MYSTERY THROUGH PARTICIPATION

Rev. Paul Turner
Diocese of Broken Bay, 15 August 2014
You have not approached that which could be touched and a blazing fire and gloomy darkness and storm and a trumpet blast and a voice speaking words such that those who heard begged that no message be further addressed to them, for they could not bear to hear the command: “If even an animal touches the mountain, it shall be stoned.” Indeed, so fearful was the spectacle that Moses said, “I am terrified and trembling.” No, you have approached Mount Zion and the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and countless angels in festal gathering, and the assembly of the firstborn enrolled in heaven, and God the judge of all, and the spirits of the just made perfect, and Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and the sprinkled blood that speaks more eloquently than that of Abel.
MISSION

- The Dismissal at Mass
- The word “mass”
- The closing hymn
- Leaving as a body
“Will you accept children lovingly from God and bring them up according to the law of Christ and the Church?”
“It will be your duty to bring him (her) up to keep God’s commandments as Christ taught us, by loving God and our neighbor. Do you clearly understand what you are undertaking?”
Inviting people to events

Know what’s going on

Think about people who should be there

Measure “success” by invitations extended
Inquiring about church membership

Do you have a church?

Did something happen to your faith?

Can you join me at church this Sunday?
# PRAYER

- Personal
- Liturgical
- Devotional
- Communal
- Family
- Groups
- Silence
SINGING

* National Anthem
* Birthday Song
* Caroling
* Parties
LISTENING

- Conversation
- Radio
- Lectures
- Concerts
- Plays
COMMUNITY

- Forming community
- sustaining a family
- working with groups
- Expressing community
- signs of welcome
- signs of peace
- signs of farewell
SACRIFICING

- The easy giving of love
- The willful giving of love
- Charitable contributions
- Gifts for workers
- The gift of time
EATING & DRINKING

- Family meals
- Dining with friends
- Planning for meals
- Preparing the meal
- Cleaning the meal
- Responsible use of alcohol
PROCESSING

- Walking to places
- Checkout lines
- License bureau
- Voting
- Pilgrimages
DISCERNMENT

- Reflecting on God’s word to change one’s life
- Thinking over events and words in family life
- Performance reviews
- Conflict resolution
PERFORMANCES

- Concerts and plays
- Active participation in audience
- Silence, laughter, applause, gasps
- Performers who give you the art, not themselves
ARCHITECTURE

- The rooms of your house and office
- Participating at public buildings - stadiums, halls
FURNISHINGS

- Seating at home and at work, in public transportation
- Uses of the dining room table and kitchen table
- Location of desks at work or at home
INCARNATION

- Incarnational theology
  - bread, wine, water, oil, palm, ash, candle
  - pipe organs, voice

- Electronics
  - microphone, lighting
  - video projection, handheld devices
PARTICIPATION

- Come prepared
- Have an interior disposition for prayer
- Sit near the front
- Focus on one’s responsibilities
- Pay attention when others have a role
- Utilize silences
- Live as church outside the liturgy
- Experience the mystery of God
**SKILLS**

- Prayer - personal and communal prayer
- Singing
- Listening
- Forming and expressing community
- Sacrificing
- Eating and drinking
- Processing
- Discernment
- Theater / Concert (active participation)
- Architecture
- Furnishings
- Incarnational theology
- Electronics