**Introductory Rites**

**You will need:**

1

2

3

4

* cloth (colour of the season)
* white felt circle cut into four quadrants - see quadrant templates on RE online
* 10 peg people, 1 priest (white material to represent alb with material the

colour of the season to represent chasuble and stole)

* cards: Introductory Rites, Entrance hymn, Entrance procession, Greeting, Penitential Act, Gloria, Opening Prayer (see below)

*Lay**seasonal cloth down. Place the quadrants on top of the underlay to form a circle as in illustration above.*

*Place the peg figures around the circle facing inwards to represent the community gathered. Trace your finger around the circle as you say:*

**When we celebrate Mass we come together as the community of God.**

*Point to each quadrant as you say:*

**We can look at the Mass as being made up of four parts: The Introductory Rites, the Liturgy of the Word, the Liturgy of the Eucharist, and the Concluding Rites.**

*Hold the card ‘Introductory Rites’ as you say:*

**The first part, called the Introductory Rites, gathers us together into the community that is the Body of Christ.**

*Place Introductory Rites card in quadrant 1.*

*Hold the card ‘Entrance Hymn’ as you say:***At the beginning of the Introductory Rites we sing the Entrance Hymn together.**

*Place the Entrance Hymn card in quadrant 1 below Introductory Rites card.*

*Move the priest as if in procession to the edge of the circle as you say:*

**The priest and servers join the singing as they process from the back of the church to the altar.**

*Hold the card ‘Entrance Procession’ as you say:*

**This is called the Entrance Procession.**

*Place the Entrance Procession card in quadrant 1 below Entrance Hymn card.*

*Hold the card ‘Greeting’ as you say:*

**In the Greeting the priest welcomes us saying: “The Lord be with you.” We respond saying, “And with your spirit.”** *(Children may join with you in this response.)*

*Place the Greeting card in quadrant 1 below Entrance Procession card.*

*Hold the card ‘Penitential Act’ as you say:*

**During the Penitential Act we ask God’s help for a change of heart.**

*Place the Penitential Act card in quadrant 1 below Greeting card.*

*Hold the card ‘Gloria’ card as you say:*

**We praise and thank God in the prayer called the Gloria.**

**It begins with the words, “Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of goodwill…”**

*Place the Gloria card in quadrant 1 below Penitential Act card.*

*Hold the card ‘Opening Prayer (Collect)’ as you say:*

**The Opening Prayer is the last prayer of the Introductory Rites. This prayer is also called the ‘Collect’ because the priest ‘collects’ the people’s prayers and offers them to God. This completes the gathering of all the people present into a single body. Now those gathered together are ready to hear the word of God.**

*Place the Opening Prayer (Collect) card in quadrant 1 below Gloria card.*

*Point to the Introductory Rites card as you say:*

**The Introductory Rites gather us together as the community of God through the Entrance Hymn and Procession, the Greeting, Penitential Act, Gloria and Opening Prayer.**

*Point to the people, as you say:*

**In the celebration of the Mass, Jesus is present both in the community gathered**

*Point to the priest, as you say:*

**and in the priest.**

*Pause for a while before wondering with the students.*

**I wonder what parts of this you’ve heard or seen before.**

**I wonder which part of this you like the best.**

**I wonder what it means to say that Jesus is present in the community gathered.**

**I wonder what it means to say that Jesus is present in the priest.**