

We Celebrate the Liturgy of the Word

17

WE GATHER

✝ **Leader:** Let us pray.

🎵 **Alleluia, We Will Listen**

Alleluia, alleluia,
We will listen to your word.
Alleluia!

Reader: A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

“Afterward [Jesus] journeyed from one town and village to another, preaching and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom of God.” (Luke 8:1)

The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you,
Lord Jesus Christ.



Think about a time when you really listened. How did it help you?

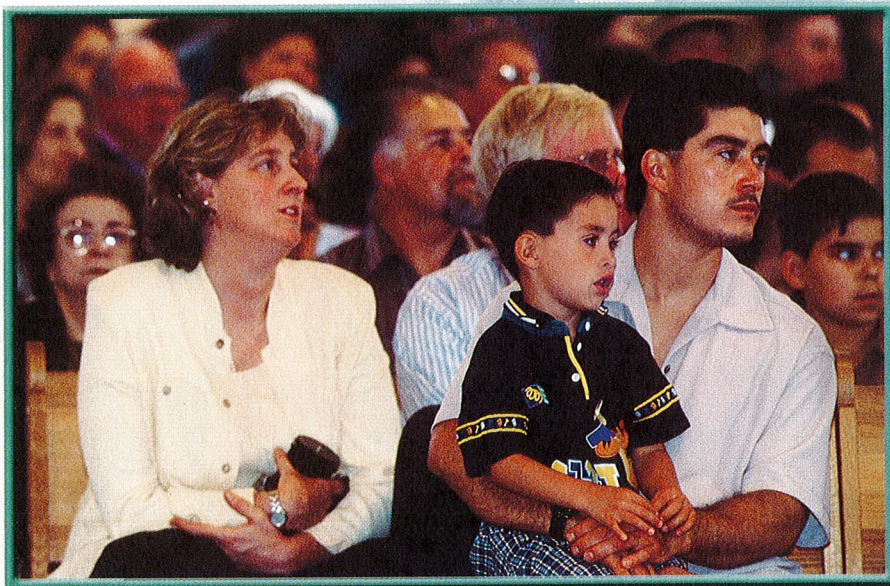
WE BELIEVE

We listen to God's Word during the Liturgy of the Word.

The Mass has two main parts. The first main part of the Mass is the **Liturgy of the Word**. During the Liturgy of the Word, we worship God by listening to his Word. We listen to readings from the Bible.

At Sunday Mass we usually hear three readings from the Bible. When we listen to these readings, we hear about God's love for us. We learn ways to show our love for God and others.

God's Word has always been an important part of the Church's worship. We hear God's Word during the celebration of all the sacraments.



Unscramble these letters to complete this sentence.

e g i l n s t i n

By l _____ n _____ to God's

Word, we learn to be better followers of Jesus.

We listen and respond to readings from the Old Testament and the New Testament.


The Liturgy of the Word begins with the first reading. The first reading is usually from the Old Testament. We hear about all the things God did for his people before Jesus was born. We remember that God has always been with his people. We believe that God is with us now.

After the first reading we let God's Word enter our hearts. Then we sing a psalm. A **psalm** is a song of praise from the Bible.

Next we listen to the second reading from the New Testament. It is about the teachings of the Apostles and the beginning of the Church. We learn how to be followers of Jesus. We remember and give thanks that we are the Church.

At the end of the first and second readings, the reader says, "The word of the Lord."

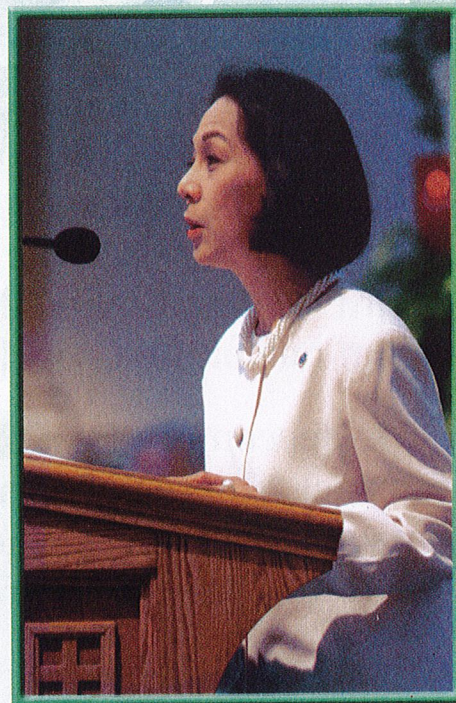
We respond, "Thanks be to God."

 What can you do during the week to prepare for the readings at Mass?

Key Words

Liturgy of the Word
the first main part of the Mass when we listen to God's Word

psalm a song of praise from the Bible



As Catholics...

After Pentecost, Jesus' disciples spread his message to the people of many lands. Saint Paul was one of these disciples. After he visited a group of Christians, he sent letters back to them. In the letters Paul reminded the people that they were Jesus' followers and members of the Church.

Many of the letters in the New Testament are from Paul. We often listen to parts of these letters in the second reading at Mass.

See if you and your family can find the letters of Saint Paul in the Bible. They are named for the people Paul wrote to.

We listen as the Gospel is proclaimed.

There are four books in the New Testament called Gospels: Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. In these Gospels we learn the Good News about Jesus' life and teaching. The third reading of the Liturgy of the Word is from one of the Gospels.

The deacon or priest proclaims the Gospel. To proclaim the Gospel means to announce the Good News of Jesus Christ with praise and glory.


This is what we do:

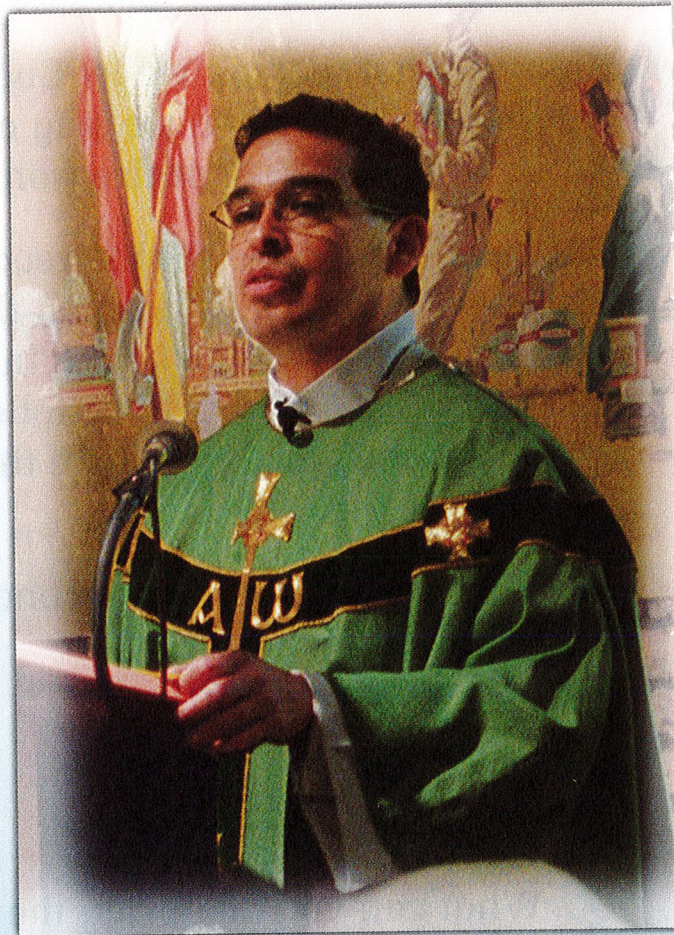
- We stand. We sing the alleluia or other words of praise. This shows we are ready to listen to the Good News of Jesus Christ.
- We listen as the deacon or priest proclaims the Gospel.
- Then the deacon or priest says, "The Gospel of the Lord."

We respond,

"Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ."

After the Gospel, the priest or deacon talks about the readings at Mass. In this talk he helps us to understand the readings. This talk is called the **homily**. Through the homily we learn what it means to believe and what we can do to be followers of Jesus.

 How do we show we are ready to listen to the Good News of Jesus Christ?



Key Word

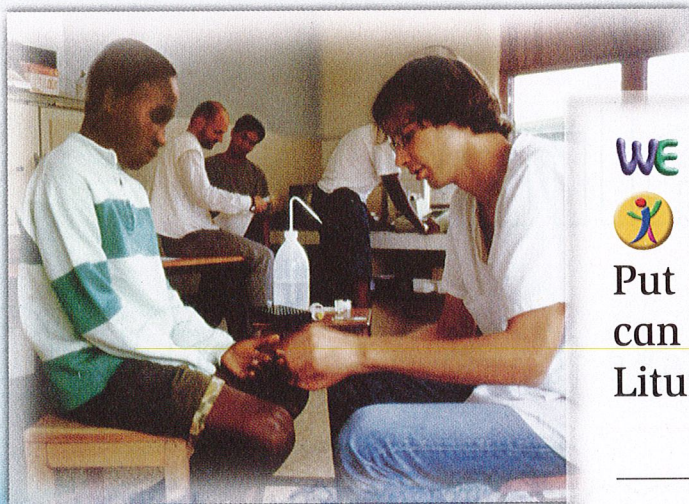
homily the talk given by the priest or deacon at Mass that helps us understand the readings and how we are to live

Together we pray the Creed and the Prayer of the Faithful.

After the homily we stand to pray the Creed. In this prayer we show our faith. We say what we believe as Christians.

The word *creed* comes from a word that means “believe.” We say that we believe in God the Father, Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit. We also say that we believe in the Church and in God’s forgiveness of our sins.

After the Creed, we pray for the needs of all God’s people. This prayer is called the Prayer of the Faithful.



WE RESPOND

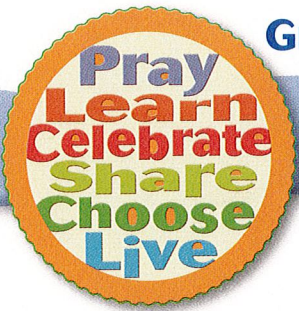


Read what good listeners do. Put a check beside each thing you can do next Sunday during the Liturgy of the Word.

- _____ Look at the person who is reading or speaking.
- _____ Pay close attention to what the reader or speaker is saying.
- _____ Picture in your mind what the reader or speaker is talking about.


What else will you do to take part in the Liturgy of the Word?





PROJECT

Show What *you* Know

Use this color code to color the .



the first main part of the Mass when we listen to God's Word



a song of praise from the Bible



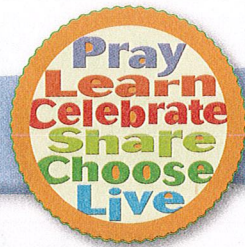
the talk given by the priest or deacon that helps us understand the readings and how we are to live

psalm
Liturgy of the Word
homily

More to Explore

At Mass this Sunday, listen closely to the priest's or deacon's homily. Then ask yourself these questions. When did the homily take place? What did the priest or deacon say that helps me to live as a disciple?

DISCIPLE



Make it Happen

Help proclaim the Good News!
Write an advice column to other disciples about ways they can be like Jesus in their communities.

Dear Disciples,



Leaders of the world have great responsibilities. That is why it is important to pray for them. We pray together for them during the Prayer of the Faithful on Sunday. We can also pray for them at other times. Say a prayer now for world leaders.

Take Home

Lead your family members in this prayer. Have them say, "Lord, hear our prayer" after each part of the prayer.

For the whole Church,
For all those in our parish,
For those who are sick or in need,

DISCIPLE CHALLENGE Add your own.

CHAPTER TEST

Fill in the circle beside the correct answer.

1. The first reading at Mass is usually from the _____.
 Old Testament New Testament

2. The second reading at Mass is usually from the _____.
 Old Testament New Testament

3. In the _____ we say what we believe as Christians.
 Creed homily

4. The _____ is the talk given by the priest or deacon that helps us understand the readings and the Gospel and how we are to live.
 Creed homily

5. A _____ is a song of praise from the Bible.
 Gospel psalm

6. We learn the Good News about Jesus' life and teachings by listening to the _____.
 first reading Gospel

7-8. Who do we pray for in the Prayer of the Faithful?

9-10. What do we learn by listening to God's Word at Mass?
