

**Participation in the Mass**  
**Prayers and Responses you should know**  
**Updated April 2012**

This guide will help you participate more fully in the Mass by giving you the prayers and responses used during the celebration of Mass. It is laid out to follow the formal Order of the Mass. Keep in mind that this is a general guide. There will be times when the text may vary based on the liturgical season. All of the responses and prayers you should know are in **bold print**.

It is a great privilege to participate as an altar server in the sanctuary during Mass. You already know it is important to understand your duties and when to perform them. It is more important for you to be a prayerful participant in the Mass. Please do your best to learn this material. If you have any questions don't hesitate to ask.

**I      INTRODUCTORY RITES**

*Greeting:*

Priest: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All: **Amen.**

Priest: The Lord be with you (*or similar greeting*)

All: **And with your Spirit.**

*PENITENTIAL RITE (and/or Kyrie):*

Priest: My brothers and sisters, to prepare ourselves to celebrate the sacred mysteries, let us call to mind our sins.

**A) All: I confess to almighty God and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have greatly sinned in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done and in what I have failed to do, through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault; therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin, all the Angels and Saints, and you, my brothers and sisters, to pray for me to the Lord our God.**

**OR**

**B)      Priest: Lord, have mercy. All: Lord, have mercy.**

        Priest: Christ, have mercy. All: **Christ, have mercy.**

        Priest: Lord, have mercy. All: **Lord, have mercy.**

*THE GLORIA:*

All: **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.**

## **II LITURGY OF THE WORD**

*Response after the First Reading:*

Lector: The Word of the Lord. All: **Thanks be to God**

*Responsorial Psalm:* **The people repeat the response sung by the cantor the first time and then after each verse.**

*Response after the Second Reading:*

Lector: The Word of the Lord. All: **Thanks be to God**

*Gospel Acclamation:*

Choir: Alleluia! (*sung*) All: **Alleluia!**

Priest or Deacon: The Lord be with you. All: **And with your Spirit.**

Priest or Deacon: A reading from the Holy Gospel according to...

All: **Glory to you, O Lord!**

*After the Gospel Proclamation:*

Priest or Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord. All: **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!**

## **HOMILY.....**

*Profession of Faith (Nicene Creed): All*

**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, 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**

*General Intercessions / Prayer of the Faithful:*

Deacon or Lector: ...let us pray to the Lord. All: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

### **III LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST**

*Preparation of the Altar / Presentation of the Gifts:*

*The Preface:*

Priest: Pray, my brothers and sisters, that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

All: **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.**

Priest: The Lord be with you. All: **And with your Spirit.**

Priest: Lift up your hearts. All: **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Priest: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God. All: **It is right and just.**

*The Holy, Holy:*

All: **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 Consecration*

*Memorial Acclamation:*

Priest: The Mystery of faith:

All: A - **We proclaim your death, O Lord, and profess your resurrection until you come again**

or

B - **When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we proclaim your Death, O Lord, until you come again.**

or

C - **Save us, Savior of the world, for by your Cross and Resurrection you have set us free.**

*The Great Amen:*

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

All: **Amen!** *(may be sung more than once)*

*Communion Rite: The Lord's Prayer*

All: **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.**

Priest: Deliver us, Lord, from every evil...

All: **For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever.**

*Exchange of Peace:*

Priest: The Peace of the Lord be with you always. All: **And with your Spirit.**

*Exchange the sign of peace with each other.*

All: **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.**

*Preparation for Communion:*

Priest: 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.

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

*Distribution of Holy Communion:*

Priest, Deacon or Minister: The Body of Christ. Communicant: **Amen.**

#### IV CONCLUDING RITE

*Final Blessing & Dismissal:*

Priest: The Lord be with you. All: **And with your Spirit.**

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

All: **Amen.**

Deacon or Priest:

Go forth, the Mass has ended.

or,

Go and announce the Gospel of the Lord.

or,

Go in peace, glorifying the Lord by your life.

or,

Go in peace.

All: **Thanks be to God**