

Notes on the Diocesan Booklet (published 2002)

General

These guidelines now apply to **Weekday** celebrations only. Since Easter 2006, services of Word and Communion on Sundays are forbidden in the diocese, except in cases of emergency – in other words, churches may not schedule such services on a regular basis. All references to Sunday in the guidelines are therefore to be disregarded.

For weekdays when no Mass takes place there is a hierarchy of options, in order of preference:

- (1) Divine Office
- (2) Liturgy of the Word
- (3) Divine Office with Communion
- (4) Word and Communion

Other forms of prayer – e.g. Taizé-style – may also be used.

Importance of teamwork

None of these celebrations should ever be led by just one person. There should always be a **minimum** of two:

- a leader (who does not have to be a commissioned minister of communion)
- a reader (to proclaim the Word of God)

If Holy Communion is to be distributed, there should **additionally** be

- a minister of communion (who does that and nothing else during the celebration)

Ideally there should also be

- a minister of music (to lead singing)

All these persons should work as a team, each carrying out only their own role and no more.

Structure of (3)

- Opening and hymn
- Psalmody
- Reading(s) – see below
- Intercessions
- Liturgy of Communion – see below
- New Testament Canticle (= the Song of Thanksgiving)
- Concluding Prayers

Structure of (4)

- Opening Song
- Greeting and Introduction
- Litany of Praise (same form as Penitential Rite C)
- Opening Prayer
- Liturgy of the Word
 - (Reading – Psalm – Gospel Acclamation – Gospel – Reflection – Intercessions)
- Liturgy of Communion
 - (Transfer of Blessed Sacrament – Lord's Prayer – Sign of Peace – Communion – silence – Song of Thanksgiving)
- Concluding Rite
 - (Prayer – Announcements – Blessing – Dismissal)