

We Celebrate the Mass

The Introductory Rites

We remember that we are members 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.

Greeting of the Altar and of the People Gathered

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 he has done for us.

The Collect

The priest leads us in praying the Collect, or the opening prayer.
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 the Bible

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 the Bible

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 whole community 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 its leaders, for our country and its leaders, for ourselves and others, for the sick and those who have died. We can respond to each prayer in several ways. One way 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 table is prepared and the collection is taken up. We share our blessings with the Church, especially with people 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, brethren (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 upon the Holy Spirit to make our gifts of bread and wine holy and 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 says 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 stand and respond by singing or saying aloud, **"Amen."**

The Communion Rite

The Lord's Prayer

The priest invites us to pray the Lord's Prayer together. He says,
"At the Savior's command
and formed by divine teaching,
we dare to say:"

Together with the priest we continue,

**"Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done on earth
as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those who
trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil."**

The priest continues,

"Deliver us, Lord, we pray . . .
as we await the blessed hope
of the coming of our Savior,
Jesus Christ."

Doxology

We end the prayer by praying the acclamation,

**"For the kingdom, the power
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever."**

The Rite 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 and 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 hand or on our tongue.

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.**"

Blessing

The priest or deacon may invite us, "Bow your heads and pray for God's 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.