

## **FIRST PART: THE SOLEMN BEGINNING OF THE VIGIL**

The Blessing of Fire and preparation of the Paschal Candle are omitted.

The Priest and people sign themselves, while the Priest says:

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

The people reply:

**Amen.**

Then the Priest, extending his hands, greets the people, saying:

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
and the Love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit  
be with you.

or:

The Lord be with you.

The people reply:

**And with your spirit.**

The Priest briefly instructs them about the night vigil in these or similar words:

Dear brothers and sisters,  
on this most sacred night,  
in which our Lord Jesus Christ  
passed over from death to life,  
the Church calls upon her sons and daughters,  
scattered throughout the world,  
to come together to watch and pray.  
If we keep the memorial  
of the Lord's paschal solemnity in this way,  
listening to his word and celebrating his mysteries,  
then we shall have the sure hope  
of sharing his triumph over death  
and living with him in God.

The Priest lights the paschal candle, saying:

May the light of Christ rising in glory  
dispel the darkness of our hearts and minds.

And lights are lit throughout the church, except for the altar candles.

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## **The Exsultet**

The Priest proclaims the Easter Proclamation (Exsultet) at the ambo or at a lectern:

Exult, let them exult, the hosts of heaven,  
exult, let Angel ministers of God exult,  
let the trumpet of salvation  
sound aloud our mighty King's triumph!

Be glad, let earth be glad, as glory floods her,  
ablaze with light from her eternal King,  
let all corners of the earth be glad,  
knowing an end to gloom and darkness.

Rejoice, let Mother Church also rejoice,  
arrayed with the lightning of his glory,  
let this holy building shake with joy,  
filled with the mighty voices of the peoples.

Therefore, dearest friends,  
standing in the awesome glory of this holy light,  
invoke with me, I ask you,  
the mercy of God almighty,  
that he, who has been pleased to number me,  
though unworthy, among the Levites,  
may pour into me his light unshadowed,  
that I may sing this candle's perfect praises.

**V.** The Lord be with you.  
**R.** **And with your spirit.**

**V.** Lift up your hearts.  
**R.** **We lift them up to the Lord.**

**V.** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**R.** **It is right and just.**

It is truly right and just,  
with ardent love of mind and heart  
and with devoted service of our voice,  
to acclaim our God invisible, the almighty Father,  
and Jesus Christ, our Lord, his Son, his Only Begotten.  
Who for our sake paid Adam's debt to the eternal Father,  
and, pouring out his own dear Blood,  
wiped clean the record of our ancient sinfulness.

These, then, are the feasts of Passover,  
in which is slain the Lamb, the one true Lamb,  
whose Blood anoints the doorposts of believers.

This is the night,  
when once you led our forebears, Israel's children,  
from slavery in Egypt  
and made them pass dry-shod through the Red Sea.

This is the night  
that with a pillar of fire  
banished the darkness of sin.

This is the night  
that even now, throughout the world,  
sets Christian believers apart from worldly vices  
and from the gloom of sin,  
leading them to grace  
and joining them to his holy ones.

This is the night,  
when Christ broke the prison-bars of death  
and rose victorious from the underworld.  
Our birth would have been no gain,  
had we not been redeemed.  
O wonder of your humble care for us!  
O love, O charity beyond all telling,  
to ransom a slave you gave away your Son!

O truly necessary sin of Adam,  
destroyed completely by the Death of Christ!  
O happy fault  
that earned so great, so glorious a Redeemer!

O truly blessed night,  
worthy alone to know the time and hour  
when Christ rose from the underworld!

This is the night  
of which it is written:  
The night shall be as bright as day,  
dazzling is the night for me,  
and full of gladness.  
The sanctifying power of this night  
dispels wickedness, washes faults away,  
restores innocence to the fallen, and joy to mourners,  
drives out hatred, fosters concord, and brings down the mighty.

On this, your night of grace, O holy Father,  
accept this candle, a solemn offering,  
the work of bees and of your servants' hands,  
an evening sacrifice of praise,  
this gift from your most holy Church.

But now we know the praises of this pillar,  
which glowing fire ignites for God's honor,  
a fire into many flames divided,  
yet never dimmed by sharing of its light,  
for it is fed by melting wax,  
drawn out by mother bees  
to build a torch so precious.

O truly blessed night,  
when things of heaven are wed to those of earth,  
and divine to the human.

Therefore, O Lord,  
we pray you that this candle,  
hallowed to the honor of your name,  
may persevere undimmed,  
to overcome the darkness of this night.  
Receive it as a pleasing fragrance,  
and let it mingle with the lights of heaven.

May this flame be found still burning  
by the Morning Star:  
the one Morning Star who never sets,  
Christ your Son,  
who, coming back from death's domain,  
has shed his peaceful light on humanity,  
and lives and reigns for ever and ever.

**R. Amen.**

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## **SECOND PART: THE LITURGY OF THE WORD**

In this vigil, the mother of all vigils, nine readings are provided, namely seven from the Old Testament and two from the New (the epistle and gospel), all of which should be read whenever this can be done, so that the character of the vigil, which demands an extended period of time, may be preserved.

Before the readings begin, the Priest instructs the people in these or similar words:

Dear brothers and sisters,  
now that we have begun our solemn Vigil,  
let us listen with quiet hearts to the Word of God.  
Let us meditate on how God in times past saved his people  
and in these, the last days, has sent us his Son as our Redeemer.  
Let us pray that our God may complete this paschal work of salvation  
by the fullness of redemption.

Then the readings follow.

### **First Reading**

*God looked at everything he had made and he found it very good.*

Gn 1:1-2:2

#### **A reading from the Book of Genesis**

In the beginning, when God created the heavens and the earth,  
the earth was a formless wasteland, and darkness covered the abyss,  
while a mighty wind swept over the waters.

Then God said,

“Let there be light,” and there was light.

God saw how good the light was.

God then separated the light from the darkness.

God called the light “day,” and the darkness he called “night.”

Thus evening came, and morning followed—the first day.

Then God said,

“Let there be a dome in the middle of the waters,

to separate one body of water from the other.”

And so it happened:

God made the dome,

and it separated the water above the dome from the water below it.

God called the dome “the sky.”

Evening came, and morning followed—the second day.

Then God said,

“Let the water under the sky be gathered into a single basin,  
so that the dry land may appear.”

And so it happened:

the water under the sky was gathered into its basin,  
and the dry land appeared.

God called the dry land “the earth, “

and the basin of the water he called “the sea.”

God saw how good it was.

