

## THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

“A sacramental celebration is a meeting of God's children with their Father, in Christ and the Holy Spirit; this meeting takes the form of a dialogue, through actions and words. Admittedly, the symbolic actions are already a language, but the Word of God and the response of faith have to accompany and give life to them, so that the seed of the Kingdom can bear its fruit in good soil. The liturgical actions signify what the Word of God expresses: both his free initiative and his people's response of faith.

The *liturgy of the Word* is an integral part of sacramental celebrations. To nourish the faith of believers, the signs which accompany the Word of God should be emphasized: the book of the Word (a lectionary or a book of the Gospels), its veneration (procession, incense, candles), the place of its proclamation (lectern or ambo), its audible and intelligible reading, the minister's homily which extends its proclamation, and the responses of the assembly (acclamations, meditation psalms, litanies, and profession of faith).

The liturgical word and action are inseparable both insofar as they are signs and instruction and insofar as they accomplish what they signify. When the Holy Spirit awakens faith, he not only gives an understanding of the Word of God, but through the sacraments also makes present the ‘wonders’ of God which it proclaims. The Spirit makes present and communicates the Father's work, fulfilled by the beloved Son.” *Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC) 1153-1155*

“The *Liturgy of the Word* includes ‘the writings of the prophets,’ that is, the Old Testament, and ‘the memoirs of the apostles’ (their letters and the Gospels). After the homily, which is an exhortation to accept this Word as what it truly is, the Word of God,<sup>175</sup> and to put it into practice, come the intercessions for all men, according to the Apostle's words: ‘I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all men, for kings, and all who are in high positions.’<sup>176</sup>” CCC 1349

<sup>175</sup> Cf. 1 Thess 2:13.

<sup>176</sup> 1 Tim 2:1-2.

# What Did You Learn About The Liturgy of the Word?

for younger saints

1. Who do we remember at every Mass?
2. How many main parts of the Mass are there?
3. List three things you can do to prepare for Mass.
  - a.
  - b.
  - c.
4. What is the most important reading at the Liturgy of the Word?
  - a. the Old Testament reading
  - b. the Psalm
  - c. the Epistle
  - d. the Gospel
5. When do we become members of the Body of Christ?
  - a. at birth
  - b. at Baptism
  - c. when we get to heaven
6. Recite your memory prayer.

# What Did You Learn About The Liturgy of the Word?

for younger saints

1. Who do we remember at every Mass?

At every Mass, we remember Jesus and all He did for us.

2. How many main parts of the Mass are there?

There are two main parts of the Mass: the Liturgy of the Word and the Liturgy of the Eucharist.

3. List three things you can do to prepare for Mass.

Answers will vary but should include things such as: get clothing ready, prepare your tithe envelope, get to sleep on time, receive the sacrament of Reconciliation, pray, etc.

4. What is the most important reading at the Liturgy of the Word?

- a. the Old Testament reading
- b. the Psalm
- c. the Epistle
- d. the Gospel

5. When do we become members of the Body of Christ?

- a. at birth
- b. at Baptism
- c. when we get to heaven

6. Recite your memory prayer.

As we are giving glory to God, we are tracing a small cross on our fore head, lips, and heart and silently praying, +“Your Word, O Lord, be on my mind, on my lips, and in my heart.”

# What Did You Learn About The Liturgy of the Word?

for older saints

1. To whom do we pray at the Mass?
2. When do we become members of the Body of Christ?
  - a. at birth
  - b. at Baptism
  - c. when we get to heaven
3. What is the most important reading at the Liturgy of the Word?
  - a. the Old Testament reading
  - b. the Psalm
  - c. the Epistle
  - d. the Gospel
4. What is the most perfect prayer we can pray?
  - a. the Mass
  - b. the Our Father
  - c. the rosary
5. When was the first Mass?
  - a. when Peter became the first Pope
  - b. when God spoke to Paul
  - c. when Jesus celebrated the Last Supper
6. List at least three things you can do to prepare for Mass:
  - a.
  - b.
  - c.
7. Recite your memory prayer.

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for older saints

1. To whom do we pray at the Mass?

God the Father

2. When do we become members of the Body of Christ?

a. at birth

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