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

Behold, a Virgin shall conceive and bear a son: and his name will be called Emmanuel.

Prayer after Communion

Having received this pledge of eternal redemption. we pray, almighty God, that, as the feast day of our salvation draws ever nearer. so we may press forward all the more eagerly to the worthy celebration of the mystery of vour Son's Nativity... Amen.

THE CONCLUDING RITES

The Lord be with you. And with your spirit.

May almighty God bless you. the Father, and the Son, mand the Holy Spirit. Amen.

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



THE INTRODUCTORY RITES

Entrance Antiphon

Drop down dew from above, you heavens, and let the clouds rain down the Just One; let the earth be opened and bring forth a Saviour.

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 wavs:

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.

Have mercy on us, O Lord. For we have sinned against you.

or

Show us, O Lord, your mercy. And grant us your salvation.

or

Lord, have mercy. Lord. have mercy. Kyrie, eleison. Kvrie, eleison.

Christe, eleison.

Christe, eleison.

Christ, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy. or Lord, have mercy.

Kyrie, eleison. Kyrie, eleison.

After the absolution all respond: Amen.

The Collect

Pour forth, we beseech you, O Lord, your grace into our hearts. that we, to whom the Incarnation of Christ vour Son was made known by the message of an Angel, may by his Passion and Cross be brought to the glory of his Resurrection... Amen.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading Micah 5:1-4 A reading from the prophet Micah. Out of you will be born the one who is to rule over Israel.

The Lord says this:

You, Bethlehem Ephrathah, the least of the clans of Judah. out of you will be born for me the one who is to rule over Israel; his origin goes back to the distant past, to the days of old.



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The Lord is therefore going to abandon them till the time when she who is to give birth gives birth. Then the remnant of his brothers will come back to the sons of Israel. He will stand and feed his flock with the power of the Lord, with the majesty of the name of his God. They will live secure, for from then on he will extend his power to the ends of the land. He himself will be peace.

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

Psalm Psalm 79

- R. God of hosts, bring us back; let your face shine on us and we shall be saved.
- O shepherd of Israel, hear us, shine forth from your cherubim throne.
 O Lord, rouse up your might, O Lord, come to our help. R.
- God of hosts, turn again, we implore, look down from heaven and see.
 Visit this vine and protect it, the vine your right hand has planted. R.
- 3. May your hand be on the man you have chosen,

the man you have given your strength. And we shall never forsake you again: give us life that we may call upon your name. **R**.

Second Reading Hebrews 10:5-10 A reading from the letter to the Hebrews. Here I am! I am coming to obey your will.

This is what Christ said, on coming into the world:

You who wanted no sacrifice or oblation, prepared a body for me. You took no pleasure in holocausts or sacrifices for sin; then I said,

- just as I was commanded in the scroll of the book,
- "God, here I am! I am coming to obey your will."

Notice that he says first: You did not want what the Law lays down as the things to be offered, that is: the sacrifices, the oblations, the holocausts and the sacrifices for sin, and you took no pleasure in them; and then he says: Here I am! I am coming to obey your will. He is abolishing the first sort to replace it with the second. And this will was for us to be made holy by the offering of his body made once and for all by Jesus Christ.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! I am the handmaid of the Lord: let what you have said be done to me. 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 1:39-45

Why should I be honoured with a visit from the mother of my Lord?

Mary set out and went as quickly as she could to a town in the hill country of Judah. She went into Zechariah's house and greeted Elizabeth. Now as soon as Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leapt in her womb and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. She gave a loud cry and said, "Of all women you are the most blessed, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. Why should I be honoured with a visit from the mother of my Lord? For the moment your greeting reached my ears, the child in my womb leapt for joy. Yes, blessed is she who believed that the promise made her by the Lord would be fulfilled."

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 Holy Spirit, O Lord, sanctify these gifts laid upon your altar, just as he filled with his power the womb of the Blessed Virgin Mary... 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

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.

or

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