Then God said,

“Let the earth bring forth vegetation:  
every kind of plant that bears seed  
and every kind of fruit tree on earth  
that bears fruit with its seed in it.”

And so it happened:

the earth brought forth every kind of plant that bears seed  
and every kind of fruit tree on earth  
that bears fruit with its seed in it.

God saw how good it was.

Evening came, and morning followed—the third day.

Then God said:

“Let there be lights in the dome of the sky,  
to separate day from night.

Let them mark the fixed times, the days and the years,  
and serve as luminaries in the dome of the sky,  
to shed light upon the earth.”

And so it happened:

God made the two great lights,  
the greater one to govern the day,  
and the lesser one to govern the night;  
and he made the stars.

God set them in the dome of the sky,

to shed light upon the earth,  
to govern the day and the night,  
and to separate the light from the darkness.

God saw how good it was.

Evening came, and morning followed—the fourth day.

Then God said,

“Let the water teem with an abundance of living creatures,  
and on the earth let birds fly beneath the dome of the sky.”

And so it happened:

God created the great sea monsters

and all kinds of swimming creatures with which the water teems,  
and all kinds of winged birds.

God saw how good it was, and God blessed them, saying,  
“Be fertile, multiply, and fill the water of the seas;  
and let the birds multiply on the earth.”

Evening came, and morning followed—the fifth day.

Then God said,

“Let the earth bring forth all kinds of living creatures:  
cattle, creeping things, and wild animals of all kinds.”

And so it happened:

God made all kinds of wild animals, all kinds of cattle,  
and all kinds of creeping things of the earth.

God saw how good it was.

Then God said:

“Let us make man in our image, after our likeness.

Let them have dominion over the fish of the sea,  
the birds of the air, and the cattle,  
and over all the wild animals  
and all the creatures that crawl on the ground.”

God created man in his image;

in the image of God he created him;  
male and female he created them.

God blessed them, saying:

“Be fertile and multiply;  
fill the earth and subdue it.

Have dominion over the fish of the sea, the birds of the air,  
and all the living things that move on the earth.”

God also said:

“See, I give you every seed-bearing plant all over the earth  
and every tree that has seed-bearing fruit on it to be your food;  
and to all the animals of the land, all the birds of the air,  
and all the living creatures that crawl on the ground,  
I give all the green plants for food.”

And so it happened.

God looked at everything he had made, and he found it very good.

Evening came, and morning followed—the sixth day.

Thus the heavens and the earth and all their array were completed.

Since on the seventh day God was finished

with the work he had been doing,

he rested on the seventh day from all the work he had undertaken.

To indicate the end of the reading, the reader acclaims:

The word of the Lord.

All reply:

**Thanks be to God.**

## Responsorial Psalm

Ps 104:1-2, 5-6, 10, 12, 13-14, 24, 35

**Response: Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.**

Bless the LORD, O my soul!  
O LORD, my God, you are great indeed!  
You are clothed with majesty and glory,  
robed in light as with a cloak.

**Response: Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.**

You fixed the earth upon its foundation,  
not to be moved forever;  
with the ocean, as with a garment, you covered it;  
above the mountains the waters stood.

**Response: Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.**

You send forth springs into the watercourses  
that wind among the mountains.  
Beside them the birds of heaven dwell;  
from among the branches they send forth their song.

**Response: Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.**

You water the mountains from your palace;  
the earth is replete with the fruit of your works.  
You raise grass for the cattle,  
and vegetation for man's use,  
producing bread from the earth.

**Response: Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.**

How manifold are your works, O LORD!  
In wisdom you have wrought them all—  
the earth is full of your creatures.  
Bless the LORD, O my soul!

**Response: Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.**

Let us pray.

Almighty ever-living God,  
who are wonderful in the ordering of all your works,  
may those you have redeemed understand  
that there exists nothing more marvelous  
than the world's creation in the beginning  
except that, at the end of the ages,  
Christ our Passover has been sacrificed.  
Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

**R. Amen.**

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## Second Reading

*The sacrifice of Abraham, our father in faith.*

Gn 22:1-18

### A reading from the Book of Genesis

God put Abraham to the test.  
He called to him, “Abraham!”  
“Here I am,” he replied.

Then God said:

“Take your son Isaac, your only one, whom you love,  
and go to the land of Moriah.

There you shall offer him up as a holocaust  
on a height that I will point out to you.”

Early the next morning Abraham saddled his donkey,  
took with him his son Isaac and two of his servants as well,  
and with the wood that he had cut for the holocaust,  
set out for the place of which God had told him.

On the third day Abraham got sight of the place from afar.

Then he said to his servants:

“Both of you stay here with the donkey,  
while the boy and I go on over yonder.

We will worship and then come back to you.”

Thereupon Abraham took the wood for the holocaust  
and laid it on his son Isaac’s shoulders,  
while he himself carried the fire and the knife.

As the two walked on together, Isaac spoke to his father Abraham:

“Father!” Isaac said.

“Yes, son,” he replied.

Isaac continued, “Here are the fire and the wood,  
but where is the sheep for the holocaust?”

“Son,” Abraham answered,

“God himself will provide the sheep for the holocaust.”

Then the two continued going forward.

When they came to the place of which God had told him,

Abraham built an altar there and arranged the wood on it.

Next he tied up his son Isaac,

and put him on top of the wood on the altar.

Then he reached out and took the knife to slaughter his son.

But the LORD’s messenger called to him from heaven,

“Abraham, Abraham!”

“Here I am!” he answered.

“Do not lay your hand on the boy,” said the messenger.

“Do not do the least thing to him.

I know now how devoted you are to God,

since you did not withhold from me your own beloved son.”

As Abraham looked about,

he spied a ram caught by its horns in the thicket.

So he went and took the ram

and offered it up as a holocaust in place of his son.



Abraham named the site *Yahweh-yireh*;  
hence people now say, “On the mountain the LORD will see.”

Again the LORD’s messenger called to Abraham from heaven and said:  
“I swear by myself, declares the LORD,  
that because you acted as you did  
in not withholding from me your beloved son,  
I will bless you abundantly  
and make your descendants as countless  
as the stars of the sky and the sands of the seashore;  
your descendants shall take possession  
of the gates of their enemies,  
and in your descendants all the nations of the earth shall find blessing  
all this because you obeyed my command.”

To indicate the end of the reading, the reader acclaims:

The word of the Lord.

All reply:

**Thanks be to God.**

### Responsorial Psalm

Ps 104:1-2, 5-6, 10, 12, 13-14, 24, 35

**Response: You are my inheritance, O Lord.**

O LORD, my allotted portion and my cup,  
you it is who hold fast my lot.  
I set the LORD ever before me;  
with him at my right hand I shall not be disturbed.

