

Liturgy in our schools

Starter thoughts

- a. everyone worships
- b. the community is varied
- c. in school we do collective not corporate worship
- d. it's that triangle again

The what and why of worship in school

Worship as stopping and focussing on the most important

David Foster Wallace

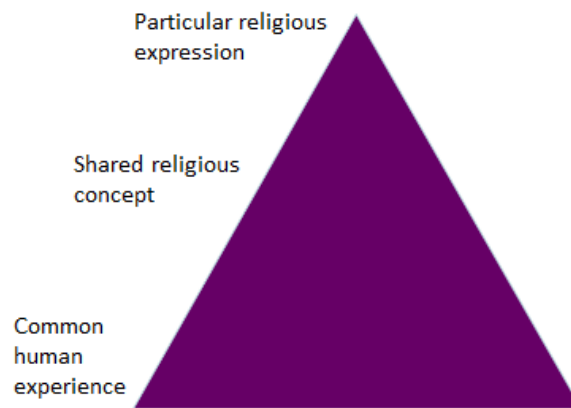
Something that's weird but true - everybody worships. There is no such thing as not worshipping.

The only choice we get is what to worship.

Christian Worship

Christian identity is established not primarily by denying and combating what is outside but by embracing and highlighting the centre of what is inside – Jesus Christ as the Word”

Miroslav Volf



Liturgy: the work of the people *Gk/leitō-* "public" (from *laos* "people;" see **lay** + *-ergos* "that works," from *ergon* "work")

Mark Earey talks of...

The liturgy

A liturgy

Some liturgy

Our liturgy

Prayer

- *it stops us for what matters*
- *it's not about asking but being*
- *being with while thinking of*
- *being present to*
- *a natural and valued part of the culture of the school.*

- set prayer is a way of putting own thoughts in
- focus on lines and pause
- prayer cards and ideas
- timing
- image of God
- focussed on a word or a line

Stillness and silence

Silence as a part of Christian liturgy

Silence as a thing

Not taking for granted – working on how we do it

Mindful: pay attention in a systematic way

Bible in Worship

- different Christian responses
- read and reflected on or applied
- a story
- reader's response

- making a bit of a thing of it
- planned
- shorter pieces read clearly
- reading aloud

A reading from...

This is the word of the Lord (of God)

Thanks be to God

Ways of telling:

structure

voices

children involved

responses

listen for this

Eucharist

Canon law kicks in!
What SIAMs says

The roots

Jesus and eating together
Resurrection meals
Miraculous feedings
Last Supper and institution

so.... what could it be...?

A Eucharistic Prayer....authorized for use on occasions when a significant number of children are present or when it is otherwise pastorally appropriate to meet the needs of children present and not intended for use on a weekly basis at the main celebration of Holy Communion in the parish church.

With children

- explanations and talk children through what follows.
- children can participate, with some examples.
- maximize movement, smells and bells
- children close enough to see

Issues

Who does and does not receive – clear beforehand
Blessing becomes vital
Parents and parish?
When?
A lot of responding
Confession
The Ministry of the Word
Prayers with response
The Peace
Eucharistic Prayer...Explain! “Listen out for...”

Your Liturgy

Common Worship’s pattern:
gather
engage
respond
send

Or: Prepare – Hear – Respond

Could be....

Gathering words or prayer
Word of God
Prayers
Lord's Prayer
Conclusion

Possibly:
... some traditional responses
...confession

Responses
The Lord (God/ Our God) is here/ His (God's) Spirit is with us
Peace be with you/ And also with you
Go in peace to love and serve the Lord (God)/ In the name of Christ, Amen
Show a liturgy – Emmaus?

Some issues for liturgy and worship

staff – in or out
who does it?
when and how long?
visitors
language: 'Lord' and 'King'
collective not corporate
confession

Confessions is a loved and liberating time but will children get that.
So....?
Reflect on past morning/ day/ week
things for which we are thankful
things that made us sad
things we regret
Absolution

Symbols
Crosses

A few bits...

Church Year

Creation, Incarnation, Salvation, Kingdom of God
Remembrance, Advent, Lent
Three or four saints (patronal?)
Holy Cross

Is it Anglican?

Liturgical
Trinitarian
Link to parish
Church Year
Eucharist?

Tips with children
try the words beforehand
focus on a word or a line

delivering a liturgy - know what the sentence says
warm up
pick small standing points to explain
focus on how certain words or lines interact

Resources

Fischy

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yUhbCNMUljY>

Common Worship

<https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/worship-texts-and-resources/common-worship>

Bible Gateway

<https://www.biblegateway.com/>

James K.A. Smith

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M5R2m221wMw&index=2&list=PLBRWwaZuniFIPLDLs03ap91sJpVWBFkJ9>

David Foster Wallace

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PhhC_N6Bm_s

Mark Earey *Liturgical Worship* Church House Publishing

Bob Hartman *Telling the Bible* Monarch

Sarah Lenton *Creative Ideas for Children's Worship* Canterbury Press

Sally Welch *Celebrating Festivals* Barnabas for Children