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## Ideas for the Celebration

The following guide is a sample of how to you can celebrate Harvest in your parish.

Consider decorating your church with an artistic “Harvest Scene”, symbolizing God’s creation of the world, and how we use it sustainably to yield the local harvest.

You may decide to have a tea party after the Sunday celebration and ask members of your parish to use their harvest to make some food to enjoy.

You may ask parishioners to donate Harvest goods and donate them to a local charity for others to enjoy.



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## Order of the Mass and Liturgy Plan for Harvest Celebration

*Mass prayers for 'After the Harvest', Roman Missal pages 832 to 833,  
or 'Thanksgiving', pages 844 to 845.*



Opening Hymn: 'For the Beauty of the Earth' by Stacy Plays Hymns

### The Introductory Rites

#### Entrance Antiphon

*The earth has yielded its fruit;  
May God, our God, bless us.*

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

We gather this autumn time to give thanks to God for feeding people in town and country alike through the marvels of creation. We believe that those who trust in God's providence are not disappointed but are fed from the abundance of divine riches.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

### The Penitential Rite

The Confiteor

or

Penitential Act

We confess to you our lack of care for the world you have given us. Lord, have mercy.



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We confess to you our selfishness in not sharing the earth's bounty fairly. Christ, have mercy.

We confess to you our failure to protect resources for others. Lord, have mercy.

The Gloria

Opening Prayer

God of the heavens and earth we thank you for the richness of harvest time and for food. May the fruitfulness of this time make us thankful for your constant love and care for us. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

### The Liturgy of the Word

*The following are suggestions for the readings for the Harvest Celebration. Alternatively, you may wish to use the readings of the Sunday.*

First Reading

*When harvest time comes, God's people will not be disappointed.*

A reading from the book of Joel

2:21-24, 26-27

Do not be afraid, land of Judah; be glad and rejoice. Surely the LORD has done great things! Do not be afraid, you wild animals, for the pastures in the wilderness are becoming green. The trees are bearing their fruit; the fig tree and the vine yield their riches.

Be glad, people of Zion, rejoice in the LORD your God, for he has given you the autumn rains because he is faithful. He sends you abundant showers, both autumn and spring rains, as before. The threshing floors will be filled with grain; the vats will overflow with new wine and oil.



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You will have plenty to eat, until you are full, and you will praise the name of the LORD your God, who has worked wonders for you; never again will my people be shamed. Then you will know that I am in Israel, that I am the LORD your God, and that there is no other; never again will my people be shamed.

The Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm; 126

℟. The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.

1. When the LORD brought back the exiles of Sion,  
we thought we were dreaming.  
Then was our mouth filled with laughter;  
on our tongues, songs of joy. ℟.
2. Then the nations themselves said, “What great deeds  
the LORD worked for them!”  
What great deeds the LORD worked for us!  
Indeed, we were glad. ℟.
3. Bring back our exiles, O LORD,  
as streams in the south.  
Those who are sowing in tears  
will sing when they reap. ℟.
4. They go out, they go out, full of tears,  
bearing seed for the sowing;  
they come back, they come back with a song,  
their sheaves. ℟.

Or Sing Psalm 126: ‘Bringing in the sheaves’

Second Reading

*People labour to produce the harvest, but God is behind it all.*



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A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

*1 Corinthians 3:6-10*

I planted the seed, Apollos watered it, but God has been making it grow. So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God, who makes things grow. The one who plants and the one who waters have one purpose, and they will each be rewarded according to their own labour. For we are co-workers in God's service; you are God's field, God's building. By the grace God has given me, I laid a foundation as a wise builder, and someone else is building on it. But each one should build with care.

The Word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

Lift up your eyes and see that the fields are ripe for harvesting.  
Gather the fruit for eternal life.

Alleluia!

Gospel

*Saying 'thank you' may be rarely done, but it is always appreciated — even by the Lord.*

A reading from the Holy Gospel According to Luke

*17:11-19*

Now on his way to Jerusalem, Jesus travelled along the border between Samaria and Galilee. As he was going into a village, ten men who had leprosy met him. They stood at a distance and called out in a loud voice, "Jesus, Master, have pity on us!"

When he saw them, he said, "Go, show yourselves to the priests." And as they went, they were cleansed.

One of them, when he saw he was healed, came back, praising God in a loud voice. He threw himself at Jesus' feet and thanked him—and he was a Samaritan.

Jesus asked, "Were not all ten cleansed? Where are the other nine? Has no one returned to give praise to God except this foreigner?" Then he said to him, "Rise and go; your faith has made you well." The Gospel of the Lord.



