

# The Order of the Mass

## Introductory Rites: Coming Together

**Opening Hymn and Procession:** we sing and the presider comes forward to begin our time together.

**Penitential Act:** we remember our sins and our need for reconciliation.

**Gloria:** we sing this joyful hymn to praise God.

**Collect (opening prayer):** the presider gathers together all our needs and presents them to God. We answer, "Amen."

## Liturgy of the Word: Listening

**First Reading:** we listen to the lector proclaim a reading from the Old Testament. We answer, "Thanks be to God."

**Psalm Response:** we answer God's word to us in the first reading through the words of a psalm from the Old Testament.

**Second Reading:** we listen to a reading from the letters in the New Testament. We answer, "Thanks be to God."

**Gospel Acclamation:** we prepare to hear the good news by standing and singing a joyful chant, usually with the word "Alleluia."

**Gospel:** we stand as we listen to the presider proclaim the good news about Jesus. We answer, "Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ."

**The Homily:** the presider comments upon and shares insights about the readings.

**The Profession of Faith:** we define who we are and what we believe as a community.

**General Intercessions or Prayer of the Faithful:** we pray for the Church, for our world, and for one another.

## Liturgy of the Eucharist: Sharing the Holy Meal

**Presentation of the Gifts and Prayer over the Gifts:** we bring forward what we use for the sacred meal, as well as gifts for our needy sisters and brothers.

**Preface and Eucharistic Prayer:** we praise and thank our creator. We remember Jesus and his last supper. We pray with the communion of saints united with the Holy Spirit, and we celebrate Jesus' continuing presence.

## Communion Rite

**Lord's Prayer:** as we prepare to receive Communion, we pray the prayer that Jesus taught us, a petition for daily food and forgiveness.

**Sign of Peace:** we share a sign of peace to show we forgive and love one another.

**Lamb of God:** we sing this litany-song during the breaking of the bread, asking for mercy and peace.

**Holy Communion:** we share the body and blood of Christ.

**Reflection and Prayer of Thanksgiving:** we reflect and pray about what has just occurred in our lives.

## Concluding Rites: The Going Forth

**The Blessing and Dismissal:** we are blessed and sent forth to go in peace to serve one another.

**The "going forth":** we say our good-byes and we often sign ourselves with holy water as we leave.

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Penitential Act</b></p> <p>We remember our sins and our need for reconciliation.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Presentation of the Gifts</b></p> <p>In procession, we bring our gifts of bread and wine to the altar. These represent the gift of ourselves.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Gloria</b></p> <p>We sing this joyful hymn to praise our God.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Prayer over the Gifts</b></p> <p>The presider invites us to pray with him that God will accept our gifts.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Collect ( opening prayer )</b></p> <p>The presider gathers together all our needs and presents them to God. We answer, “Amen.”</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Preface</b></p> <p>The presider begins our Eucharistic Prayer by praising God for the wonderful works of creation and redemption.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Psalm Response</b></p> <p>We answer God’s word to us in the first reading through the words of a psalm from the Old Testament.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Holy, Holy, Holy Lord</b></p> <p>At the end of the Preface, we join all creation in giving praise to the Father through Jesus.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Gospel Acclamation</b></p> <p>We prepare to hear the good news by standing and singing a joyful chant, usually with the word “Alleluia.”</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Consecration</b></p> <p>The words of institution and Consecration in the Eucharistic Prayer recall Jesus’ actions at the Last Supper. Through these words, Jesus again becomes present in the bread and wine.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Homily</b></p> <p>The presider shares his reflections on the message of God’s word that we have just heard. We listen; sometimes we have a chance to share, too.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Memorial Acclamation</b></p> <p>We proclaim our belief in Jesus’ death, resurrection, and final coming.</p>

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Lord's Prayer</b></p> <p>As we prepare to receive Communion, we pray the prayer that Jesus taught us, a petition for daily food and forgiveness.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Gospel</b></p> <p>We stand as we listen to the presider proclaim the good news about Jesus. We answer, "Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ."</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Lamb of God</b></p> <p>We sing this litany-song during the breaking of the bread, asking for mercy and peace.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>General Intercessions</b></p> <p>We pray for those who need our care.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Prayer after Communion</b></p> <p>The presider prays that our receiving Jesus will change us, that we may be more like Jesus.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Profession of Faith</b></p> <p>We stand and profess what we believe in the words of the Creed: "I believe in one God..."</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Blessing and Dismissal</b></p> <p>We are sent forth to live the Eucharist with God's blessing, strength, and courage.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Second Reading</b></p> <p>We listen to a reading from the letters in the New Testament. We answer, "Thanks be to God."</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Sign of Peace</b></p> <p>We share a sign of peace to show we forgive and love one another.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Communion</b></p> <p>We receive Jesus in the bread and wine and say "Amen," which means "Yes, I believe."</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>First Reading</b></p> <p>We listen to the lector proclaim a reading from the Old Testament. We answer, "Thanks be to God."</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Opening Hymn and Procession</b></p> <p>We begin our celebration together by praising God.</p>

# What We Believe

## *The Apostles' Creed*

*I believe in God,  
the Father almighty,  
Creator of heaven and earth,  
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died and was buried;  
he descended into hell;  
on the third day he rose again from the dead;  
he ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of God  
the Father almighty;  
from there he will come to judge the  
living and the dead.*

*I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and life everlasting. Amen.*