

Ecumenical Dialogue Sessions

Having an ecumenical dialogue event between a parish and a local non-Catholic church is a good way to celebrate the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity.



Either building can host the event. Have it follow the following format:

1. Decide on a topic in advance. For this year, because the week's theme is "Justice, Only Justice, You Shall Pursue," I recommend you discuss each denomination's traditions related to social justice.
2. Open with a prayer acceptable to both traditions (for example, Catholics should avoid the Hail Mary if their dialogue partner is evangelical).
3. Both denominations will present their tradition on the topic. (Have each speaker share the outline of their speech with their co-speaker before the event so that they can have a general idea of where the presentation is going.)
4. The two speakers will each get the chance to answer some questions. Both presenters will likely get questions that are mixtures of both traditions.
5. Close in prayer, which again should be acceptable to both traditions.

For support in hosting an ecumenical dialogue event, I can be reached at Nicholas.Frega@dor.org or 585-328-3228 ext. 1287. My support can range from assistance in logistics, to helping pick prayer, to moderating a discussion between two leaders, to being the Catholic speaker, to anything else you might need.