

THE INTRODUCTORY RITES

Entrance Antiphon or a hymn

Stand

Cf. Mai 3:1; 1 Chr 29:12

**Behold, the Lord, the Mighty One, has come;
and kingship is in his grasp, and power and
dominion.**

All make the Sign of the Cross as the Priest says:

In the name of the Father, and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

The Priest greets everyone present.

The people respond: **And with your spirit.**

The Mass of the day may be introduced.

Greeting

The Priest greets the people, saying:

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
and the love of God
and the communion of the Holy Spirit
be with you all.

Or

Grace to you and peace from God our Father
And the Lord Jesus Christ.

Or

The Lord be with you.

The people reply:

And with your spirit.

The mass of the day may be introduced.

Penitential Act

*The Priest invites the faithful to repentance
followed, after a brief pause, by one of the
Penitential Acts:*

**I confess to almighty God
and to you my brothers and sisters,
that I greatly sinned,
in my thoughts and in my words,
in what I have done and in what I have
failed to do.**

And, striking their breast, they say:
**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

Have mercy on us, O Lord.
For we have sinned against you.
Show us, O Lord, your merc
And grant us your salvation.

Or

You were sent to heal the contrite of the heart.
Lord, have mercy. *Or* **Kyrie, eleison.**
Lord, have mercy. *Or* **Kyrie, eleison.**
You came to call sinners:
Christ, have mercy. *Or* **Christie, eleison.**
Christ, have mercy. *Or* **Christie, eleison.**
You are seated at the right hand of the
Father to intercede for us:
Lord, have mercy. *Or* **Kyrie, eleison.**
Lord, have mercy. *Or* **Kyrie, eleison.**

The absolution of the Priest follows:

May almighty God have mercy on us,
forgive us our sins,
and bring us everlasting life.

Amen.

Sit

*If the 'Kyrie, eleison' has not been said or sung,
it is said or sung now.*

The Collect

O God, who on this day
revealed your Only Begotten Son to the nations
by the guidance of a star,
grant in your mercy
that we, who know you already by faith,
may be brought to behold the beauty of your
sublime glory.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the
Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.

Amen.

Sit

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading

A reading from the Prophet Isaiah.

Isaia 60:1-6

Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the
glory of the LORD has risen upon you. For behold,
darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness
the peoples; but the LORD will arise upon you,
and his glory will be seen upon you. And nations
shall come to your light, and kings to the bright-
ness of your rising.

Lift up your eyes all round, and see; they all gather
together, they come to you; your sons shall come
from afar, and your daughters shall be carried on
the hip. Then you shall see and be radiant; your
heart shall thrill and exult, because the abundance
of the sea shall be turned to you, the wealth of
the nations shall come to you. A multitude of camels
shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and
Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come. They
shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall bring
good news, the praises of the LORD.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm

Psalm 72(71):1-2. 7-8. 10-11. 12-13. R.cf.11

**R. All the nations on earth
shall fall prostrate before you, O Lord.**

O God, give your judgement to the king,
to a king's son your justice,
that he may judge your people in justice,
and your poor in right judgement. **R.**

In his days justice shall flourish,
and great peace till the moon is no more.
He shall rule from sea to sea,
from the River to the bounds of the earth. **R.**

The kings of Tarshish and the islands
shall pay him tribute.
The kings of Sheba and Seba
shall bring him gifts.
Before him all kings shall fall prostrate,
all nations shall serve him. **R.**

For he shall rescue the needy when they cry,
the poor who have no one to help.
He will have pity on the weak and the needy,
and save the lives of the needy. **R.**

Second Reading

A reading from the letter of Saint Paul to the
Ephesians.

Ephesians 3:2-3a 5-6

Brothers and sisters:

I assume that you have heard of the stewardship
of God's grace that was given to me for you, how
the mystery was made known to me by revelation,
which was not made known to the sons of men in
other generations as it has now been revealed to
his holy Apostles and prophets by the Spirit. This
mystery is that the Gentiles are fellow heirs,
members of the same body, and partakers of the
promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Acclamation, before the Gospel

Stand

Alleluia, alleluia.
his star when it rose
and have come to worship the Lord.
Alleluia.

Matthew 2:2 **We saw**

Gospel

Matthew 2:1-12

The Lord be with you.

And with your spirit.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, saying, 'Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.' When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he enquired of them where the Christ was to be born. They told him, 'In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet: "And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel."' Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared. And he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, 'Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word, that I too may come and worship him.' After listening to the king, they went on their way. And behold, the star that they had seen when it rose went before them until it came to rest over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. And going into the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshipped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh. And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way. The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

The Homily

Sit

The Nicene Creed

Stand

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.

All bow

The Prayer of the Faithful

Response example: Lord, in your mercy.
 Hear our prayer.

After the concluding prayer all say: Amen.

Sit

THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

The offerings are brought to the altar.

A hymn may be sung.

If the Priest says the two prayers of offering aloud, the response both times is:

Blessed be God for ever.

The people rise as the Priest says:

Pray, brethren (brothers and sisters),
that my sacrifice and yours
may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father

The people reply:

**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.**

Prayer over the Offerings

Look with favour, Lord, we pray,
on these gifts of your Church,
in which are offered now not gold or
frankincense or myrrh,
but he who by them is proclaimed,
sacrificed and received, Jesus Christ.
Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.
Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you.

And with your spirit.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right and just.

*The Priest continues with the Preface and
concludes with the people, singing or saying
aloud:*

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.

Kneel

*The Eucharistic Prayer continues until the
priest says:*

The mystery of faith.

*And the people continue acclaiming one of
the following:*

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

Or:

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

Or:

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

*The Priest concludes the Eucharistic Prayer
saying alone:*

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

The people acclaim: Amen.

The Communion Rite

Stand

The Priest invites all to join in the Lord's Prayer:

**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 alone:

Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every evil,
graciously grant peace in our days,
that, by the help of your mercy,
we may be always free from sin
and safe from all distress,
as we await the blessed hope
and the coming of our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

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

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

The Priest says:

Lord Jesus Christ,
who said to your Apostles:
Peace I leave you, my peace I give you,
look not on our sins,
but on the faith of your Church,
and graciously grant her peace and unity
in accordance with your will.

Who live and reign for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And with your spirit.

The Deacon, or the Priest, adds:

Let us offer each other the sign of peace.

The Priest takes the host and breaks it.

Meanwhile the people say or sing:

**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.**

Kneel

The Priest shows the host to the people and says:

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.

**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 or other minister says to each communicant

The Body [Blood] of Christ.

Each communicant answers: Amen.

Communion Antiphon

Cf. Mt 2:2

**We have seen his star in the East,
and have come with gifts to adore the Lord.**

*After the distribution of the Holy Communion a
sacred silence may be observed or a psalm,
hymn or canticle of praise may be sung.*

Prayer after Communion

Stand

Go before us with heavenly light, O Lord,
always and everywhere,
that we may perceive with clear sight

and revere with true affection
the mystery in which you have willed us to
participate.

Through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

THE CONCLUDING RITES

Announcements may be made.

Then:

Priest: The Lord be with you.

All: **And with your spirit.**

May almighty God bless you,

the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit,

come down on you and remain with you for ever.

Amen.

Then the Deacon, or the Priest, says:

Go forth, the Mass is ended.

Or:

Go and announce the Gospel of the Lord.

Or

Go in peace, glorifying the Lord by your life.

Or

Go in peace.

Thanks be to God, alleluia, alleluia