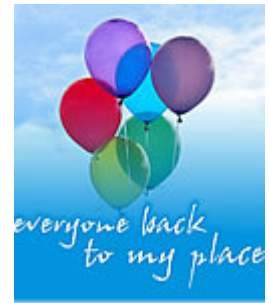


BACK TO CHURCH SUNDAY — TOP TEN THINGS TO DO



1. PRAY

Pray as a church. Pray for the people you'd like to invite. Be creative. Write down the name of a person the church will pray for and will invite using the prayer and invitation cards.

2. PUBLICISE

Put details of your service on the poster. Put a banner outside the church. Tell your local paper what you're doing.

3. INVITE

Invite people to join you on the day. Think of friends to welcome in. Visit them and make the invitation personal.

4. 30 SEPTEMBER: WELCOME

Welcome people in with a smile. You might like to put up decorations and give out a special pew sheet. Make an effort to remember names.

5. BACK TO CHURCH SUNDAY: CONSIDER DISABILITY

Make sure you look after anyone with a disability. Remember ramps, signage, seating, loop systems, and people with a visual impairment.

6. BACK TO CHURCH SUNDAY: EXPLAIN YOURSELF

Make sure people know what's happening and they know where you are up to in the service. Remember how it would feel if you were in the middle of a crowd and didn't know what was happening.

7. BACK TO CHURCH: INCLUDE

Is your service appropriate for children? Young adults? Older people? Try to make everyone feel they're part of it.

8. BACK TO CHURCH SUNDAY: GIVE SPACE

Make sure there's space during the service for people to say their own prayers to God. People come with different needs, some to say thank you, some for support and some with great burdens. Give people space to pray for themselves.

9. BACK TO CHURCH SUNDAY: GIVE A GIFT

Gift bags - whether and how you give them is up to you, but they're a great conversation opener. Don't forget to add your contact details to the bags.

10. AFTERWARDS: WHAT'S NEXT?

People are sure to want to come again, so make sure they know what's coming up at church in the next few weeks. Have an introduction to Christianity course running. There are plenty of courses to choose from and this is a good time of year for people to enrol onto something new.