

Preaching Rubrics

Passing

1. The preaching offers a single focused message with thematic connection from opening to closing.
2. The preaching demonstrates understanding of and attention to the liturgical event/occasion (e.g, wedding, funeral, RCIA scrutiny) being celebrated and to the season (e.g., Advent, Lent, Eastertide) for which it is intended.
3. The preaching demonstrates sound exegesis of the biblical texts.
4. The preaching explores connections between the content of the biblical texts and current issues and the lives of the members of the congregation.
5. The preacher articulates clearly and uses language which can be easily understood by diverse groups in the congregation.
6. The preaching appears to reflect the sincerity and personal belief of the preacher.

Passing with distinction

1. The preaching offers a single focused message with an attention-eliciting introduction and a conclusion that spurs reflection.
2. The preacher adjusts the style and content of the homily in creative ways to the specific liturgical event/occasion (e.g, wedding, funeral, RCIA scrutiny) and season (e.g., Advent, Lent, Eastertide) in order to engage the listener and to inspire the community to conversion, service, and action.
3. The preaching is grounded in thorough exegesis thoughtfully brought to bear on the message.
4. The preaching demonstrates a nuanced awareness of the congregation's culture, context, lives, and current situation.
5. The preacher's disciplined use of imagery and illustration facilitates the congregation's access to the message.
6. The preacher avoids clichés, vagueness in language, over-simplification, and moralizing in conceptualization.
7. The preacher's sincerity, personal belief, and message engage the hearer's own life of faith.