the

Order

of

THE MASS

Introductory Rites

Entrance Hymn or Antiphon

Greeting

Priest: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. All: Amen.

Priest: 1. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

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

3. The Lord be with you. All: And with your spirit.

Penitential Act

Priest: Brethren, let us acknowledge our sins, and so prepare ourselves to celebrate the sacred mysteries.

(After a brief pause for silence, one of the following forms is used)

1. All: 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

(Striking your chest 3 times on the word “fault”)

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.

2. Priest: Have mercy on us, O Lord.   
 All: For we have sinned against you.

Priest: Show us, O lord, your mercy.   
 All: And grant us your salvation

3. Priest: Lord, have mercy All: Lord, have mercy.  
 Priest: Kyrie, eleison. All: Kyrie, eleison.

Priest: Christ, have mercy. All: Christ, have mercy.  
 Priest: Christe, eleison. All: Christe, eleison.

Priest: Lord, have mercy. All: Lord, have mercy.  
 Priest: Kyrie, eleison. All: Kyrie, eleison.

Priest: May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life. Amen.

Glory to God

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.

Collect

This opening prayer “collects” or gathers all of the peoples prayers. This prayer changes every day and they are very ancient dating back 1500 years.

For example: Priest: Grant, O Lord, that we may begin with holy fasting this campaign of Christian service, so that, we take up battle against spiritual evils, we may be armed with weapons of self-restraint. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever. Amen.

Liturgy of the Word

First Reading

This reading is usually from the Old Testament or the Acts of Apostles. The first reading always connects with the Gospel.  
 A reading from the book of Genesis…  
 Lector: The Word of the Lord All: Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

This allows the people to “respond” to the Word of God. The Psalms are part of the Old Testament.

Second Reading

This reading is from the New Testament. The second reading   
 does not necessarily connect with the Gospel.

A reading from the first letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians…  
 Lector: The Word of the Lord All: Thanks be to God.

Alleluia

Alleluia means “He is Risen!” and that is why we don’t sing Alleluia during the season of Lent. Instead we sing: Praise to You, Lord, Jesus Christ, King of endless glory.

Gospel Acclamation

This is the verse sung or said in between either the Alleluia’s or the Praise to You, Lord, Jesus Christ… This can be sung by a cantor, read by the lector, read by the priest or deacon or it can even be omitted.

Homily

A homily is a reflection on the readings proclaimed during the Liturgy of the Word. The Priest, Deacon or Bishop helps us to understand what God is speaking to us through the Scriptures. During a daily Mass this may be omitted. A homily is different from a sermon. A sermon is long preaching on whatever topic the preacher wants to talk about. Other faiths experience sermons, we, as Catholics, experience homilies.

Profession of Faith

Nicene Creed

The Council of Nicea was a gathering of Bishops in the early 300’s. They came together to put a prayer together to express what exactly we believe as Catholics.

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, and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary and became man. (bow) 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.

General Intercessions or Prayer of the Faithful or Petitions

The priest, deacon or lector will pray these prayers.

For example: We pray for the Holy Father, all Bishops and Priests that they may lead us all to heaven.   
 We pray to the Lord…Lord, hear our prayer.  
(Then the collection is taken)

Liturgy of the Eucharist

Preparation of the Gifts

Priest: Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation, for through your goodness we have received the bread we offer to you: fruit of the earth and work of human hands, it will become for us the bread of life.   
 Blessed be God for ever.

Priest: By the mystery of this water and wine may we come to share in the divinity of Christ who humbled himself to share in our humanity.

Priest: Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation, for through your goodness we have received the wine we offer you: fruit of the vine and work of human hands, it will become our spiritual drink. Blessed be God for ever.

Priest: With humble spirit and contrite heart may we be accepted by you, O Lord, and may our sacrifice in your sight this day be pleasing to you, Lord God.

Priest: Wash me, O Lord, from my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin.

Priest: Pray, brethren, that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God the almighty Father.

All: 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 Offering

This prayer changes according to the appropriate day.   
For example: Priest: As we solemnly offer the annual sacrifice for the beginning of Lent, we enreat you, O Lord, that, through works of penance and charity, we may turn away from harmful pleasures and, cleansed from our sins, may become worthy to celebrate devoutly the Passion of your Son. Who lives and reigns for ever and ever. Amen.

Eucharistic Prayer

Priest: The Lord be with you. All: And with your spirit.

Priest: Lift up your hearts. All: We lift them up to the Lord.

Priest: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.   
 All: It is right and just.

Preface

The preface is part of the Eucharistic Prayer. The Priest chooses from many possible prefaces. For example:

Preface of Lent 1: It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation, always and everywhere to give you thanks, Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God, through Christ our Lord. For by your gracious gift each year your faithful await the sacred paschal feasts with the joy of minds made pure, so that, more eagerly intent on prayer and on the works of charity, and participating in the mysteries by which they have been reborn, they may be led to the fullness of grace that you bestow on your sons and daughters. And so, with Angels and Archangels, with Thrones and Dominions, and with all the hosts and Powers of heaven, we sing the hymn of your glory, as without end we acclaim:

Holy, Holy, Holy

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.

Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus Dominus Deus sabbaoth. Pleni sunt ceri et terra Gloria tua. Hosanna in excelisis. Benedictus qui venit in nomine Domini. Hosanna in excelsis.

Eucharistic Prayers

\*\*There are 4 main Eucharistic Prayers. The priest chooses one of the four. This is a special prayer the Priest prays to God the Father. This is the holiest part of Mass, that is why we kneel.

Eucharistic Prayer I:  
To you, therefore, most merciful Father, we make humble prayer and petition through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord: that you accept and bless these gifts, these offerings, these holy and unblemished sacrifices, which we offer you firstly for your holy catholic Church. Be pleased to grant her peace, to guard, unite and govern her throughout the whole world, together with your servant N. our Pope and N. our Bishop, and all those who, holding to the truth, hand on the catholic and apostolic faith. Remember, Lord, your servants N. and N. and all gathered here, whose faith and devotion are known to you. For them, we offer you this sacrifice of praise or they offer it for themselves and all who are dear to them: for the redemption of their souls in hope of health and well-being, and paying their homage to you, the eternal God, living and true.

In communion with those whose memory we venerate, especially the glorious ever-Virgin Mary, Mother of our God and Lord, Jesus Christ, and blessed Joseph, her Spouse, your blessed Apostles and Martyrs, Peter and Paul, Andrew, (James, John, Thomas, James, Philiip, Bartholomew, Matthew, Simon, and Jude; Linus, Cletus, Clement, Sixtus, Cornelius, Cyprian, Lawrence, Chrysogonus, John and Paul, Cosmas and Damian) and all your Saints; we ask that through their merits and prayers, in all things we may be defended by your protecting help. (Through Christ our Lord. Amen.)

Therefore, Lord, we pray: graciously accept this oblation of our service, and that of your whole family; order our days in your peace, and command that we be delivered from eternal damnation and counted among the flock of those you have chosen. (Through Christ our Lord. Amen.)

Be pleased, O God, we pray, to bless, acknowledge, and approve this offering in every respect; make it spiritual and acceptable so that it may become for us the Body and Blood of your most beloved Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. *(This is the Epiclesis – the calling on of the Holy Spirit. The bells ring once.)*

On the day before he was to suffer he took bread in his holy and venerable hands, and with eyes raised to heaven to you, O God, his almighty Father, giving you thanks, he said the blessing, broke the bread and gave it to his disciples, saying:

TAKE THIS, ALL OF YOU, AND EAT OF IT, FOR THIS IS MY BODY, WHICH WILL BE GIVEN UP FOR YOU.   
*(Elevation; Bells ring 3 times)*

In a similar wary, when supper was ended, he took this precious chalice in his holy and venerable hands and once more giving you thanks, he said the blessing and gave the chalice to his disciples, saying:

TAKE THIS, ALL OF YOU, AND DRINK FROM IT, FOR THIS IS THE CHALICE OF MY BLOOD, THE BLOOD OF TE NEW AND ETERNAL COVENANT, WHICH WILL BE POURED OUT FOR YOU AND FOR MANY FOR THE FORGIVENESS OF SINS.   
DO THIS IN MEMORY OF ME. *(Elevation; Bells ring 3 times)*

Priest: The Mystery of Faith

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

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

3. Save us, Savior of the world, for by your Cross and Resurrection you have set us free.

Priest: Therefore, O Lord, as we celebrate the memorial of the blessed Passion, the Resurrection from the dead, and the glorious Ascension into heaven of Christ, your Son, our Lord, we, your servants and your holy people, offer to your glorious majesty from the gifts that you have given us, this pure victim, this holy victim, this spotless victim, the holy Bread of eternal life and the Chalice of everlasting salvation.

Be pleased to look upon these offerings with a serene and kindly countenance, and to accept them, as once you were pleased to accept the gifts of your servant Abel the just, the sacrifice of Abraham, our father in faith, and the offering of your high priest Melchizedek, a holy sacrifice, a spotless victim.

In humble prayer we ask you, almighty God: command that these gifts be borne by the hands of your holy Angel to your altar on high in the sight of your divine majesty, so that all of us, who through this participation at the altar receive the most holy Body and Blood of your Son, may be filled with every grace and heavenly blessing. (Through Christ our Lord. Amen.)

Remember also, Lord, your servants N. and N., who have gone before us with the sign of faith and rest in the sleep of peace. Grant them, O Lord, we pray, and all who sleep in Christ, a place of refreshment, light and peace. (Through Christ our Lord. Amen.)

To us, also, your servants, who, though sinners, hope in your abundant mercies, graciously grant some share and fellowship with your holy Apostles and Martyrs: with John the Baptist, Stephen, Matthias, Barnabas, (Ignatius, Alexander, Marcellinus, Peter, Felicity, Perpetua, Agatha, Lucy, Agnes, Cecilia, Anastasia) and all your Saints; admit us, we beseech you, into their company, not weighing our merits, but granting us your pardon, through Christ our Lord.

Through whom you continue to make all these good things, O Lord; you sanctify them, fill them with life, bless them, and bestow them upon us.

Doxology (Elevation, deacon elevates chalice, priest patten or host)

Through him, and with him, and in him, O God, almighty Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours for ever and ever.

The Great Amen

Amen. (This means “I believe”)

Communion Rite

Priest: At the Savior’s command and formed by divine teaching, we dare to say:

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.

Priest: Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every evil, graciously grant peace in our days, that, by the help of your mercy, we may be always free from sin and safe from all distress, as we await the blessed hope and the coming of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

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

The Sign of Peace

Priest: Lord Jesus Christ, who said to your Apostles: Peace I leave you, my peace I give you, look not on our sins, but on the faith of your Church, and graciously grant her peace and unity in accordance with your will. Who live and reign for ever and ever. Amen. The peace of the Lord be with you always.   
And with your spirit. Let us offer each other the sign of peace.

The Fraction of the Bread

Priest quietly: May this mingling of the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ bring eternal life to us who receive it.

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.

Priest quietly: Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the living God, who, by the will of the Father and the world of the Holy Spirit, through your Death gave life to the world, free me by this, your most holy body and Blood, from all my sins and from every evil; keep me always faithful to your commandments, and never let me be parted from you.

Communion

Priest: Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

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

Priest quietly: May the Body (Blood) of Christ keep me safe for eternal life.

Communion Antiphon

Each day there is an appropriate verse. This may be omitted and a song sung instead.   
For example: Priest: He who ponders the law of the Lord day and night will yield fruit in due time.

Prayer after Communion

This prayer changes day to day.  
For example: Priest: May the Sacrament we have received sustain us, O Lord, that our Lenten fast may be pleasing to you and be for us a healing remedy. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Concluding Rites

Blessing

Priest: The Lord be with you.

And with your spirit.

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

Dismissal – Priest or Deacon

1. Go forth, the Mass is ended.

2. Go and announce the Gospel of the Lord.

3. Go in peace, glorifying the Lord by your life.

4. Go in peace.

Thanks be to God.

Recessional Hymn