

Catholic Mass 101



Families

The Syracuse Dioceses is now allowing us to attend Mass in our Churches at 25% capacity, with the approval of the State and in accordance with specific guidelines. Fr. Arthur as of last week has begun to say masses at Sacred Heart/St. Mary's in the Church. St. Patrick/St. Anthony's will be held in the parking lot due the number of faithful who wanted to attend Mass.

Regarding the Masses in our Parishes, as of this week, for those families wishing to attend Mass, here is the schedule as what will be required as a family. Fr. Arthur will give instruction at the beginning of Mass regarding Eucharist.

St. Patrick's/St Anthony's. Sunday @ 10am in the parking lot. Please refer to the Parish bulletin for number of cars in the parking lot

Sacred Heart/St. Mary's in the Church-If attending a mask will be required in the Church for all who are attending.

Saturday 4pm & 5pm

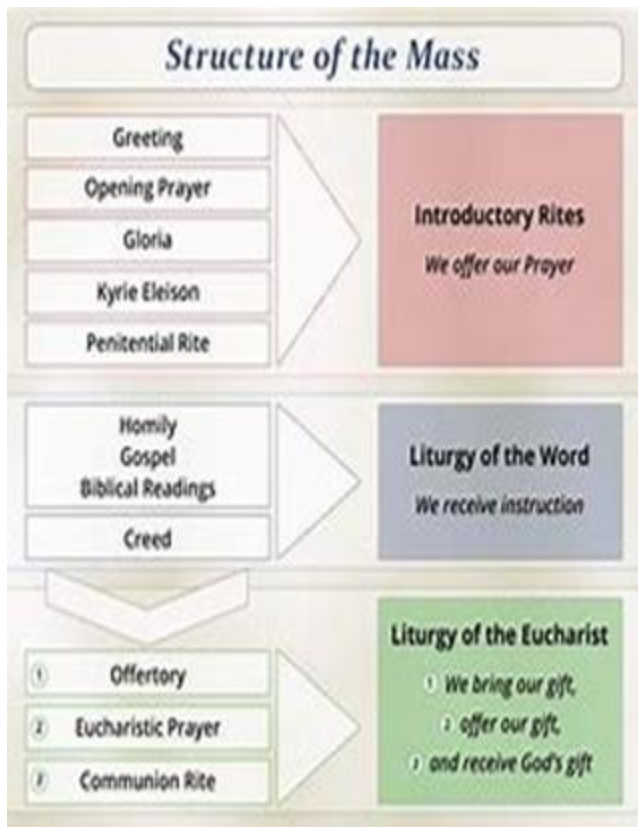
Sunday 8:30am and 11:30am

As we are able to attend Mass this week I thought I would explain the parts of the Catholic Mass and what it means for us as Catholics. First, we do attend Mass just because we have to. There is so much more in this beautiful gift of the Mass. The order of the Mass is an outline of a Mass celebration, describing how and in what order liturgical texts and rituals are employed to constitute a Mass. So the question is what is the Catholic Mass. The Mass serves can be titled as the sacrament of the Eucharist or Communion. As Catholics, we know that the Mass is the center of our faith and the source of divine life. The Church teaches us to participate in the Mass regularly on Sundays and on Holy Days of obligation. The Mass is a holy celebration because it is Jesus who acts in the person of a priest. Jesus offers Himself for us, as he offered on the Cross. Mass is an amazing experience. God speaks to us, we are transported to Calvary, we are physically and spiritually united with Christ, we are transformed and sent out on missions. Christ is at the heart of the Eucharistic celebration. The Holy Eucharist is a sacrament and a sacrifice. In the Holy Eucharist,

under the appearances of bread and wine, the Lord Christ is contained, offered, and received.” From the Baltimore Catechism.

Participation in the Mass involves basically our faith. Without faith, all that one would see on the altar is just bread and wine; just gestures, symbols and nothing more. It is only through faith, we acknowledge that at the consecration of the bread and wine, they are changed into the body and blood of Jesus Christ

The Order of the Mass comprises four major parts: The Introductory Rites, the Liturgy of the Word, the Liturgy of the Eucharist, and the Concluding Rite. It is important that our children understand the parts of the Mass. In the Introductory rite we offer our prayers, The Liturgy of the Word, here we receive instruction, the Liturgy of the Eucharist. Here we bring our gifts, offer our gifts and receive God's gifts, Last the Concluding rite. are very short but are still an important part of the Mass. If there are special events happening within the parish. Father will bring to our attention announcements in the Parish wishes to be called to your attention, before the final blessing. See diagram below



I have broken down the Mass in all of its parts, so when you explain to the children the Mass, they will know the importance of the Mass

Introduction of the Mass

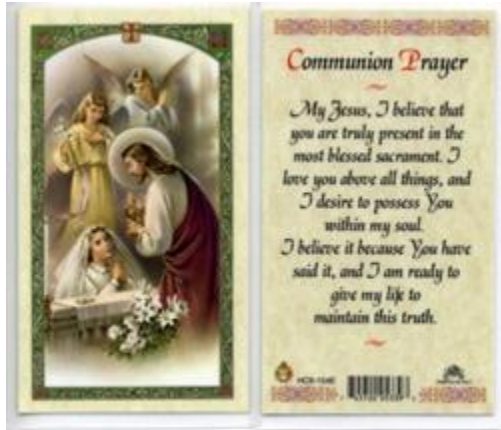
- a) Entrance procession
- b) Sign of the cross-**we call upon the Holy Trinity**

