

Prayer over the Offerings

Sanctify, O Lord, the offerings we make on the Nativity of your Only Begotten Son, for by it you show us the way of truth and promise the life of the heavenly Kingdom. 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 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.

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

To all who would accept him, he gave the power to become children of God.

Prayer after Communion

Lord our God, we humbly ask you, that, through the working of this mystery, our offences may be cleansed and our just desires fulfilled... **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

When a profound silence covered all things and night was in the middle of its course, your all-powerful Word, O Lord, bounded from heaven's royal throne.

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 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

Almighty ever-living God,
splendour of faithful souls,
graciously be pleased to fill the world
with your glory,
and show yourself to all peoples by the
radiance of your light...

Amen.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading Ecclesiasticus 24:1-2. 8-12
A reading from the book of Ecclesiasticus.
*The wisdom of God has pitched her tent
among the chosen people.*

Wisdom speaks her own praises,
in the midst of her people she glories in herself.
She opens her mouth in the assembly of the
Most High,
she glories in herself in the presence of the
Mighty One;

“Then the creator of all things instructed me,
and he who created me fixed a place for
my tent.

He said, ‘Pitch your tent in Jacob,
make Israel your inheritance.’

From eternity, in the beginning, he
created me,
and for eternity I shall remain.

I ministered before him in the holy tabernacle,
and thus was I established on Zion.

In the beloved city he has given me rest,
and in Jerusalem I wield my authority.

I have taken root in a privileged people,
in the Lord’s property, in his inheritance.”

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm Psalm 147

**R. The Word was made flesh,
and lived among us.**

or Alleluia!

1. O praise the Lord, Jerusalem!
Zion, praise your God!
He has strengthened the bars of your
gates,
he has blessed the children within you. **R.**

2. He established peace on your borders,
he feeds you with finest wheat.
He sends out his word to the earth
and swiftly runs his command. **R.**

3. He makes his word known to Jacob,
to Israel his laws and decrees.
He has not dealt thus with other nations;
he had not taught them his decrees. **R.**

Second Reading

Ephesians 1:3-6. 15-18

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to
the Ephesians.

*He determined that we should become his
adopted sons through Jesus.*

Blessed be God the Father of our Lord
Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with all the
spiritual blessings of heaven in Christ. Before
the world was made, he chose us, chose us
in Christ, to be holy and spotless, and to live
through love in his presence, determining that
we should become his adopted sons, through
Jesus Christ, for his own kind purposes, to
make us praise the glory of his grace, his free
gift to us in the Beloved.

That will explain why I, having once heard
about your faith in the Lord Jesus, and the
love that you show towards all the saints,
have never failed to remember you in my
prayers and to thank God for you. May the
God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father
of glory, give you a spirit of wisdom and
perception of what is revealed, to bring you
to full knowledge of him. May he enlighten
the eyes of your mind so that you can see
what hope his call holds for you, what rich
glories he has promised the saints will inherit.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

**Glory be to you, O Christ, proclaimed to
the pagans;**

**Glory be to you, O Christ, believed in by
the world.**

Alleluia!

The Lord be with you.

And with your spirit.

A reading from the holy Gospel according
to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel John 1:1-5. 9-14 (longer version
may be read: John 1:1-18)

The Word was made flesh, and lived among us.

In the beginning was the Word:
the Word was with God
and the Word was God.

He was with God in the beginning.
Through him all things came to be,
not one thing had its being but through him.
All that came to be had life in him
and that life was the light of men,
a light that shines in the dark,
a light that darkness could not overpower.

The Word was the true light
that enlightens all men;
and he was coming into the world.

He was in the world
that had its being through him,
and the world did not know him.
He came to his own domain
and his own people did not accept him.
But to all who did accept him
he gave power to become children of God,
to all who believe in the name of him
who was born not out of human stock
or urge of the flesh
or will of man
but of God himself.

The Word was made flesh,
he lived among us,
and we saw his glory,
the glory that is his as the only Son of the
Father,

full of grace and truth.

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.**