

Actions speak louder than words

Prayer Time

At the beginning of the prayer time, light a candle in the middle of the group

Leader: We begin our prayer in the name of the Father,
and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen

Leader: Each time we come together to pray or to meet as groups in our parish,
we are conscious that all we do,
is done through the grace and strength of God in our midst. *PAUSE*

Let us listen to the Word of God

Scripture Reading - Luke 19:1-9

Reader: Jesus entered Jericho and was passing through. A man was there by the name of Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and was wealthy. He wanted to see who Jesus was, but being a short man he could not, because of the crowd. So, he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore-fig tree to see him, since Jesus was coming that way. When Jesus reached the spot, he looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, come down immediately. I must stay at your house today." So he came down at once and welcomed him gladly. All the people saw this and began to mutter, "He has gone to be the guest of a 'sinner'." But Zacchaeus stood up and said to the Lord, "Look, Lord! Here and now I give half of my possessions to the poor, and if I have cheated anybody out of anything, I will pay back four times the amount." Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, because this man, too, is a son of Abraham. For the Son of Man came to seek and to save what was lost."

PAUSE

Reader: For a moment we ask ourselves, when have I been inspired and attracted by someone and what they stand for, like Zacchaeus is fascinated by Jesus? ...how did I respond? What was happened? *PAUSE*

As a pastoral council, how do we become aware of those who are at the margins in our parish...how do we include others? *PAUSE*

Leader: Confident that we are sisters and brothers of Jesus Christ, we now pray together, Our Father.....

Leader: We draw our prayer to a close as we ask God to bless us and the work we are about to undertake, *In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen*