

# THE MASS OF CHRISTIAN BURIAL

## Outline of the mass.

*As a source of reference, here is a brief outline of the Catholic funeral rite during mass. A brief gathering rite serves as an introduction to the Liturgy of the Word. The Liturgy of the Eucharist follows, and is concluded by the Final Commendation and the procession to the place of committal.*

## Introductory Rites

### **Greeting**

*(please stand)*

*The beloved deceased and mourners are greeted ritually near the church entrance; the pall, a sign of baptism, is placed on the casket.*

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

Assembly: Amen.

Priest: The Lord be with you.

Assembly: And with your spirit.

## Liturgy of the Word

### **1st Reading**

*(please be seated)*

*In conclusion:*

Reader: The Word of the Lord

Assembly: Thanks be to God.

After a period of silence, the **Responsorial Psalm** is read or sung.

### **2nd Reading**

*In conclusion:*

Reader: The Word of the Lord

Assembly: Thanks be to God.

### **Gospel**

*(please stand)*

Priest: The Lord be with you.

Assembly: And with your spirit.

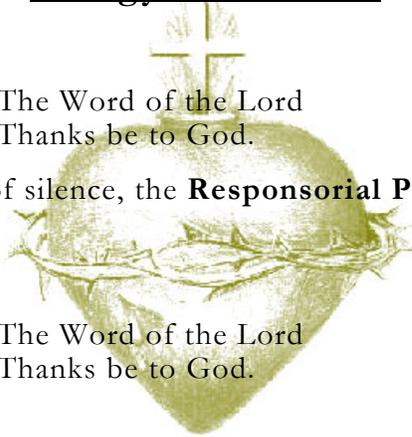
Priest: A reading from the holy Gospel  
according to N.

Assembly: Glory to you, O Lord.

*After the Gospel reading:*

Priest: The Gospel of the Lord.

Assembly: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.



**Homily** *(please be seated)*  
A reflection on the Scripture passages

**General Intercessions** *(please stand)*  
Prayers for the deceased, the family, and the good of the Church and the world. Please respond after each Intercession, "Lord, hear our prayer."

### **Liturgy of the Eucharist**

**Preparation of the Altar and the Gifts** *(please be seated)*  
*Offertory hymn is played while bread and wine are presented to the priest, and the priest prepares these gifts.*

Priest: (if the prayers are said aloud, all may respond after the prayer for each gift)

Assembly: Blessed be God forever.

*The priest then invites all to pray.* *(please stand)*

Assembly: 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.

*The priest says the prayer over the gifts and all respond: Amen.*

**Eucharistic Prayer** *(please kneel)*

Priest: The Lord be with you.

Assembly: And with your spirit.

Priest: Lift up your hearts.

Assembly: We lift them up to the Lord.

Priest: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

Assembly: It is right and just.

Priest: (Priest continues Eucharistic Prayer)

**Sanctus (Holy Holy)**

Assembly: 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.

### **The Mystery of Faith (Memorial Acclamation)**

Assembly: A-We proclaim your Death O Lord, and  
profess your Resurrection until you  
come again.

Or B-When we eat this Bread and drink this  
cup, we proclaim your Death O Lord,  
until you come again.

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

### **Our Father**

*(please stand)*

Assembly: 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: ( — )

Assembly: For the kingdom, the power, and the glory  
are yours, now and forever.

### **Sign of Peace**

Priest: The peace of Lord be with you always.

Assembly: And with your spirit.

### **Communion**

Assembly: 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.

*(please kneel)*

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

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

## **Communion Song and Reflection Hymn**

Questions regularly arise regarding receiving Communion. Communion is central to the Mass for Catholics, who believe in the real presence of Christ in the Eucharist. Non-Catholics are welcome to come to join the Communion procession for a blessing at this time. Please indicate your desire for a blessing by crossing your arms across your chest when you reach the front of the church.

## **Prayer after Communion**

*(please stand)*

## **Final Commendation**

*Final prayers and signs of farewell include incense and sprinkling of holy water*

Priest: Saints of God, come to his/her aid. Hasten to meet him/her, angels of the Lord.

Assembly: Receive his/her soul and present him/her to God most high.

Priest: May Christ, who called you ..., take you to himself; may angels lead you to the bosom of Abraham.

Assembly: Receive his/her soul and present him/her to God most high.

Priest: Eternal rest, grant unto him/her O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him/her.

Assembly: Receive his/her soul and present him/her to God most high.

Priest: (Final prayer.)

Assembly: In peace let us take our brother/sister ... to his/her final rest.

## **Procession to the hearse**



*Revelation 21:4*

*And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.  
And death shall be no more. And neither mourning,  
nor crying out, nor grief shall be anymore.  
For the first things have passed away.*