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## Homily

*You may wish to speak about Blessing the Land during the homily. Encourage parishioners to take home the Blessing of the Land Leaflet and holy water.*

## Prayers of the Faithful

Almighty and everlasting God, creator of all that is seen and unseen, of all we can understand and all that is yet to be revealed. You have placed us in a universe with breathtaking splendour and with an ability to constantly surprise and amaze us. We come to you in simple trust and, as Jesus taught us, in the certain knowledge that you are our heavenly father and will listen to the prayers of us, your children.

1. At this special thanksgiving time of the year, we pray for all who work so that we have food to eat and share. Lord bless all who labour to satisfy our needs and we pray that all trade between peoples may be done openly and fairly and with due regard for the environment and for human dignity. Lord hear us.
2. We pray now for areas of our world where hatred and wars make the efforts of daily life even more difficult. May all hear and respond to the words of Jesus, who spoke of peacemakers being blessed and of treating our neighbours as ourselves. Lord hear us.
3. We pray for this, our own country and for all in authority, that they will govern wisely and with due regard for the needs of all people and for creation. Lord hear us.
4. We pray for all families represented here today. Each one is made up differently and faces the normal ups and downs of family life in different ways. We are especially mindful of families where there is unemployment or fear for the future. We pray that each family finds a place in it for the love of Jesus Christ and that special peace which it brings. Lord hear us
5. We pray for the sick, both at home and in hospital, or hospice. We think of the elderly, the housebound and those in care homes. And we pray for all who minister to their needs. Lord Jesus who responded to the needs of all those who had faith; comfort and sustain those who are in need of your grace at this time. Lord hear us.



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6. We pray for those who mourn the loss of loved ones, whether recently or long ago. Let the knowledge of your resurrection in glory be comfort to all those who mourn. Lord hear us.

God of the Harvest, we thank you and praise your name for your creating, loving power. Give us insight to see your hand at work in our lives and enable us to taste the goodness which comes from knowing you in your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

### The Liturgy of the Eucharist

Offertory Procession: *Play a hymn celebrating Harvest during the offertory procession. Suggested Hymn: Ag Críost an Síol*

Preface: Suggested Preface V of the Sundays in Ordinary Time

The Eucharistic Prayer: Suggested Eucharistic Prayer II

### The Communion Rite

Communion Hymns: Suggested Hymn 'The Wind in the Willows' by Patrick Feeney and 'All Things Bright and Beautiful' or 'Lord of the Harvest' by Centre of Sound.

Communion Reflection: Seeds of Hope

*This prayer invites us to pray that we might plant seeds of hope in our world and be moved to help one another in our times of need.*

Generous God, we thank you  
for the gifts you have given  
for all people to share.  
We plant seeds of hope



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and nurture them as we seek  
a harvest of plenty for all.

Forgive us for the times these seeds  
fail to take root in our hearts.  
We grieve when homes and crops  
are washed away by floods,  
when lives are uprooted by disaster,  
or trampled by fear and greed.  
Living God, you lead us  
to a new way of being.  
Move us to help one another  
in our times of need,  
to care for the earth and  
to love one another,  
sharing your harvest with all.  
Amen.

#### Prayer after Communion

Grant, we pray, O Lord,  
that, as we give you thanks in this saving mystery  
for the crops harvested from the earth,  
we may, through the same mystery working within us,  
be worthy to receive still greater blessings.  
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

#### The Concluding Rites

Final Blessing          Solemn Blessing 11 (Ordinary Time 2)

Final Hymn            'Amazing Grace' or 'Our God Reigns'





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## Alternative Suggested Hymns for Harvest Celebration

The following is a list of traditional and contemporary hymns for the season of creation.

1. All Creatures of Our God and King  
Version 1 Don Moen / Joel Claws  
Version 2 Traditional London Philharmonic Choir  
Version 3 Lifeway Worship  
Version 4 Group Music
2. Lord of the Harvest  
Version 1 Centre of Sound
3. 'All things bright and beautiful'  
Version 1 Sound of Worship or Worship Team  
Version 2 St Michaels Singers  
Version 3 John Rutter
4. For the Beauty of the Earth  
Version 1 Reawaken Hymns or Nathan Drake  
Version 2 John Rutter & the Cambridge Choir  
Version 3 St Philips Boys Choir  
Version 4 instrumental hymns on piano
5. He's got the whole world in his hands
6. Let all Things Now Living  
Version 1 Lifeway worship  
Version 2 Craig Duncan Instrumental  
Version 3 OPC Session Choir
7. Sing to the Lord of the Harvest  
Version 1 hymns on piano  
Version 2 Joshua David Harris
8. Sing to the Mountains  
St Louis Jesuits
9. Messiah / You're Beautiful



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Version 1 Phil Wickham

10. Indescribable

Version 1 Chris Tomlin

11. Creation Sings the Fathers Song

Version 1 Keith and Kristyn Getty

12. So will I (100 times)

Version 1 Hillsong Worship

13. Climate Vigil Album

