New Pope

(from Instructions and Prayers for the Conclave)

Parishes, schools and communities may consider offering a special *Mass for the Election of a Pope*, according to the guidelines of the liturgical calendar, at the start of and during the Conclave

Mass for the Election of a Pope

is to be found on page 1249 of the *New Zealand Roman Missal*, (in the section Masses and Prayers for Various Occasions).

Lectionary Texts

Readings and Psalms may be taken from the Lectionary, Masses for Various Occasions, *For the Election of a Pope*

Sample Intercessory Prayers

For the College of Cardinals,
that they may be open in heart and mind to the guidance of the Holy Spirit,
let us pray to the Lord:

For the outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon the conclave in Rome,
that through intense prayer and genuine discernment,
the Cardinal's may listen to the Spirit's guidance,
let us pray to the Lord

For the Catholic Church,
that in faith and confidence we may be united
as we await the Spirit's action in the election of a new Pope,
let us pray to the Lord

The Liturgy Of The Hours

On days when there is no obligatory memorial, feasts or solemnities, the closing prayer may be taken from the Mass for the Election of a Pope or Bishop

A Prayer Vigil for the Guidance of the Holy Spirit:

On the night before the Conclave in Rome begins, parishes (or perhaps deaneries or districts) might celebrate a prayer vigil service, at which the Church would pray for the guidance of the Spirit during the conclave to elect the next Pope. A suggested Order of Service follows:

SAMPLE PRAYER VIGIL FOR PARISHES TO USE **THE NIGHT BEFORE THE START OF THE** **CONCLAVE**

Order of Service

Note:

This service is meant to be a vigil in which the Church begs for the Spirit to guide the Cardinals in conclave.

Opening Song:

Choose a hymn or song from the suggested musical resources or any other appropriate gathering song.

Leader:

Blessed be the Lord,

People:

Both now and forever!

Introduction and Opening Prayer:

Leader:

Brothers and Sisters,
This evening, we gather as members of Christ's Body the Church.
We gather as a people who await the movement and action of the Spirit.
We gather as people confident in the Lord's guidance of and care for his Church.
Tonight, let us spend time in prayer, reflection and petition.
Let us call upon God in faith, to send the Holy Spirit upon the Cardinals in Rome who will assemble tomorrow to elect the new Pope, the Vicar of Christ on earth.

Let us pray . . .

O God, protector and ruler of your Church:
You are our eternal shepherd and guide.

In your mercy, grant your Church a shepherd
Who will walk in your ways
And whose watchful care will bring us your blessing.

Give a spirit of wisdom
To those you have entrusted with authority in your Church.
Send your Spirit upon the Cardinals in Rome who are to elect
a new Pope.

We ask this in the name of Jesus the Lord.

All:

Amen.

Readings and Reflection:

First Reading

Isaiah 61: 1-3 (The Lord God has anointed me and has sent me to bring
Good News to the poor.)

Silence

Second Reading

1 Sm 16:1, 6-13 (Come, anoint the young shepherd; he is the one who will
be king)

Sung Response: Psalm 89
Response: Forever I will sing the goodness of the Lord

Third Reading

Isaiah 6:1-8 (Whom shall I send? Who will be our messenger?)

Silence

Fourth Reading

Romans 12:3-13 (Our gifts differ according to the grace given to us.)

Sung Response: Psalm 16

Response: You are my inheritance, O Lord.

Fifth Reading

Eph 4:1-7, 11-13 (In the work of service we help in building up the body of
Christ)

Silence

Singing of the Gloria

(or other seasonal acclamation)

During this hymn, the participants' candles are lit.

Proclamation of the Gospel:

Matthew 16: 13-19 (You are Peter and on this rock I will build my Church.)

Reflection

Singing of the Veni Sancte Spiritus

During the singing of the Veni Sancte Spiritus all participants move forward in procession, placing their lighted candles in prepared receptacles (pots filled with sand work very well), then returning to their places.

Intercessions

(Those listed below are given as a model - other appropriate intercessions can be used)

Leader:

Together, let us offer our prayers for the Church and her leaders:

For the College of Cardinals: That they may be open in heart and mind to the guidance of the Holy Spirit, we pray to the Lord:

For an outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon the conclave in Rome: That through intense prayer and genuine discernment, the Cardinals may listen to the Spirit's guidance, we pray to the Lord:

For the Catholic Church: That in faith and confidence we may be united as we await the Spirit's action in the election of a new Pope, we pray to the Lord:

For Christian unity, that full communion among all churches will be realized, we pray to the Lord:

For peace from on high and for our salvation, we pray to the Lord:

For the welfare of all peoples and the unity of the human family, we pray to the Lord:

For this holy assembly, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, we pray to the Lord:

For the clergy, for all servants of the Church, and for all the faithful, we pray to the Lord:

For our public servants, for the government and those who protect us, that they may be upheld and strengthened in every good deed, we pray to the Lord:

For the faithful who have gone before us marked with the sign of faith, we pray to the Lord:

The Lord's Prayer:

Gathering our prayers into one, we pray as Jesus taught us.
Our Father...

Sign of Peace

We have gathered this night as brothers and sisters in Christ.
Let us share with one another a sign of Christ's peace.

Blessing

Presider:

The Lord be with you.

All:

And also with you.

Presider:

May almighty God bless you,
Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

(If the leader is a lay minister, he or she uses the following formula)

Leader

, making the sign of the cross says:

May almighty God bless us,
Protect us from all evil
And bring us to everlasting life. Amen.

Closing Song:

Choose a hymn or song from the suggested musical resources