**Response: You are my inheritance, O Lord.**

Therefore my heart is glad and my soul rejoices,  
my body, too, abides in confidence;  
because you will not abandon my soul to the netherworld,  
nor will you suffer your faithful one to undergo corruption.

**Response: You are my inheritance, O Lord.**

You will show me the path to life,  
fullness of joys in your presence,  
the delights at your right hand forever.

**Response: You are my inheritance, O Lord.**

Let us pray.

O God, supreme Father of the faithful,  
who increase the children of your promise  
by pouring out the grace of adoption  
throughout the whole world

and who through the Paschal Mystery  
make your servant Abraham father of nations,  
as once you swore,  
grant, we pray,  
that your peoples may enter worthily  
into the grace to which you call them.  
Through Christ our Lord.

**R. Amen.**

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### **Third Reading**

Exodus 14:15-15:1

*The Israelites marched on dry land through the midst of the sea*

#### **A reading from the Book of Exodus**

The LORD said to Moses, “Why are you crying out to me?  
Tell the Israelites to go forward.  
And you, lift up your staff and, with hand outstretched over the sea,  
split the sea in two,  
that the Israelites may pass through it on dry land.  
But I will make the Egyptians so obstinate  
that they will go in after them.  
Then I will receive glory through Pharaoh and all his army,  
his chariots and charioteers.  
The Egyptians shall know that I am the LORD,  
when I receive glory through Pharaoh  
and his chariots and charioteers.”

The angel of God, who had been leading Israel’s camp,  
now moved and went around behind them.  
The column of cloud also, leaving the front,  
took up its place behind them,  
so that it came between the camp of the Egyptians  
and that of Israel.  
But the cloud now became dark, and thus the night passed  
without the rival camps coming any closer together all night long.  
Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea,  
and the LORD swept the sea  
with a strong east wind throughout the night  
and so turned it into dry land.  
When the water was thus divided,  
the Israelites marched into the midst of the sea on dry land,  
with the water like a wall to their right and to their left.

The Egyptians followed in pursuit;  
all Pharaoh’s horses and chariots and charioteers went after them  
right into the midst of the sea.  
In the night watch just before dawn  
the LORD cast through the column of the fiery cloud  
upon the Egyptian force a glance that threw it into a panic;  
and he so clogged their chariot wheels

that they could hardly drive.  
With that the Egyptians sounded the retreat before Israel,  
because the LORD was fighting for them against the Egyptians.

Then the LORD told Moses,  
Stretch out your hand over the sea,  
that the water may flow back upon the Egyptians,  
upon their chariots and their charioteers.”  
So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea,  
and at dawn the sea flowed back to its normal depth.  
The Egyptians were fleeing head on toward the sea,  
when the LORD hurled them into its midst.  
As the water flowed back,  
it covered the chariots and the charioteers of Pharaoh’s whole army  
which had followed the Israelites into the sea.  
Not a single one of them escaped.  
But the Israelites had marched on dry land  
through the midst of the sea,  
with the water like a wall to their right and to their left.  
Thus the LORD saved Israel on that day  
from the power of the Egyptians.  
When Israel saw the Egyptians lying dead on the seashore  
and beheld the great power that the LORD  
had shown against the Egyptians,  
they feared the LORD and believed in him and in his servant Moses.  
Then Moses and the Israelites sang this song to the LORD:  
I will sing to the LORD, for he is gloriously triumphant;  
horse and chariot he has cast into the sea.

To indicate the end of the reading, the reader acclaims:

The word of the Lord.

All reply:

**Thanks be to God.**

### Responsorial Psalm

Ex 15:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 17-18

**Response: Let us sing to the Lord; he has covered himself in glory.**

I will sing to the LORD, for he is gloriously triumphant;  
horse and chariot he has cast into the sea.  
My strength and my courage is the LORD,  
and he has been my savior.  
He is my God, I praise him;  
the God of my father, I extol him.

**Response: Let us sing to the Lord; he has covered himself in glory.**

The LORD is a warrior,  
LORD is his name!  
Pharaoh's chariots and army he hurled into the sea;  
the elite of his officers were submerged in the Red Sea.

**Response: Let us sing to the Lord; he has covered himself in glory.**

The flood waters covered them,  
they sank into the depths like a stone.  
Your right hand, O LORD, magnificent in power,  
your right hand, O LORD, has shattered the enemy.

**Response: Let us sing to the Lord; he has covered himself in glory.**

You brought in the people you redeemed  
and planted them on the mountain of your inheritance,  
the place where you made your seat, O LORD,  
the sanctuary, LORD, which your hands established.  
The LORD shall reign forever and ever.

**Response: Let us sing to the Lord; he has covered himself in glory.**

Let us pray.

O God, whose ancient wonders  
remain undimmed in splendor even in our day,  
for what you once bestowed on a single people,  
freeing them from Pharaoh's persecution  
by the power of your right hand  
now you bring about as the salvation of the nations  
through the waters of rebirth,  
grant, we pray, that the whole world  
may become children of Abraham  
and inherit the dignity of Israel's birthright.  
Through Christ our Lord.

**R. Amen.**

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#### **Fourth Reading**

Isaiah 54:5-14

*With enduring love, the Lord your redeemer takes pity on you.*

#### **A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah**

The One who has become your husband is your Maker;  
his name is the LORD of hosts;  
your redeemer is the Holy One of Israel,  
called God of all the earth.  
The LORD calls you back,  
like a wife forsaken and grieved in spirit,  
a wife married in youth and then cast off,  
says your God.  
For a brief moment I abandoned you,

but with great tenderness I will take you back.  
In an outburst of wrath, for a moment  
I hid my face from you;  
but with enduring love I take pity on you,  
says the LORD, your redeemer.  
This is for me like the days of Noah,  
when I swore that the waters of Noah  
should never again deluge the earth;  
so I have sworn not to be angry with you,  
or to rebuke you.  
Though the mountains leave their place  
and the hills be shaken,  
my love shall never leave you  
nor my covenant of peace be shaken,  
says the LORD, who has mercy on you.  
O afflicted one, storm-battered and unconsolated,  
I lay your pavements in carnelians,  
and your foundations in sapphires;  
I will make your battlements of rubies,  
your gates of carbuncles,  
and all your walls of precious stones.  
All your children shall be taught by the LORD,  
and great shall be the peace of your children.  
In justice shall you be established,  
far from the fear of oppression,  
where destruction cannot come near you.

To indicate the end of the reading, the reader acclaims:

The word of the Lord.

