

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.

*At the end of the Eucharistic Prayer:*  
Amen.

### The Communion Rite

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.

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

The peace of the Lord be with you always.  
And with your spirit.

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.

Behold the Lamb of God...  
Lord, I am not worthy  
that you should enter under my roof,  
but only say the word  
and my soul shall be healed.

**Communion Antiphon**  
Say to the faint of heart: Be strong and  
do not fear.  
Behold, our God will come, and he will  
save us.

**Prayer after Communion**  
We implore your mercy, Lord,  
that this divine sustenance may cleanse us  
of our faults  
and prepare us for the coming feasts...  
Amen.

### THE CONCLUDING RITES

The Lord be with you.  
And with your spirit.  
May almighty God bless you,  
the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.  
Amen.

*At the end of Mass the people respond:*  
Thanks be to God.

### THE INTRODUCTORY RITES

**Entrance Antiphon**  
Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say,  
rejoice.  
Indeed, the Lord is near.

*All make the Sign of the Cross as the priest  
says:*

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

**People** Amen.

*The priest greets the people in one of these  
ways:*

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

**And with your spirit.**

or

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

**And with your spirit.**

or

The Lord be with you.  
**And with your spirit.**

### Penitential Act

*One of the following acts of penance is now  
made:*

**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,**

*(all strike their breast and 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 mercy.  
**And grant us your salvation.**

or

Lord, have mercy. **or** Kyrie, eleison.  
**Lord, have mercy. Kyrie, eleison.**

Christ, have mercy. **or** Christe, eleison.  
**Christ, have mercy. Christe, eleison.**

Lord, have mercy. **or** Kyrie, eleison.  
**Lord, have mercy. Kyrie, eleison.**

*After the absolution all respond:*  
**Amen.**

### The Collect

O God, who see how your people  
faithfully await the feast of the Lord's Nativity,  
enable us, we pray,  
to attain the joys of so great a salvation  
and to celebrate them always  
with solemn worship and glad rejoicing...  
**Amen.**

### THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

**First Reading** Zephaniah 3:14-18

A reading from the prophet Zephaniah.  
The Lord will dance with shouts of joy for you  
as on a day of festival.

Shout for joy, daughter of Zion,  
Israel, shout aloud!  
Rejoice, exult with all your heart,  
daughter of Jerusalem!  
The Lord has repealed your sentence;  
he has driven your enemies away.  
The Lord, the king of Israel, is in your midst;  
you have no more evil to fear.  
When that day comes, word will come to  
Jerusalem:

Zion, have no fear,  
do not let your hands fall limp.  
The Lord your God is in your midst,  
a victorious warrior.

He will exult with joy over you,  
he will renew you by his love;  
he will dance with shouts of joy for you  
as on a day of festival.

The word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm** Isaiah 12

**R. Sing and shout for joy  
for great in your midst is the Holy  
One of Israel.**

1. Truly, God is my salvation,  
I trust, I shall not fear.  
For the Lord is my strength, my song,  
he became my saviour.  
With joy you will draw water  
from the wells of salvation. **R.**
2. Give thanks to the Lord, give praise to  
his name!  
Make his mighty deeds known to the  
peoples!  
Declare the greatness of his name. **R.**
3. Sing a psalm to the Lord  
for he has done glorious deeds,  
make them known to all the earth!  
People of Zion, sing and shout for joy  
for great in your midst is the Holy One of  
Israel. **R.**

**Second Reading** Philippians 4:4-7

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the  
Philippians.

*The Lord is very near.*

I want you to be happy, always happy in the  
Lord; I repeat, what I want is your happiness.  
Let your tolerance be evident to everyone:  
the Lord is very near. There is no need to  
worry; but if there is anything you need,  
pray for it, asking God for it with prayer and  
thanksgiving, and that peace of God, which  
is so much greater than we can understand,  
will guard your hearts and your thoughts, in  
Christ Jesus.

The word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel Acclamation**

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

**The spirit of the Lord has been given  
to me.**

**He has sent me to bring good news  
to the poor.**

**Alleluia!**

The Lord be with you.  
**And with your spirit.**

A reading from the holy Gospel according  
to Luke.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

**Gospel** Luke 3:10-18

*What must we do?*

When all the people asked John, "What  
must we do?" he answered, "If anyone  
has two tunics he must share with the man  
who has none, and the one with something  
to eat must do the same." There were tax  
collectors too who came for baptism, and  
these said to him, "Master, what must we  
do?" He said to them, "Exact no more than  
your rate." Some soldiers asked him in  
their turn, "What about us? What must we  
do?" He said to them, "No intimidation! No  
extortion! Be content with your pay!"

A feeling of expectancy had grown among  
the people, who were beginning to think that  
John might be the Christ, so John declared  
before them all, "I baptise you with water, but  
someone is coming, someone who is more  
powerful than I am, and I am not fit to undo  
the strap of his sandals; he will baptise you  
with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-  
fan is in his hand to clear his threshing-floor  
and to gather the wheat into his barn; but  
the chaff he will burn in a fire that will never  
go out." As well as this, there were many  
other things he said to exhort the people  
and to announce the Good News to them.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

**The Homily**

**The Profession of Faith**

**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,**

*(all bow during the next three lines)*

**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.**

*The bidding prayers now follow:*

Let us pray to the Lord.  
**Lord, hear our prayer.**

**THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST**

*If the prayers of blessing are said aloud the  
people acclaim each time:*

**Blessed be God for ever.**

Pray, brethren (brothers and sisters)...  
**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**

May the sacrifice of our worship, Lord, we  
pray,  
be offered to you unceasingly,  
to complete what was begun in sacred  
mystery  
and powerfully accomplish for us your  
saving work...

**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 gives praise to God and all 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.**

*After the Consecration we acclaim the  
mystery of faith:*

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