

Tips for a Holding a Successful “Now and At the Hour of Our Death” Workshop in your Family of Parishes

Communicate Well

- Make sure to advertise to parishioners well in advance, using all available media (bulletins, social media, email, flyers, etc.)
- Be clear about what the workshop is and isn't

Use good resources

- Utilize the slide deck template and other resources on the archdiocesan resource webpage
- Have a copy of the *Order of Christian Funerals* onhand
- Provide printed copies of essential things, and provide a QR code or link to the resource page for participants to find followup info

Be prepared

- Be well informed about the content (or bring in a presenter who is!) and be ready to answer questions that arise
- Have copies of relevant parish resources (e.g. funeral pre-planning sheets, parish guidelines) as well as copies of archdiocesan resources such as *Planning a Catholic Funeral: A Guide for Families* available in hard copy, or *Faithful at the End of Life: Pro-Life Advance Medical Directives*
- Anticipate tough questions which will undoubtedly arise (e.g. eulogies, living wills, etc.) If you cannot answer them, be prepared to know where to refer and followup.

Logistics

- Make sure you have enough room, chairs (tables if desired), etc.
- Microphones and projector/screen
- Provide hospitality

Prayer

- Make sure the session begins and ends in prayer
- Consider a reading from the *Order of Christian Funerals*, with time for reflection, and perhaps a prayer from one of the funeral liturgies