All reply:

**Thanks be to God.**

### Responsorial Psalm

Ex 15:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 17-18

**Response: I will praise you, Lord, for you have rescued me.**

I will extol you, O LORD, for you drew me clear  
and did not let my enemies rejoice over me.  
O LORD, you brought me up from the netherworld;  
you preserved me from among those going down into the pit.

**Response: I will praise you, Lord, for you have rescued me.**

Sing praise to the LORD, you his faithful ones,  
and give thanks to his holy name.  
For his anger lasts but a moment;  
a lifetime, his good will.  
At nightfall, weeping enters in,  
but with the dawn, rejoicing.

**Response: I will praise you, Lord, for you have rescued me.**

Hear, O LORD, and have pity on me;  
O LORD, be my helper.  
You changed my mourning into dancing;  
O LORD, my God, forever will I give you thanks.

**Response: I will praise you, Lord, for you have rescued me.**

Let us pray.

Almighty ever-living God,  
surpass, for the honor of your name,  
what you pledged to the Patriarchs by reason of their faith,  
and through sacred adoption increase the children of your promise,  
so that what the Saints of old never doubted would come to pass  
your Church may now see in great part fulfilled.  
Through Christ our Lord.

**R. Amen.**

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### **Fifth Reading**

Is 55:1-11

*Come to me that you may have life. I will renew with you an everlasting covenant.*

### **A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah**

Thus says the LORD:  
All you who are thirsty,  
come to the water!  
You who have no money,  
come, receive grain and eat;  
come, without paying and without cost,  
drink wine and milk!  
Why spend your money for what is not bread,  
your wages for what fails to satisfy?  
Heed me, and you shall eat well,  
you shall delight in rich fare.  
Come to me heedfully,  
listen, that you may have life.  
I will renew with you the everlasting covenant,  
the benefits assured to David.  
As I made him a witness to the peoples,  
a leader and commander of nations,  
so shall you summon a nation you knew not,  
and nations that knew you not shall run to you,  
because of the LORD, your God,  
the Holy One of Israel, who has glorified you.  
Seek the LORD while he may be found,  
call him while he is near.  
Let the scoundrel forsake his way,

and the wicked man his thoughts;  
let him turn to the LORD for mercy;  
to our God, who is generous in forgiving.  
For my thoughts are not your thoughts,  
nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD.  
As high as the heavens are above the earth,  
so high are my ways above your ways  
and my thoughts above your thoughts.

For just as from the heavens  
the rain and snow come down  
and do not return there  
till they have watered the earth,  
making it fertile and fruitful,  
giving seed to the one who sows  
and bread to the one who eats,  
so shall my word be  
that goes forth from my mouth;  
my word shall not return to me void,  
but shall do my will,  
achieving the end for which I sent it.

To indicate the end of the reading, the reader acclaims:

The word of the Lord.

All reply:

**Thanks be to God.**

### Responsorial Psalm

Is 12:2-3, 4, 5-6

**Response: You will draw water joyfully from the springs of salvation.**

God indeed is my savior;  
I am confident and unafraid.  
My strength and my courage is the LORD,  
and he has been my savior.  
With joy you will draw water  
at the fountain of salvation.

**Response: You will draw water joyfully from the springs of salvation.**

Give thanks to the LORD, acclaim his name;  
among the nations make known his deeds,  
proclaim how exalted is his name.

**Response: You will draw water joyfully from the springs of salvation.**

Sing praise to the LORD for his glorious achievement;  
let this be known throughout all the earth.  
Shout with exultation, O city of Zion,  
for great in your midst  
is the Holy One of Israel!

**Response: You will draw water joyfully from the springs of salvation.**

Let us pray.

Almighty ever-living God,  
sole hope of the world,  
who by the preaching of your Prophets  
unveiled the mysteries of this present age,  
graciously increase the longing of your people,  
for only at the prompting of your grace  
do the faithful progress in any kind of virtue.  
Through Christ our Lord.

**R. Amen.**

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## Sixth Reading

Bar 3:9-15, 32-4:4

*Walk toward the splendor of the Lord.*

### **A reading from the Book of the Prophet Baruch**

Hear, O Israel, the commandments of life:  
listen, and know prudence!  
How is it, Israel,  
that you are in the land of your foes,  
grown old in a foreign land,  
defiled with the dead,  
accounted with those destined for the netherworld?  
You have forsaken the fountain of wisdom!  
Had you walked in the way of God,  
you would have dwelt in enduring peace.  
Learn where prudence is,  
where strength, where understanding;  
that you may know also  
where are length of days, and life,  
where light of the eyes, and peace.  
Who has found the place of wisdom,  
who has entered into her treasuries?  
  
The One who knows all things knows her;  
he has probed her by his knowledge,  
The One who established the earth for all time,  
and filled it with four-footed beasts;  
he who dismisses the light, and it departs,  
calls it, and it obeys him trembling;



before whom the stars at their posts  
shine and rejoice;  
when he calls them, they answer, “Here we are!”  
shining with joy for their Maker.  
Such is our God;  
no other is to be compared to him:  
He has traced out the whole way of understanding,  
and has given her to Jacob, his servant,  
to Israel, his beloved son.

Since then she has appeared on earth,  
and moved among people.  
She is the book of the precepts of God,  
the law that endures forever;  
all who cling to her will live,  
but those will die who forsake her.  
Turn, O Jacob, and receive her:  
walk by her light toward splendor.  
Give not your glory to another,  
your privileges to an alien race.  
Blessed are we, O Israel;  
for what pleases God is known to us!

To indicate the end of the reading, the reader acclaims:

The word of the Lord.

All reply:

**Thanks be to God.**

### Responsorial Psalm

Is 12:2-3, 4, 5-6

**Response: Lord, you have the words of everlasting life.**

The law of the LORD is perfect,  
refreshing the soul;  
the decree of the LORD is trustworthy,  
giving wisdom to the simple.

**Response: Lord, you have the words of everlasting life.**

The precepts of the LORD are right,  
rejoicing the heart;  
the command of the LORD is clear,  
enlightening the eye.

**Response: Lord, you have the words of everlasting life.**

The fear of the LORD is pure,  
enduring forever;  
the ordinances of the LORD are true,  
all of them just.

**Response: Lord, you have the words of everlasting life.**

They are more precious than gold,  
than a heap of purest gold;  
sweeter also than syrup  
or honey from the comb.

**Response: Lord, you have the words of everlasting life.**

Let us pray.

O God, who constantly increase your Church  
by your call to the nations,  
graciously grant  
to those you wash clean in the waters of Baptism  
the assurance of your unfailing protection.  
Through Christ our Lord.

