



AUSCP Women and Priests Conversation in the Spirit Facilitator Script September 18, 2024

Duration: 82 minutes

Schedule:

1. Welcome and Opening Prayer	5 mins
2. Speakers	30 minutes
2. Introduction to Conversation in the Spirit	2 mins
3. Reading and Affirming Ground Rules	2 mins
4. Examen (Guided Meditation)	4 mins.
5. Conversations in small groups	35 mins
6. Naming the Graces	2 mins
7. Closing Prayer	2 mins.

The Conversation process will begin after the speakers have completed their remarks. This script begins at this point.

Introduction to Conversation in the Spirit *A brief overview of the Conversation in the Spirit model will be offered. This overview will provide information on the Conversation structure and the timing of each round.*

Ground Rules: *The main facilitator reads the rules in a large assembly. All are asked to give affirmation. In an individual conversation, the facilitator reads the ground rules, and all are asked to affirm them. See Ground Rules document and slide.*

Introduction of Question(s): *The large group leader reviews the primary questions. **This question should be familiar to all participants.** Participants received the questions a week before the event. This is only a review and focusing of the question.*

1. Recall a moment of encounter in your life with a young woman or with a priest that was significant in your faith journey. Why was this encounter significant?

2. In what ways could conversations between young women and priests be deepened and enriched to support the vocations of women in the church?

Examen: *After introducing the question, a delegated leader reads the Examen reflection slowly and meditatively. All are invited to close their eyes if they wish. The Examen is a meditative reflection to prepare for the consultation.*

(All move to break out rooms after the Examen)

Small Group Facilitator:

Welcome to our conversation. Thank you for joining. During the next 45 minutes, everyone will have an opportunity to share their reflections on the questions and to listen deeply to one another.

For the first round, you will each have **3 minutes** to respond freely and without interruption. Once everyone has spoken, we will share a **minute of silent reflection**. We will then have a second round. This will be an opportunity to name anything that resonated with you as you listened. You will have **2 minutes** for this round. We will then share another **minute of silent reflection**. In the final round, all will have an opportunity to name what you feel the Holy Spirit might be saying to us through this conversation. We will conclude by working together to reflect on our conversation and provide our report.

Let's begin by introducing ourselves. Please tell us your name and where you are from, and then we will get right to it.

Our first task is to organize ourselves *alphabetically by first name*. This will be the order of our sharings. *(determine order together)*

We will now begin with our first round of conversation. Again, you will have up to **3 minutes** to respond. **I will indicate when you have 30 seconds left**. Please take a few notes while others speak if this will help you to reflect more deeply.

Please take a few moments to collect your thoughts. *(Silence for 20 seconds)*

1st round of sharing:

Now, we will begin our first round of sharing on this question. Anyone can start, but then we will continue in order. *(Provide a list of the order and post this list in the chat so all can see it clearly)*

(The facilitator keeps time and calls out 30 seconds. Affirming each speaker when they are finished and thanking them for their offering)

(After all have spoken) Let us take one **1 minute** of silence now. Consider all that has been shared. What resonated most with you? What was particularly powerful? What struck you? What inspired you?

(One minute of silence)

2nd round of sharing

We now begin our second round of sharing. Anyone can start, and then we will follow the order of our introductions again. You will have up to **2 minutes** each. I will let you know when you have 30 seconds left.

The question for the 2nd round is:

What resonated most for you as you listened? What was most powerful?
What moved you?

(All respond)

Let us pause for a minute to reflect on what you have heard in this round, where the Spirit has been present and prompting us and the Church to grow and respond. *(One minute of silence)*

3rd round of sharing:

We will now begin our final round of sharing. You have one minute for this final sharing. I invite you to share the fruit of this time of silence.

How is the Spirit prompting us to grow, act, and respond?

Again, anyone can begin, and then we will continue in order.

(All respond - 1 minute)

Final Thanks and Considering Graces:

Thank you all for being part of this conversation. Thank you for all you have shared, for your deep listening and for working together to discern the will of the Spirit among us. We will soon return to the large group, where you will have an opportunity to name the graces that you have experienced here. In the time remaining, I would invite you to review our conversation in your mind and heart and consider the graces of this time together.

End of Conversation. Return to the main room at this point.

Reporting

As a facilitator, you are asked to submit a final report on behalf of the group. To do this, use the link below. First, consider any notes you have taken and your recollection of the conversation, especially Round Three, and write in the form the Convergences that emerged, the Divergences that occurred and the Recommendations/Actions named by the group.

You have 24 hours after the conversation to submit the form.

Here is the Reporting Form: <https://forms.gle/GgJSDft189rNcqmC7>