

Leader's Guide to Prayer Rituals

May 11 – **Ritual of Membership Commitment**

- Use the prayer ritual provided.
An alternate form is provided for larger communities where the commitment pledge would be best done communally.
- We suggest that the local superior be the leader for this ritual prayer.
- The Period of Communal Contemplation should be at least 3 minutes long.
- After each sister states her commitment to full participation in Chapter 2023, she places her signed card on the altar or on a table in the sanctuary.

(Please provide a basket or dish where sisters may place these cards.)

In larger communities the cards will be collected after all sisters' commitments have been affirmed. Then, the leader will place the cards on the altar or table.

- Please keep these cards visible in the chapel until they are redistributed to the sisters on/near the Feast of the Visitation. The sisters will then keep them as a reminder of their personal commitment.

May 12 – **Ritual of Delegate Commitment**

- Use the Office of the Day with the adaptations suggested on the worship aid provided.
- The Period of Communal Contemplation should be at least 3 minutes long.
- Delegate commitments may be placed by each individual sister, or collected, and placed in the envelope that will be sealed and forwarded to the Motherhouse.

May 31 – **Affirmation of Delegates**

- There is no worship aid for this prayer ritual.
- Simply, use Morning or Evening Prayer for the Feast of the Visitation, along with the following suggestions:
 - ✓ Marian hymn of choice.
 - ✓ In place of the canticle, please share a period of Communal Contemplation (3 minutes-long)
- Response to the Reading
Invite the sisters to affirm their delegate choices, saying:

Sisters, you have reflected on the essential qualities needed for the members of our Chapter 2023 delegation and have discerned, with the guidance of the Holy Spirit, which sisters will best serve. We ask you now to indicate your affirmation of these sisters by checking their names on the list of delegate candidates.

- ✓ Suggestion: Play soft instrumental music in the background.
- Affirmation sheets may be placed by each individual sister, or collected, and placed in the envelope that will be sealed and forwarded to the motherhouse.
- Before the closing prayer, or at an appropriate time, please return the membership commitment cards, that have been near the altar, to the individual sisters. Perhaps, the pastoral visitors could help distribute these to the sisters in Camilla. Sisters will keep these as a reminder of their continued participation in Chapter 2023.