

# The Introductory Rites

## Adult Faith Formation Session 2

Date

Place

Time

Contact

The second session on the Mass will focus on the Introductory Rites: the greeting and response, Penitential Act, and Collect or Opening Prayer. We'll talk about how we prepare for Mass at home; then how we gather, marked with the cross, in church; express sorrow at our failures; and prepare to celebrate with all creation. The opening dialogue contains a change that will recur: After the priest celebrant says, "The Lord be with you," the people respond, "And with your spirit." We'll discover the biblical roots of these words.

We'll unpack ways the Penitential Act describes our experience as flawed human beings. The Collect gathers different people with unique stories and desires, uniting them, remembering what God has done. We'll compare it to other events where ritual unites people. If we've ever rushed mindlessly into a Eucharistic liturgy, here's a chance to explore the mysterious dynamic of God speaking to a people, and their response.

Come join us! Be sure to bring your copy of *Understanding the Revised Mass Texts, Second Edition*, to the session.

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