



# 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.  
We pray:

**Lord, have mercy.  
Christ, have mercy.  
Lord, have mercy.**



## Gloria

Glory to God in the highest,  
and on earth peace to people of good will.

We praise you,  
we bless you,  
we adore you,  
we glorify you,  
we give you thanks for your great glory,  
Lord God, heavenly King,  
O God, almighty Father.

Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,  
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,  
you take away the sins of the world,  
    have mercy on us;  
you take away the sins of the world,  
    receive our prayer;  
you are seated at the right hand of the  
    Father, have mercy on us.  
For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father.  
Amen.

## The Collect

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



## The **LITURGY** of the **WORD**

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

### **The First Reading**

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 cantor leads us in singing a psalm.

### **The Second Reading**

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."**



## Acclamation

We stand to honor Christ, present with us in the Gospel. The cantor 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 Creed together.

## Nicene Creed

I believe in one God,  
the Father almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the Only Begotten Son of God,  
born of the Father before all ages.

God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
consubstantial with the Father;  
through him all things were made.

For us men and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven,

*(At the words that follow, up to and  
including and became man, all bow.)*

and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the  
Virgin Mary, and became man.

For our sake he was crucified  
under Pontius Pilate,

he suffered death and was buried,  
and rose again on the third day  
in accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory  
to judge the living and the dead  
and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord,  
the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father  
and the Son,  
who with the Father and the  
Son is adored and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic  
and apostolic Church.

I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness  
of sins

and I look forward to the resurrection  
of the dead

and the life of the world to come.

Amen.

*Especially during the liturgical  
seasons of Lent and Easter,  
the Apostles' Creed may  
be used in place of the  
Nicene Creed.*



## Apostles' Creed

I believe in God,  
the Father almighty,  
Creator of heaven and earth,  
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,

*(At the words that follow, up to and including the Virgin Mary, all bow.)*

who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died and was buried;  
he descended into hell;  
on the third day he rose again from the dead;  
he ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand  
of God the Father almighty;  
from there he will come to judge the living  
and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and life everlasting. Amen.



## 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 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 **EUCCHARIST**

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

## The Preparation of the Altar and 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 cantor 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.”**

### **Opening Dialog and 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 acclaim,

**“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 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, **“Amen.”**

## The **COMMUNION RITE**

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### **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.



If we are to receive the Body of Christ, 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**

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*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 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 and announce the Gospel of the Lord."

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.



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

*Concluding Rites, Roman Missal*

## Text from the Archdiocese of New York

It has long been a Catholic understanding that when circumstances prevent one from receiving Holy Communion, it is possible to make an Act of Spiritual Communion, which is a source of grace. Spiritual Communion is an ardent desire to receive Jesus in the Most Holy Sacrament and lovingly embrace him at a time or in circumstances when one cannot receive Him in sacramental Communion. The most common reason for making an Act of Spiritual Communion is when a person cannot attend Mass. Acts of Spiritual Communion increase our desire to receive sacramental Communion and help us avoid the sins that would make us unable to receive Holy Communion worthily.

### ***Spiritual Communion Prayer***

My Jesus, I believe that you are present  
in the Most Holy Sacrament.

I love you above all things and I desire  
to receive you in my soul.

Since I cannot at this moment receive you  
sacramentally,

Come at least spiritually into my heart.

I embrace you as if you were already there

And unite myself wholly to you.

Never permit me to be separated from you.

Amen

<https://archny.org/acts-of-spiritual-communion/>