
ARCHDIOCESE OF
DUBUQUE
MISSION STATEMENT

We, the Church
of the Archdiocese of Dubuque,
are God's people,
gathering together
as a Eucharistic community
to worship,
sharing the Word of God,
affirming traditional and emerging
leadership roles
and supporting families
to model Catholic faith and morality
for the next generation.

We commit ourselves
to lifelong faith formation and
to the service of humanity
because we believe
in the Risen Christ,
in the wisdom and kindness of God,
the Author of life,
and in the love
the Holy Spirit bestows.

ARCHDIOCESE OF
DUBUQUE

OFFICE OF WORSHIP
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THE
CATHOLIC
FAITH
SHARING
PROCESS

GROWTH
IN
HOLINESS

Faith Sharing

One evening during the week, before Sunday's liturgy, the faith-sharing group of 3 to 5 people gathers in a friend's home. Each person brings his or her personal Bible, a notebook, and pen.

The leader will have the citation of the scriptures for the coming Sunday ready. The citations of the readings are listed in the parish bulletin and on the United States Conference of Bishops web page, www.usccb.org/nab.



The weekly faith sharing session prepares the soul for the Word the way the farmer prepares the soil for the seed.

Catholics believe that faith is created in the Liturgy of the Word on Sunday. In the Liturgy of the Eucharist, Catholics respond in faith and become temples of the Body and Blood of Christ in communion. Together, they bring the presence of Christ into daily life.

Prepare for Sunday and discipleship.

The Process

Begin with the sign of the cross.

Announce the location of Sunday's Gospel - for example, "Luke, chapter one, and verses five through eight." (From the parish bulletin or www.usccb.org/nab).

Every one locates the Gospel in his or her personal Bible. This helps participants to become familiar with the Bible and proficient, over time, in using the Bible.

1. One person reads Sunday's Gospel. Participants ponder the question, "**What do you SEE** in the Gospel?" or "Do you see yourself in the story?" Who or what in the story creates an image or picture in your mind? Each person makes notes in his/her faith journey notebook. Next, they share what they saw with the group.

2. Another person reads the Gospel again. Participants ponder the question, "**What do you HEAR** in the Gospel?" A phrase or word may stand out more clearly than another. Each person makes notes in his/her faith journey notebook. Next, they share what they saw with the group.

3. A third person reads the Gospel. Each person connects what was recorded in steps 1 and 2. What a person saw and heard can connect to the final question, "**What do I need to DO** in my life in order to follow Jesus better?" Sometimes, following Jesus involves a change or adjustment. We call this the "cost" of discipleship. Share with the group.

Final Step

The Gospel calls each person to action. List some of things you might do this week to put the Gospel in action.

With the group, offer prayers of intercession for the needs of the world and for local needs.

Gather all prayers into one with the Lord's Prayer, "Our Father".

End with the sign of the cross.

