

We Celebrate the Mass

The Introductory Rites

We remember that we are the community of the Church.
We prepare to listen to the Word of God and to celebrate the Eucharist.

The Entrance

We stand as the priest, deacon, and other ministers enter the assembly. We sing a gathering song. The priest and deacon kiss the altar. The priest then goes to the chair where he presides over the celebration.

Sign of the Cross and Greeting

The priest leads us in praying the Sign of the Cross. The priest greets us, and we say,
“And with your spirit.”

The Penitential Act

We admit our wrongdoings.
We bless God for his mercy.

The Gloria

We praise God for all the good that
he has done for us.

The Collect

The priest leads us in praying the Collect.
We respond, “Amen.”



The Liturgy of the Word

God speaks to us today. We listen and respond to God's Word.

The First Reading from Scripture

We sit and listen as the reader reads from the Old Testament or from the Acts of the Apostles. The reader concludes, "The word of the Lord." We respond,

"Thanks be to God."

The Responsorial Psalm

The song leader leads us in singing a psalm.

The Second Reading from Scripture

The reader reads from the New Testament, but not from the four Gospels. The reader concludes, "The word of the Lord." We respond,

"Thanks be to God."

The Acclamation

We stand to honor Christ, present with us in the Gospel. The song leader leads us in singing "Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia" or another chant during Lent.



The Gospel

The deacon or priest proclaims,
“A reading from the holy Gospel according to
(name of Gospel writer).” We respond,

“Glory to you, O Lord.”

He proclaims the Gospel. At the end he says,
“The Gospel of the Lord.”

We respond,

“Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.”

The Homily

We sit. The priest or deacon preaches the
Homily. He helps the people gathered to
understand the Word of God spoken to us in
the readings.

The Profession of Faith

We stand and profess our faith.
We pray the Nicene Creed together.

The Prayer of the Faithful

The priest leads us in praying for
our Church and her leaders, for our
country and its leaders, for ourselves
and others, for those who are sick and
those who have died. We can respond
to each prayer in several ways. One
way that we respond is

“Lord, hear our prayer.”



The Liturgy of the Eucharist

We join with Jesus and the Holy Spirit to give thanks and praise to God the Father.

The Preparation of the Gifts

We sit as the altar is prepared and the collection is taken up. We share our blessings with the community of the Church and especially with those in need. The song leader may lead us in singing a song. The gifts of bread and wine are brought to the altar.

The priest lifts up the bread and blesses God for all our gifts. He prays, "Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation. . . ." We respond, **"Blessed be God for ever."**

The priest lifts up the cup of wine and prays, "Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation. . . ." We respond, **"Blessed be God for ever."**

The priest invites us, "Pray, brothers and sisters, that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father."

We stand and respond,

"May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good, and the good of all his holy Church."

The Prayer over the Offerings

The priest leads us in praying the Prayer over the Offerings.

We respond, **"Amen."**



Preface

The priest invites us to join in praying the Church's great prayer of praise and thanksgiving to God the Father.

Priest: "The Lord be with you."

Assembly: "And with your spirit."

Priest: "Lift up your hearts."

Assembly: "We lift them up to the Lord."

Priest: "Let us give thanks to the Lord our God."

Assembly: "It is right and just."

After the priest sings or prays aloud the preface, we join in acclaiming,

**"Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of
the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest."**

The Eucharistic Prayer

The priest leads the assembly in praying the Eucharistic Prayer. We call on the Holy Spirit to make our gifts of bread and wine holy so that they become the Body and Blood of Jesus. We recall what happened at the Last Supper. The bread and wine become the Body and Blood of the Lord. Jesus is truly and really present under the appearances of bread and wine.

The priest sings or says aloud, "The mystery of faith." We respond using this or another acclamation used by the Church,

