

HOLY WATER RESPONSE SESSION



cg.youth.

Leading the final response session

Within any youth ministry experience we follow the CPR process (Connection, Proclamation and Response). You will see this animated throughout the day. The Response element, at the end of the online SHINE conference is to **invite** students to come forward if they would like to receive a blessing or a small prayer lead by the school leaders (Parish Priest, Youth Minister, Youth Ministry Team, REC or RE Teacher). Some guiding steps if needed:

1. Create a prayerful space for students. Music ministry will be playing on screen as you lead this.
2. Invite students to come forward one at a time.
3. Give each student a bottle of Holy Water and ask them to bless themselves with it making the sign of the cross
4. Say a small prayer with that student.
eg God may you bless_____ and may this Holy water be a reminder for them of the everlasting eternal living water that you provide for them, now and for the rest of their life. Amen.

Why Holy Water?

At the end of each SHINE Conference we have given students a little gift or memento as a reminder of their response or prayer experience at the event. It also provides a small level of catechesis around an element of our Catholic faith.

A great part of our Catholic tradition is the use of Holy Water. It would be important to highlight to students that it is no gimmick or good luck charm. It is a sacred and powerful symbol that reflects a renewal of our baptism and the cleansing power of venial sin as well as providing a powerful blessing of protection.

The YOUCAT in item 157 highlights the important role that all Christians play in blessing others and the significance of passing on a blessing to anyone who would like to receive it.