**R. Amen.**

---

### Seventh Reading

Ezekiel 36:16-17a, 18-28

*I shall sprinkle clean water upon you and I shall give you a new heart.*

#### **A reading from the Book of the Prophet Ezekiel**

The word of the LORD came to me, saying:  
Son of man, when the house of Israel lived in their land,  
they defiled it by their conduct and deeds.  
Therefore I poured out my fury upon them  
because of the blood that they poured out on the ground,  
and because they defiled it with idols.  
I scattered them among the nations,  
dispersing them over foreign lands;  
according to their conduct and deeds I judged them.  
But when they came among the nations wherever they came,  
they served to profane my holy name,  
because it was said of them: “These are the people of the LORD,  
yet they had to leave their land.”  
So I have relented because of my holy name  
which the house of Israel profaned  
among the nations where they came.  
Therefore say to the house of Israel: Thus says the Lord GOD:  
Not for your sakes do I act, house of Israel,  
but for the sake of my holy name,  
which you profaned among the nations to which you came.  
I will prove the holiness of my great name, profaned among the nations,  
in whose midst you have profaned it.  
Thus the nations shall know that I am the LORD, says the Lord GOD,  
when in their sight I prove my holiness through you.  
For I will take you away from among the nations,

gather you from all the foreign lands,  
and bring you back to your own land.  
I will sprinkle clean water upon you  
to cleanse you from all your impurities,  
and from all your idols I will cleanse you.  
I will give you a new heart and place a new spirit within you,  
taking from your bodies your stony hearts  
and giving you natural hearts.  
I will put my spirit within you and make you live by my statutes,  
careful to observe my decrees.  
You shall live in the land I gave your fathers;  
you shall be my people, and I will be your God.

To indicate the end of the reading, the reader acclaims:

The word of the Lord.

All reply:

**Thanks be to God.**

### Responsorial Psalm

Is 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6

**Response: Create a clean heart in me, O God.**

A clean heart create for me, O God,  
and a steadfast spirit renew within me.  
Cast me not out from your presence,  
and your Holy Spirit take not from me.

**Response: Create a clean heart in me, O God.**

Give me back the joy of your salvation,  
and a willing spirit sustain in me.  
I will teach transgressors your ways,  
and sinners shall return to you.

**Response: Create a clean heart in me, O God.**

For you are not pleased with sacrifices;  
should I offer a holocaust, you would not accept it.  
My sacrifice, O God, is a contrite spirit;  
a heart contrite and humbled, O God, you will not spurn.

**Response: Create a clean heart in me, O God.**

Let us pray.

O God, who constantly increase your Church  
by your call to the nations,  
graciously grant  
to those you wash clean in the waters of Baptism

the assurance of your unfailing protection.  
Through Christ our Lord.

**R. Amen.**

---

## Gloria

After the last reading from the Old Testament with its Responsorial Psalm and its prayer, the altar candles are lit, and the Priest intones the hymn *Gloria in excelsis Deo* (*Glory to God in the highest*), which is taken up by all, while bells are rung.

Glo-ry to God in the high-est,  
and on earth peace to peo-ple of good will.  
We praise you, we bless you, we a-dore you, we glo-ri-fy you,  
we give you thanks for your great glo-ry,  
Lord God, heav-en-ly King, O God, al-might-y Fa-ther.  
Lord Je-sus Christ, On-ly Be-got-ten Son,  
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Fa-ther,  
you take a-way the sins of the world, have mer-cy on us;  
you take a-way the sins of the world, re-ceive our prayer;  
you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther, have mer-cy on us.  
For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,  
you a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,  
in the glo-ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

---

## **Collect**

When the hymn is concluded, the Priest says the Collect in the usual way.

Let us pray.

O God, who make this most sacred night radiant  
with the glory of the Lord's Resurrection,  
stir up in your Church a spirit of adoption,  
so that, renewed in body and mind,  
we may render you undivided service.  
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.

**R. Amen.**

---

Then the reader proclaims the reading from the Apostle.

**Epistle** (New Testament Letter)

Rom 6:3-11

*Christ rising from the dead dies no more.*

### **A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans**

Brothers and sisters:

Are you unaware that we who were baptized into Christ Jesus  
were baptized into his death?

We were indeed buried with him through baptism into death,  
so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead  
by the glory of the Father,  
we too might live in newness of life.

For if we have grown into union with him through a death like his,  
we shall also be united with him in the resurrection.

We know that our old self was crucified with him,  
so that our sinful body might be done away with,  
that we might no longer be in slavery to sin.

For a dead person has been absolved from sin.

If, then, we have died with Christ,  
we believe that we shall also live with him.

We know that Christ, raised from the dead, dies no more;  
death no longer has power over him.

As to his death, he died to sin once and for all;  
as to his life, he lives for God.

Consequently, you too must think of yourselves as being dead to sin  
and living for God in Christ Jesus.

To indicate the end of the reading, the reader acclaims:

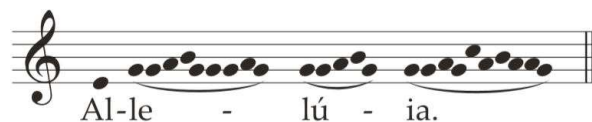
The word of the Lord.

All reply:

**Thanks be to God.**

---

After the Epistle has been read, all rise, then the Priest solemnly intones the *Alleluia* three times, raising his voice by a step each time, with all repeating it.



Psalm 118 is proclaimed, with the people responding *Alleluia*.

**Responsorial Psalm**

Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23

**Response: Alleluia.**

Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good,  
for his mercy endures forever.  
Let the house of Israel say,  
“His mercy endures forever.”

**Response: Alleluia.**

The right hand of the LORD has struck with power;  
the right hand of the LORD is exalted.  
I shall not die, but live,  
and declare the works of the LORD.

**Response: Alleluia.**

The stone the builders rejected  
has become the cornerstone.  
By the LORD has this been done;  
it is wonderful in our eyes.

**Response: Alleluia.**

The Priest:

**A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew**

Mt 28:1-10

*He has been raised from the dead and is going before you to Galilee.*

After the sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning,  
Mary Magdalene and the other Mary came to see the tomb.  
And behold, there was a great earthquake;  
for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven,  
approached, rolled back the stone, and sat upon it.  
His appearance was like lightning  
and his clothing was white as snow.  
The guards were shaken with fear of him  
and became like dead men.  
Then the angel said to the women in reply,  
“Do not be afraid!