- c) Greeting-**We are Welcomed into God's Name**
- d) Penitential rite-**We Express Sorrow for Our Sins**
- e) Kyrie-**We ask Jesus of Mercy**
- f) Gloria -**We Praise God**
- g) Opening Prayer-**We join in Prayer together**
- h) First Reading (we sit) **Here God Speaks to Us Through the Prophets**
- i) Second Reading(we sit) **God Speaks to Us through the Apostles**
- j) Alleluia (stand) **We Praise Jesus Who Comes to Speak to Us**
- k) Gospel -**God Speaks to Us Through Christ**
- l) Homily (sit) **God Speaks to Us Through the Priest**
- m) Profession of Faith (stand) **We Profess our Faith.** This is either the Nicene Creed or Apostle Creed
- n) General Intercessions. **We Pray for Our Brothers and Sisters in Christ**
- o) Preparation of the Gifts – **We Place Bread/Wine on the Altar**
- p) Invitation to prayer (stand) **We Ask God to Accept our Sacrifice**
- q) Prayer over the Gifts-**We Pray for God's Grace**
- r) Prayer over the Gifts- **We Pray for God's Graces**
- s) Eucharistic Prayer-**This is the prayer that will change the bread and wine into the body and blood of Jesus**
- t) Holy, Holy Holy -**We Praise God in Union with the Angels**
- u) Words of Institution -**The Bread and Wine Becomes Christ's Body and Blood**
- v) Memorial Acclamation-**We Proclaim the Mystery of Faith**
- w) Great Amen-**We Give Our Assent to All That Has Taken Place**
- x) Communion Rite-**We Speak To God In the Words Jesus Taught Us. The Our Father**
- y) Sing of Peace-**We Offer A Sign of Peace to Each Other**
- z) Breaking of the Bread-**We ask for Mercy & Peace**

aa) Communion-**We ask God to Make Us Worthy to Receive Communion**

bb) Period of Silence-**We praise God**

Prayer after Communion-**We ask for the Grace of Communion**



a) Concluding Rite -**The Mass closes with the sign of the Cross**

b) Blessing-**We Receive God's Blessing from the Priest**

c) Dismissal-**We are Sent Out to Bring Jesus to others**

For the children to best understand the structure of the Mass please find a printable for the children to see and color.

ORDER OF THE MASS THE LORD SPEAKS

ENTRANCE RITE

The Priest comes in and greets the people in the name of Jesus.



When the lector or the Priest reads the readings is God who speaks to us
Homily
God speaks to us through the Priest.



THE CREED -

WE PROFESS OUR FAITH

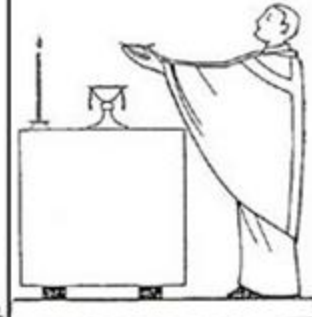


PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

The people raise their prayers, to the Lord

PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERINGS I

Bread and Wine is taken to the altar for the Eucharistic celebration. Each of us presents to God his life and daily work



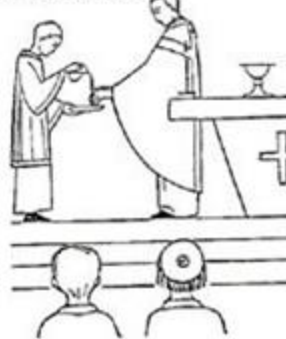
PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERINGS II

The priest prepare the bread and wine to present it to the Lord.



WASHING OF THE HANDS

The Priest wash his hands as a Symbol of purity in preparation for the consecration



THE PREFACE



This is a prayer of thanks giving to God for giving us salvation It ends with the praise acclamation to God by all the people.
Holy, Holy, Holy Lord.

CONSECRATION OF THE BREAD

The Priest does as Jesus did at the Last Supper, saying take this, all of you, and eat it: This is my Body



CONSECRATION OF THE WINE

The Priest change the wine into the living Blood of Jesus, uses the same words as Jesus uses at the Last Supper



Take this, all of you and drink for it: This is the cup of my Blood, the blood of the new and everlasting covenant, it will be shed for you and for all men so that sins may be forgiven. Do this in memory of.

THE GREAT AMEN

We give our assent to all that has taken place at the end of the Eucharistic prayer



THE LORD'S PRAYER PRAYER

We speak to God our Father in the words of Jesus taught us.



SIGN OF PEACE
LAMB OF GOD

HOLY COMMUNION

The Priest gives communion to the people



CONCLUDING RITE

We receive God's blessing from the Priest: May almighty God bless you, the Father, and the son and the Holy Spirit. We answer, Amen

I am still awaiting additional information from the Office of Catechesis regarding how to move forward with Faith Formation for next year. When I have this information, I will be working on Faith Formation programs for each Parish.

If anyone has any recommendations for the programs, please feel free to reachout to me with your recommendations.

Prayers and blessing to all of your families

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