

4. Give each person a votive candle as they arrive.
 - a. Read Matthew 6:14a: *“You are the light of the world.”* Light each person’s votive candle.
 - b. Read Matthew 6:14b-15a: *“A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl.”* Light a candle then place a large enough bowl over it to hide it.
 - c. Invite the Holy Spirit to show people how they might be hiding their light. Lead into a silent confession of sin.
 - d. Read Matthew 6:15b-16: *“Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.”*
 - e. Remove the bowl from the candle and relight it. Invite the Holy Spirit to show people how God wants them to be a light in their families, neighbourhood, places of work, relaxation etc.

5. Pray for the Diocesan Communications team that:
 - a. The Lord would give them skill as they serve Him.
 - b. They would equip the parishes with any skills that they need to promote a church that is visible, attractive and accessible.
 - c. Through their work Jesus will be glorified.

Praying Together Resources (PTR015)

Ideas for praying
together around the
theme of:
“Communicating
well with the
Community”

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Ideas for praying around the theme of: “Communicating well with the community”

The following are ideas to help a church prayer meeting pray around the theme of “Communicating well with the Community.”

1. Explain that you are going to spend some time praying through what your church is communicating to those outside of the fellowship.
 - a. Prayerfully walk around the outside of the building and ask “What is our church communicating through the outside of the building/ the grounds etc?”
 - b. Look at any external notice-boards and ask, “What is our church communicating?”
 - c. Prayerfully walk around the inside of the building and ask “What is our church communicating?” Again look at notice-boards.
 - d. Prayerfully look at any notice-sheets and ask, “What is our church communicating?”
 - e. Bring along a laptop and show people the web-site as you prayerfully ask, “What is our church communicating?”
 - f. Pray and ask the Lord to help you communicate His love and His glory to those not yet inside the fellowship.

2. One of the ways we can be lights in our community is by blessing what is good. In Numbers 6:24-26 the Lord told Moses to bless the Israelites by saying: *“The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face shine on you and be gracious to you; the LORD turn his face toward you and give you peace.”*
 - a. Stand and face the north and pray together Numbers 6:24-26.
 - b. Then face the south, east and west praying Numbers 6:24-26
 - c. As you face different parts of the community pray blessing over all that is good that is going on.
3. Read John 13:34-35. Perhaps the most powerful message we give to those outside the church is through the way that we treat one another.
 - a. Ask the Lord for forgiveness where you have failed to love one another by the things that you have said or done (or not done).
 - b. Invite the Lord to fill you afresh with His love.
 - c. Pray that the Lord would help you guard your unity.
 - d. Pray that your church community becomes so attractive that many people will be drawn to come into it and find Jesus.
 - e. Pray that all visitors coming into the church will be loved.