I know that you are seeking Jesus the crucified.  
He is not here, for he has been raised just as he said.  
Come and see the place where he lay.  
Then go quickly and tell his disciples,  
‘He has been raised from the dead,  
and he is going before you to Galilee;  
there you will see him.’  
Behold, I have told you.”  
Then they went away quickly from the tomb,  
fearful yet overjoyed,  
and ran to announce this to his disciples.  
And behold, Jesus met them on their way and greeted them.  
They approached, embraced his feet, and did him homage.  
Then Jesus said to them, “Do not be afraid.  
Go tell my brothers to go to Galilee,  
and there they will see me.”

**At the end of the Gospel, the Priest acclaim:**

The Gospel of the Lord.

**All reply:**

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

**Then he kisses the book, saying quietly:**

Through the words of the Gospel  
may our sins be wiped away.

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## **Homily**

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### **FOURTH PART: LITURGY OF BAPTISM**

**If no one present is to be baptized and the font is not to be blessed, the priest introduces the faithful to the blessing of water, saying:**

Dear brothers and sisters,  
let us humbly beseech the Lord our God  
to bless this water he has created,  
which will be sprinkled upon us  
as a memorial of our Baptism.  
May he graciously renew us,  
that we may remain faithful to the Spirit  
whom we have received.

**And after a brief pause in silence, he proclaims the following prayer, with hands extended:**

Lord our God,  
in your mercy be present to your people  
who keep vigil on this most sacred night,  
and, for us who recall the wondrous work of our creation

and the still greater work of our redemption,  
graciously bless this water.  
For you created water to make the fields fruitful  
and to refresh and cleanse our bodies.  
You also made water the instrument of your mercy:  
for through water you freed your people from slavery  
and quenched their thirst in the desert;  
through water the Prophets proclaimed the new covenant  
you were to enter upon with the human race;  
and last of all,  
through water, which Christ made holy in the Jordan,  
you have renewed our corrupted nature  
in the bath of regeneration.  
Therefore, may this water be for us  
a memorial of the Baptism we have received,  
and grant that we may share  
in the gladness of our brothers and sisters,  
who at Easter have received their Baptism.  
Through Christ our Lord.

**R. Amen.**

**The Priest addresses the faithful in these or similar words:**

Dear brothers and sisters, through the Paschal Mystery  
we have been buried with Christ in Baptism,  
so that we may walk with him in newness of life.  
And so, now that our Lenten observance is concluded,  
let us renew the promises of Holy Baptism,  
by which we once renounced Satan and his works  
and promised to serve God in the holy Catholic Church.

And so I ask you:

**Priest:** Do you renounce sin, so as to live in the freedom of the children of God?

**All:** **I do.**

**Priest:** Do you renounce the lure of evil, so that sin may have no mastery over you?

**All:** **I do.**

**Priest:** Do you renounce Satan, the author and prince of sin?

**All:** **I do.**

**Then the Priest continues:**

**Priest:** Do you believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth?

**All:** **I do.**



**Priest:** Do you believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was born of the Virgin Mary, suffered death and was buried, rose again from the dead and is seated at the right hand of the Father?

**All:** **I do.**

**Priest:** Do you 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?

**All:** **I do.**

**And the Priest concludes:**

And may almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given us new birth by water and the Holy Spirit and bestowed on us forgiveness of our sins, keep us by his grace, in Christ Jesus our Lord, for eternal life.

**All:** **Amen.**

The Priest sprinkles the people with the blessed water,

After the sprinkling, the priest returns to the chair where, omitting the creed, he directs the universal prayer

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### **Intercessions/Universal Prayer/Prayer of the Faithful**

The people's response to each intercession is

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

---

### **FOURTH PART: THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST**

The Priest, standing at the altar, takes the paten with the bread and holds it slightly raised above the altar with both hands, saying:

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

the people acclaim:

**Blessed be God for ever.**

Then he places the paten with the bread on the corporal.

The Priest pours wine and a little water into the chalice, saying quietly:

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.

The Priest then takes the chalice and holds it slightly raised above the altar with both hands, saying:

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.

The people acclaim:

**Blessed be God for ever.**

Then he places the chalice on the corporal.

After this, the Priest, bowing profoundly, says quietly:

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.

Then the Priest, standing at the side of the altar, washes his hands, saying quietly:

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

Standing at the middle of the altar, facing the people, extending and then joining his hands, he says:

Pray, brothers and sisters,  
that my sacrifice and yours  
may be acceptable to God,  
the almighty Father.

The people rise and reply:

**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.**

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### **Prayer over the Offerings**

Then the Priest, with hands extended, says the Prayer over the Offerings:

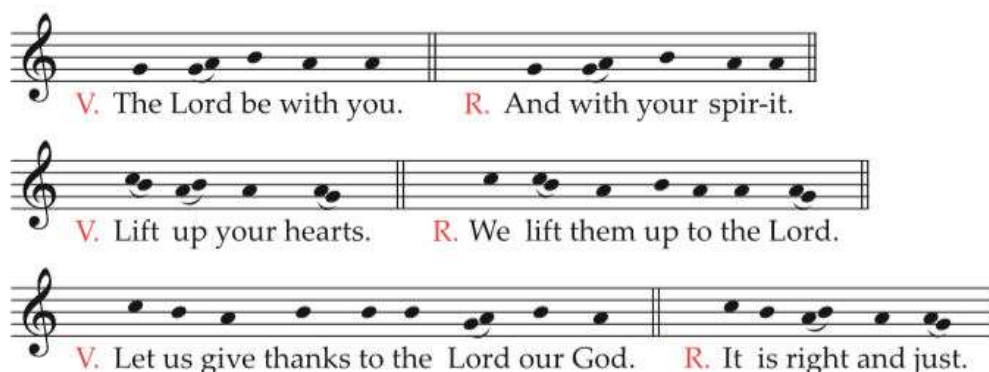
Accept, we ask, O Lord,  
the prayers of your people  
with the sacrificial offerings,  
that what has begun in the paschal mysteries  
may, by the working of your power,  
bring us to the healing of eternity.  
Through Christ our Lord.

The people acclaim:

**Amen.**

---

### The Preface



V. The Lord be with you. R. And with your spir-it.

V. Lift up your hearts. R. We lift them up to the Lord.

V. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. R. It is right and just.

