

General Information on having Fr. Larry Speak at a Parish Mission

Fr. Larry is available for Parish Missions on a **limited basis**. (Please remember that Fr. Larry is a pastor of a parish first!)

Parish Missions

Fr. Larry has done many Parish Missions over the past 25+ years. Father continues to receive many requests each year and is not able to fulfill all of the requests because of his commitment to his own parish where he is a pastor. He values his time away from his own parish, and therefore tries to reach as many people as possible when he is away from his parish for 4 days. For this reason, Father cannot come to a parish to have a full parish mission unless the parish has at least 1500 families. However, he is available for a day or night talk, but not a parish mission. The Mission starts with Fr. Larry speaking at all the parish weekend Masses **through a 10 minute DVD**. Again since he is a full time pastor he needs to be at his parish on weekends, the DVD works very well and it **MUST** be shown at the Masses if Fr. Larry is going to do the mission. If the parish is not willing to show the video, Father Larry cannot come to the parish. He then gives talks each night from 7:00 -9:00 PM (or 6:30-8:30 PM) beginning Sunday or Monday evening and running through Wednesday or Thursday evening. The themes for these nights are as follows: First night is ***God's Love and Prayer***; Second night, done in the context of a Mass, deals with ***Love of Others***; Third night is the talk on the ***Passion of Christ and the need for confession*** and is followed by individual confessions; Last night is on ***Adoration and Healing*** and is done in the context of Eucharistic Adoration and a Healing Service. *Please note: This is the only way Fr. Larry does Parish Missions, and **will not** change the format. If there is something that the pastor is not comfortable with, then Fr. Larry would rather not come to do the mission at all.* PLEASE DOWNLOAD THE **ENTIRE** PACKET AND SHARE IT WITH THE PASTOR FIRST. THE PASTOR MUST BE IN 100% AGGREEMENT WITH THE WHOLE PACKET! Your pastor (NOT a delegate) then must write saying that the Pastor has read all the Parish Mission Material and that he agrees to do everything that is necessary for the mission. Only then will the mission be booked.

Important Information on Parish Activities:

Please cancel all other Parish activities such as Bingo, etc. while Father Larry is conducting a Mission. It is an ALL-Parish Mission, which means that the pastor and the entire staff attend every night of the Mission. Also, if you have a High School Youth Group, please get them involved! They can read, hand out materials, etc. The youth will bring their parents!

Responsibilities of the Pastor

1. The Pastor will be an integral part of the Parish Mission Preparation Team from start to finish. The Pastor should be 100% in support of the Parish Mission and encourage the Parish and Staff to come every night.
 2. The Video must be shown at all mass during the Homily time. There can also be a short Homily before or after the video.
 3. The Pastor will have dinner with Fr. Larry each evening. Fr. Larry would also like to have dinner with the other priests of the Parish. (Please note that Father will have breakfast and lunch on his own.)
 4. On the first night of the Parish Mission, the Pastor will welcome everyone to his parish and the Parish Mission and then briefly introduce Fr. Larry.
 5. On the second night of the Parish Mission, the Pastor and all the priests are encouraged to concelebrate the Mass.
 6. On the third night of the Parish Mission, the Pastor will hear confessions. (It is best NOT to have the other confessors for an early dinner before the Parish Mission starts because confessions will not start until 8:45 p.m.; this is sometimes too long for the priests to wait around. Most of the priests will not want to come to the Parish Mission that night, only for confessions afterwards.)
 7. On the last night of the Parish Mission, the Pastor will help with the anointing ceremony. On this night the more priests, deacons, and lay ministers who do the anointing rite, the better it will be.
 8. Also, on the last night at the end of the Parish Mission, the Pastor will thank the Parish Mission Preparation Team for their hard work, and also thank the people for coming and then invite them to the reception (if there is one).
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Travel

All travel expenses are to be covered by the sponsoring parish. If Father Larry drives to your location, mileage is paid by your parish at a rate of 57.5 cents per mile, and any hotel expenses incurred are also your responsibility. If Father Larry flies, he will book his own flight arrangements and then bill your parish. You can be assured that Father Larry always secures the least expensive and most direct flights. Unless he is doing a Parish Mission, he needs to be back in Erie by late afternoon or evening on Saturday so he can be available for Sunday Mass. During his stay, Fr. Larry will rent his own car. Please have a check made out to “*The Reason For Our Hope Foundation*” to cover traveling costs.

Sale of Media and Books:

Media and books to be sold at the Parish Mission will be provided by The Reason For Our Hope Foundation. It is requested that no other vendors offer for sale media and books by Father Larry, i.e. Lighthouse Media, Ignatius Press, and book store retailers. Prior to your Parish Mission, contact the office at 814-455-7364 to provide the name address, email and phone number of the person in charge of media and book sales. Media and books will be mailed in advance of the event to the person in charge. Arrangements should be made to have at least two persons available at the table during the Parish Mission to handle sales.

Meals & Accommodations:

Fr. Larry would prefer not to stay in an individual’s home for a Parish Mission. He should be housed at either the Parish rectory or at a hotel. While at a particular Parish, dinners are to be provided. *Fr. Larry is a Diabetic, and needs to watch his diet, so please have bottled water & diet soda available, and all dinners need to be low-carbohydrate only - with no diabetic items. (One note – he hates fish! 😊)*

Cost:

Fr. Larry does not have a set fee for a Parish Mission. Father asks that a free-will collection be taken on the last night of a Parish Mission. Checks are to be made payable to the parish hosting the Parish Mission with “Parish Mission” written on the check. If a person is not present on Thursday night for the free-will offering, pre-addressed envelopes will be available for mailing in a donation. All donations are TAX-DEDUCTIBLE! The Foundation also accepts donations using a credit card on line through our website at www.thereasonforourhope.org or by calling the Foundation office at 814-455-7364.

More Information:

If you would like to receive further information about having Fr. Larry speak at your parish, please contact Mary Therese Craig at 814-455-7364. ***Please note that only requests submitted to her will be considered by Fr. Larry.*** Fr. Larry schedules Parish Missions one time during the year in the month of July for the following calendar year.