**"We proclaim your Death, O Lord, and
profess your Resurrection until you
come again."**

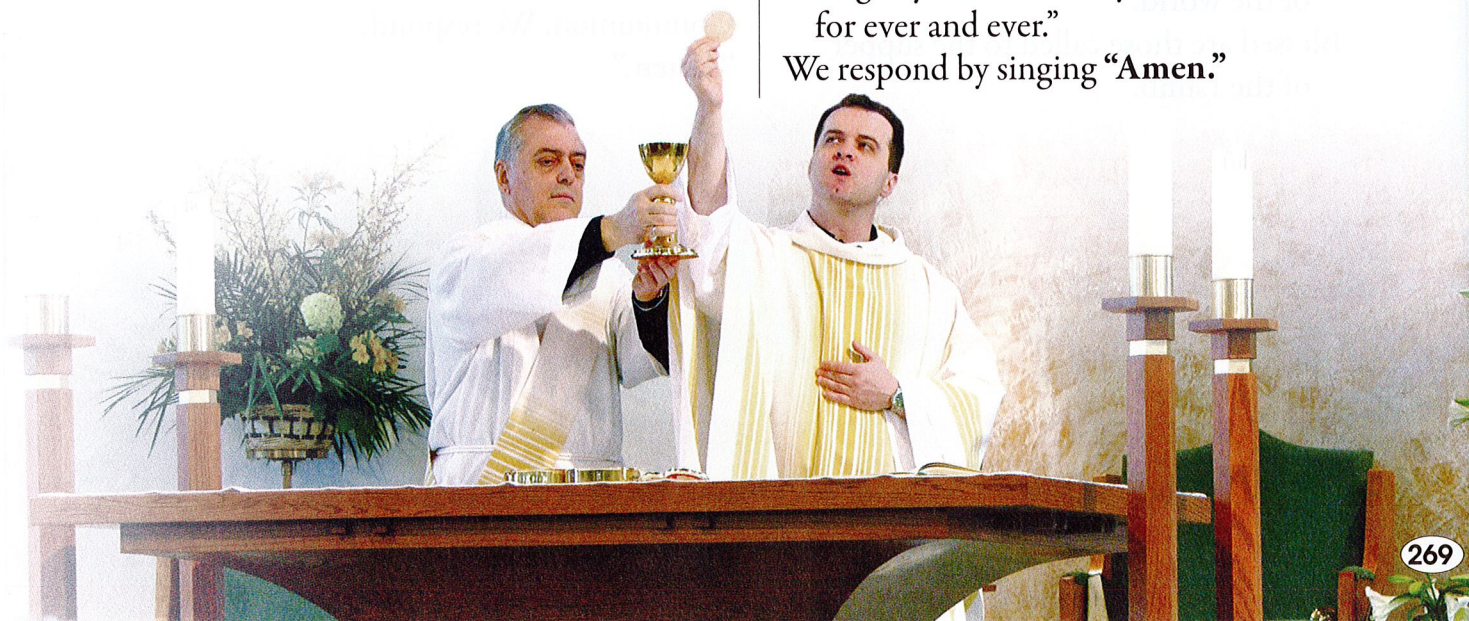
The priest then prays for the Church. He prays for the living and the dead.

Doxology

The priest concludes the praying of the Eucharistic Prayer. He sings or prays aloud,

"Through him, and with him,
and in him,
O God, almighty Father,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all glory and honor is yours,
for ever and ever."

We respond by singing "Amen."



The Communion Rite

The Lord's Prayer

We pray the Lord's Prayer together.

The Sign of Peace

The priest invites us to share a sign of peace, saying, "The peace of the Lord be with you always." We respond,

"And with your spirit."

We share a sign of peace.

The Fraction, or the Breaking of the Bread

The priest breaks the host, the consecrated bread. We sing or pray aloud,

**"Lamb of God, you take away
the sins of the world,
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away
the sins of the world,
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away
the sins of the world,
grant us peace."**

Communion

The priest raises the host and says aloud, "Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world.

Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb."

We join with him and say,

**"Lord, I am not worthy that
you should enter under my roof,
but only say the word
and my soul shall be healed."**

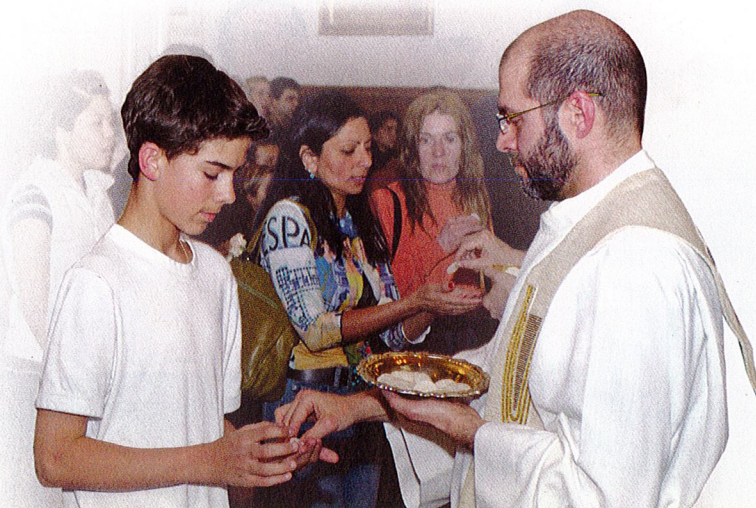
The priest receives Communion. Next, the deacon, the extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion, and the members of the assembly receive Communion.