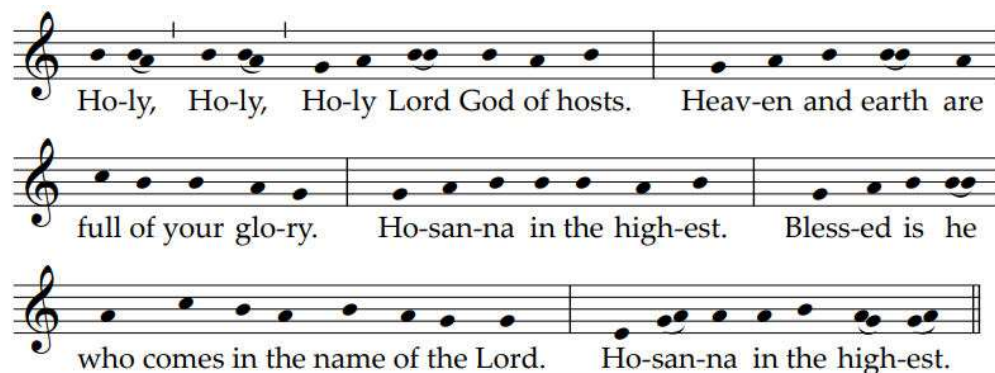
The Priest, with hands extended, continues the Preface.

It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation,  
at all times to acclaim you, O Lord,  
but on this **night** above all  
to laud you yet more gloriously,  
when Christ our Passover has been sacrificed.

For he is the true Lamb  
who has taken away the sins of the world;  
by dying he has destroyed our death,  
and by rising, restored our life.

Therefore, overcome with paschal joy,  
every land, every people exults in your praise  
and even the heavenly Powers, with the angelic hosts,  
sing together the unending hymn of your glory,  
as they acclaim:

At the end of the Preface, he joins his hands and concludes the Preface with the people, singing or saying aloud:



Ho-ly, Ho-ly, Ho-ly Lord God of hosts. Heav-en and earth are

full of your glo-ry. Ho-san-na in the high-est. Bless-ed is he

who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high-est.

---

## **Eucharistic Prayer I**

The Priest, with hands extended, says:

To you, therefore, most merciful Father,  
we make humble prayer and petition  
through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord:

He joins his hands and says:

that you accept

He makes the Sign of the Cross once over the bread and chalice together, saying:

and bless ✠ these gifts, these offerings, these holy and unblemished sacrifices,

With hands extended, he continues:

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 **Francis** our Pope  
and **Ronald** our Bishop,  
and all those who, holding to the truth,  
hand on the catholic and apostolic faith.

Remember, Lord, your servants (N. and N.)

The Priest joins his hands and prays briefly for those for whom he intends to pray. then, with hands extended, he continues:

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.

**Celebrating the most sacred night  
of the Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ in the flesh,  
and 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, Philip,  
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.

Therefore, Lord, we pray:  
graciously accept this oblation of our service,  
that of your whole family,  
**which we make to you**  
**also for those to whom you have been pleased to give**  
**the new birth of water and the Holy Spirit,**  
**granting them forgiveness of all their sins;**  
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.

**Holding his hands extended over the offerings, he says:**

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.

**He joins his hands.**

In the formulas that follow, the words of the Lord should be pronounced clearly and distinctly, as the nature of these words requires.

On the day before he was to suffer  
for our salvation and the salvation of all,  
that is today,

He takes the bread and, holding it slightly raised above the altar, continues:

he took bread in his holy and venerable hands,

He raises his eyes.

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:

He bows slightly.

**TAKE THIS, ALL OF YOU, AND EAT OF IT,  
FOR THIS IS MY BODY,  
WHICH WILL BE GIVEN UP FOR YOU.**

He shows the consecrated host to the people, places it again on the paten, and genuflects in adoration.

After this, the Priest continues:

in a similar way, when supper was ended,

He takes the chalice and, holding it slightly raised above the altar, continues:

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:

He bows slightly.

**TAKE THIS, ALL OF YOU, AND DRINK FROM IT,  
FOR THIS IS THE CHALICE OF MY BLOOD,  
THE BLOOD OF THE NEW AND ETERNAL COVENANT,  
WHICH WILL BE Poured OUT FOR YOU AND FOR MANY  
FOR THE FORGIVENESS OF SINS.**

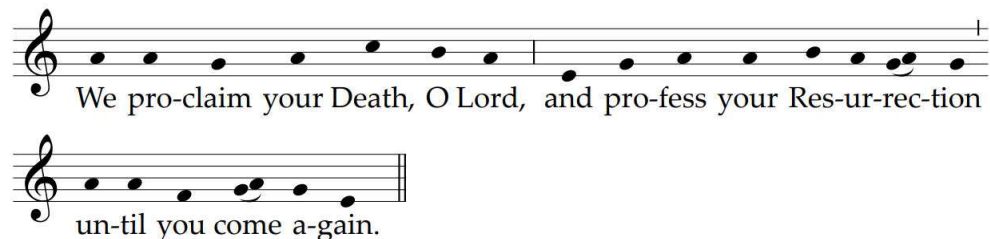
**DO THIS IN MEMORY OF ME.**

He shows the chalice to the people, places it on the corporal, and genuflects in adoration.

Then he says:

The mystery of faith.

And the people continue, acclaiming:



**Then the Priest, with hands extended, says:**

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.

**Bowing, with hands joined, he continues:**

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,

**He stands upright and signs himself with the Sign of the cross, saying:**

may be filled with every grace and heavenly blessing.

**With hands extended, the Priest says:**

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.

**He joins his hands and prays briefly for those who have died and for whom he intends to pray.**

**Then, with hands extended he continues:**

Grant them, O Lord, we pray,  
and all who sleep in Christ,  
a place of refreshment, light and peace.

**He strikes his breast with his right hand, saying:**

To us, also, your servants, who, though sinners,

**And, with hands extended he continues:**

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,

**he joins his hands.**

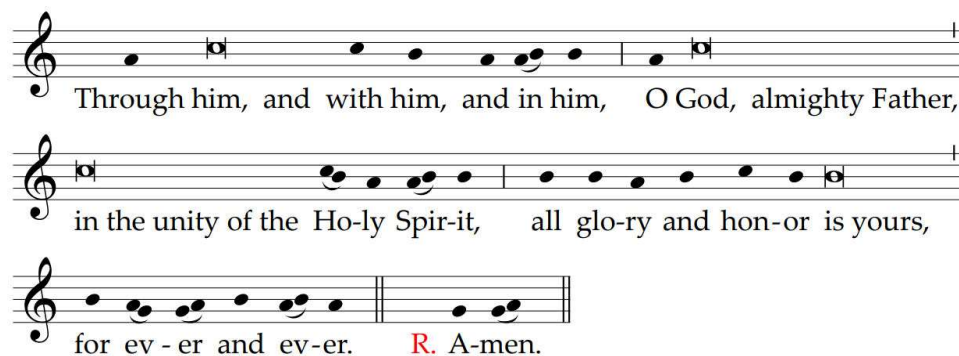
through Christ our Lord.

