

Morning Worship

All students (except modular students) are expected to attend Morning Worship on the days when they are in college. Prompt and enthusiastic attendance and participation will be an encouragement to the person leading. Several times a year, that person will be you! These guidelines set out what is expected from you when you take morning worship.

Objective

The objective of morning worship is to bring us together, at the beginning of the day's studies, to worship the Lord and to hear from him in his Word. Morning worship is attended by the entire student body. Some lecturers will also be present. All are joining together, however, as Christian brothers, in the worship of God.

Please remember: this is a spiritual exercise, not a test! Although the Principal or Vice-Principal (or sometimes another) will give you some feedback afterwards (usually during the morning coffee break), don't allow that fact to distract you, but rather set your mind and heart on leading us in the worship of our glorious God and Saviour.

Content

You should lead the entire meeting, in the same way as you might lead a church worship service. You could follow this pattern: Introductory verse(s) of Scripture to lead us to worship, hymn, prayer, Bible reading, exposition, open prayer, closing benediction. It is generally best to read the Bible passage which you intend to expound, rather than some other passage. For the time of open prayer, it can be helpful to offer a very brief opportunity for the sharing of prayer requests.

Hymns can be chosen from online resources to be played via a large screen. Choose items that the rest of us know and if you are in doubt, please ask.

Exposition

The aim of your exposition is to tell us the meaning of the passage – what is it saying? – and to apply it to us. In your preparation, therefore, most of your work will be directed towards these two goals: work out, with the help of commentaries, etc., what the passage is saying; and think carefully about how to apply it to us. It's fine to use a familiar and straightforward passage; don't try to think up something novel or unexpected just for the sake of it.

Aim to speak for 15-20 minutes – if you speak for longer, there will be no time for open prayer and you risk going beyond your time limit (see below).

Timing

Begin promptly at 8:45am. Don't wait for late arrivals.

End the meeting promptly by 9:15am – or earlier: your next class will begin promptly at 9:25. If you go on beyond 9:15, you will be asked to stop – to avoid this embarrassing fate, ensure you finish on time!