The priest, deacon, or extraordinary minister of Holy Communion holds up the host. We bow, and the priest, deacon, or extraordinary minister of Holy Communion says, "The Body of Christ." We respond, "**Amen.**" We then receive the consecrated host in our hands or on our tongues.

If we are to receive the Blood of Christ, the priest, deacon, or extraordinary minister of Holy Communion holds up the cup containing the consecrated wine. We bow, and the priest, deacon, or extraordinary minister of Holy Communion says, "The Blood of Christ." We respond, "**Amen.**" We take the cup in our hands and drink from it.

The Prayer After Communion

We stand as the priest invites us to pray, saying, "Let us pray." He prays the Prayer After Communion. We respond, "**Amen.**"



The Concluding Rites

We are sent forth to do good works, praising and blessing the Lord.

Greeting

We stand. The priest greets us as we prepare to leave. He says, "The Lord be with you."

We respond,

"And with your spirit."

Final Blessing

The priest or deacon may invite us,

"Bow down for the blessing."

The priest blesses us, saying,

"May almighty God bless you,
the Father, and the Son,
and the Holy Spirit."

We respond, **"Amen."**

Dismissal of the People

The priest or deacon sends us forth, using these or similar words,

"Go in peace, glorifying the Lord
by your life."

We respond,

"Thanks be to God."

We sing a hymn. The priest and the deacon kiss the altar. The priest, deacon, and other ministers bow to the altar and leave in procession.



The Sacrament of Reconciliation

Individual Rite

Greeting

“When the penitent comes to confess [his or her] sins, the priest welcomes [him or her] warmly and greets [the penitent] with kindness” (*Rite of Penance* 41).

Scripture Reading

“[T]hrough the word of God Christians receive light to recognize their sins and are called to conversion and to confidence in God’s mercy” (*Rite of Penance* 17).

Confession of Sins and Acceptance of Penance

“[The priest] urges [the penitent] to be sorry for [his or her] faults, reminding [him or her] that through the sacrament of penance the Christian dies and rises with Christ and is renewed in the paschal mystery” (*Rite of Penance* 44).

Act of Contrition

“The most important act of the penitent is contrition. . . . The genuineness of penance depends on [a] heartfelt contrition” (*Rite of Penance* 6a).

Absolution

“The form of absolution indicates that the reconciliation of the penitent comes from the mercy of the Father” (*Rite of Penance* 19).

Closing Prayer

“After receiving pardon for sin, the penitent praises the mercy of God and gives him thanks. . . . Then the priest bids the penitent to go in peace” (*Rite of Penance* 20).

Communal Rite

Greeting

“When the faithful have assembled, they may sing a psalm, antiphon, or other appropriate song while the priest is entering the church” (*Rite of Penance* 48).

Scripture Reading

“[T]hrough his word God calls his people to repentance and leads them to a true conversion of heart” (*Rite of Penance* 24).

Homily

“The homily . . . should lead the penitents to examine their consciences and renew their lives” (*Rite of Penance* 52).

Examination of Conscience

“A period of time may be spent in making an examination of conscience and in arousing true sorrow for sins” (*Rite of Penance* 53).

Litany of Contrition, and the Lord’s Prayer

“The deacon or another minister invites all to kneel or bow, and to join in saying a general formula for confession” (*Rite of Penance* 54).

Individual Confession and Absolution

“[T]he penitents go to the priests designated for individual confession, and confess their sins. Each one receives and accepts a fitting act of satisfaction and is absolved” (*Rite of Penance* 55).

Closing Prayer

“After the song of praise or the litany [for God’s mercy], the priest concludes the common prayer” (*Rite of Penance* 57).