**And he continues:**

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.

**He takes the chalice and the paten with the host and, elevating both, he says:**





Through him, and with him, and in him, O God, almighty Father,  
in the unity of the Ho-ly Spir-it, all glo-ry and hon-or is yours,  
for ev - er and ev-er. R. A-men.

## The Communion Rites

After the chalice and paten have been set down, the Priest, with hands joined, says:

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

He extends his hands and, together with the people, continues:



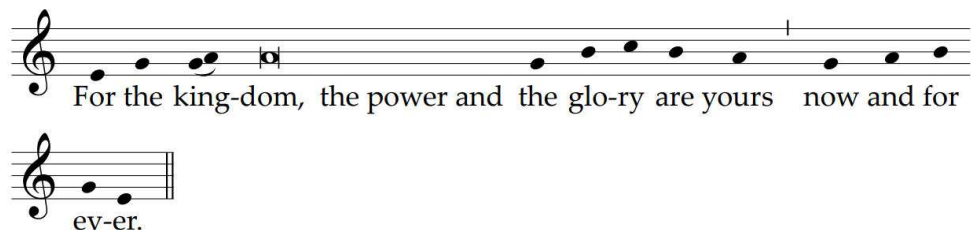
Our Fa-ther, who art in heav-en, hal-lowed be thy name; thy  
king-dom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heav-en.  
Give us this day our dai-ly bread, and for-give us our  
tres-pass-es, as we for-give those who tres-pass a-gainst us.  
And lead us not in-to temp-ta-tion, but de-liv-er us from e - vil.

With hands extended, the Priest continues, saying:

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.

He joins his hands.

The people conclude the prayer, acclaiming:



Then the Priest, with hands extended, says aloud:

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.

He joins his hands.

Who live and reign for ever and ever.

The people reply:

**Amen.**

The Priest, extending and then joining his hands, adds:

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

The people reply:

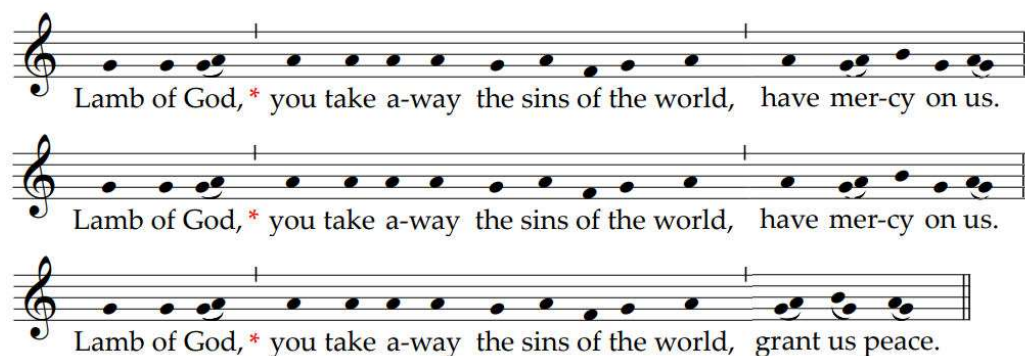
**And with your spirit.**

---

Then he takes the Host, breaks it over the paten, and places a small piece in the chalice, saying quietly:

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

Meanwhile the following is sung or said:



Then the Priest, with hands joined, says quietly:

Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the living God,  
who, by the will of the Father  
and the work 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.

The Priest genuflects, takes the host and, holding it slightly raised above the paten or above the chalice, while facing the people, says aloud:

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.

And together with the people he adds:

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

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The Priest, facing the altar, says quietly:

May the Body of Christ  
keep me safe for eternal life.

And he reverently consumes the Body of Christ.

Then he takes the chalice and says quietly:

May the Blood of Christ  
keep me safe for eternal life.

And he reverently consumes the Blood of Christ.

While the Priest is receiving the Body of Christ, the Communion Chant begins.

Communion Antiphon

1 Cor 5: 7-8

***Christ our Passover has been sacrificed;  
therefore let us keep the feast  
with the unleavened bread of purity and truth, alleluia.***

The Priest purifies the paten over the chalice and also the chalice itself.

While he carries out the purification, the Priest says quietly:

What has passed our lips as food, O Lord,  
may we possess in purity of heart,  
that what has been given to us in time  
may be our healing for eternity.

Then the Priest may return to the chair.

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## **The Prayer After Communion**

The Priest, standing at the chair, says the Prayer after Communion.

Pour out on us, O Lord, the Spirit of your love,  
and in your kindness make those you have nourished  
by this paschal Sacrament one in mind and heart.  
Through Christ our Lord.

The people acclaim:

**Amen.**

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## **The Concluding Rites**

If they are necessary, any brief announcements to the people follow here.

*In the Diocese of Harrisburg: The Prayer for the Intercession of Saint Michael:*

***Saint Michael the Archangel,  
defend us in battle.  
Be our defense against the wickedness and snares of the Devil.  
May God rebuke him, we humbly pray,  
and do thou,  
O Prince of the heavenly hosts,  
by the power of God,  
thrust into hell Satan,  
and all the evil spirits,  
who prowl about the world  
seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.***

*During this period of the closing of the churches: An Act of Spiritual Communion*

***My Jesus,  
I believe that You  
are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.  
I love You above all things,  
and I desire to receive You into my soul.  
Since I cannot at this moment  
receive You sacramentally,  
come at least spiritually into my heart.  
I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You.  
Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.***

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## Dismissal, with Solemn Blessing

The priest, facing the people and extending his hands, says:

The Lord be with you.

The people reply:

**And with your spirit.**

The priest says the invitation:

Bow down for the blessing.

Then the priest, with hands extended over the people, says the blessing:

May almighty God bless you  
through today's Easter Solemnity  
and, in his compassion,  
defend you from every assault of sin.

**R. Amen.**

And may he, who restores you to eternal life  
in the Resurrection of his Only Begotten,  
endow you with the prize of immortality.

**R. Amen.**

Now that the days of the Lord's Passion have drawn to a close,  
may you who celebrate the gladness of the Paschal Feast  
come, with Christ's help, and exulting in spirit,  
to those feasts that are celebrated in eternal joy.

**R. Amen.**

And may the blessing of almighty God,  
the Father, and the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit,  
come down on you and remain with you for ever.

**R. Amen.**

To dismiss the people, the priest sings or says:



All reply:

