

Catholic events can sometimes seem strange — even to cradle Catholics. Why all the standing, sitting, bowing, and kneeling? Why are certain prayers and songs necessary, while others aren't permitted? What should I do now, and what will happen next?

It's especially disconcerting when Catholics and non-Catholics come together for an unfamiliar, emotion-laden event such as a wedding or funeral. Even the most fundamental of Catholic traditions can be questioned then.

Educate and prepare your parishioners with Our Sunday Visitor's newest pamphlets — Catholic Etiquette: Mass, Catholic Etiquette: Weddings, and Catholic Etiquette: Funerals. They're a concrete, ecumenical, inexpensive, and easily distributed how-to on the "rites and wrongs" of the Catholic Church.

CATHOLIC ETIQUETTE

"We may be excused for not always being bright, but we are not excused for not always being gracious, yielding and considerate."

— St. Francis de Sales
From *Catholic Book of Quotations*,
Leo Knowles (OSV, \$9.95)

- Couples can also share the wedding pamphlet with their families, especially those relatives who are not Catholic. It can ease tensions and settle debates with spiritual reasons for ceremony guidelines.
- The funeral pamphlet is very thoughtful. As DREs, we need to inform our catechists, so they can be prepared in case of a death in the families of the children in our programs. It gives practical and spiritual guidance.
- The funeral pamphlet, with explanations of the Church's view on life, could be included in a discussion on issues from abortion to euthanasia.

SHARE YOUR IDEAS

How do you teach Catholic tradition? Email Beth McNamara at bmcnamara@osv.com with your best tips and most creative advice. Then log on to www.teachingcatholickids.com to see what others have to say.

Call toll-free! Or fax the order form on your Parish Partnership brochure.

Order the Catholic Etiquette pamphlets for just 26 cents a copy! Call 1-800-348-2440, Ext. 3, today!

Our Sunday Visitor

PARISH HOW-TO

Claudio Mora, DRE at St. Edward Catholic Church, Dallas, contributed to this month's ideas for using OSV's etiquette pamphlets.

- The Mass pamphlet can really help the parents of young First Communion children, giving them necessary information in a short and precise way.
- RCIA catechumens and candidates can benefit from the Mass pamphlet, too.

● Pair the Mass pamphlet with a "dress rehearsal" for First Communicants. See "Teach It: Eucharist and the Mass" for a lesson plan on "practice Masses."

● The wedding pamphlet is great for those couples who join RCIA seeking to get married in the Catholic Church, with practical details and the Church's teaching on marriage.

TO KNOW MORE

- Catholic Etiquette: What You Need to Know About Catholic Rites and Wrongs, Kay Lynn Isca (OSV, \$12.95)
- The How-to Book of the Mass, Michael Dubruiel (OSV, \$12.95)
- Teach Me About the Mass, Paul S. Plum, Joan E. Plum, Catherine M. Odell (OSV, \$4.95)
- Teach It: Eucharist and the Mass, Joseph D. White, Ph.D., and Ana Arista White (OSV, \$11.95)
- What the Church Teaches: Death and Life After Death, pamphlet (OSV, \$12.95 / 50)
- Your Grieving Child: Answers to Questions on Death and Dying, Bill Dodds (OSV, \$8.95)
- Blessed Are Those Who Mourn: Comforting Catholics in Their Time of Grief, Glenn M. Spencer Jr. (OSV, \$10.95)
- Catholic Marriage Wisdom Book, Donna Marie Cedar-Southworth (OSV, \$14.95)
- Christian Married Love, Fred and Lisa Everett (OSV, \$5.95)



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