

# The Order of Mass

Since servers are very important ministers of the celebration, you need to be familiar with the order of mass.

## Introductory Rites

- **Procession** - Usually done from the back of the church down the center aisle.
- **Greeting** - Welcoming God's people.
- **Blessing and Sprinkling Holy Water** - Replaces Penitential Rite during Easter Season.
- **Penitential Rite** - We say the *Confiteor* or *Lord Have Mercy*.
- **Gloria** - This hymn is sung or said on all Sundays outside of Lent and Advent.
- **Opening Prayer** - after the prayer is said, the Liturgy of the Word begins.

## Liturgy of the Word

- **First Reading** - Read by the lector, usually from the Old Testament.
- **Responsorial Psalm** - Led by the cantor (song leader).
- **Second Reading** - Read by a lector, usually from the New Testament.
- **Gospel Acclamation** - Sung.
- **Gospel** - Taken from one of the Gospels, it is read by the priest or deacon.
- **Homily** - A continuation of God's saving message, and is given by the priest or deacon.
- **Profession of Faith** - The Creed
- **General Intercessions** - We also call these the *Prayer of the Faithful*.

## Liturgy of the Eucharist

- **Preparation of the Gifts** - Altar is made ready for the offertory.
- **Eucharistic Prayer** - The parts of the Eucharistic prayer are: the Holy, Holy; the Institution; the Memorial Acclamation; the Great Amen.
- **Communion Rite** - This begins with the *Our Father* and ends with the Prayer after Communion.

## Concluding Rite

- **Brief Announcements** - For the congregation
- **Greeting and Blessing** - The priest gives the final blessing, then the priest or deacon dismisses the congregation
- **Recessional** - The ministers leave in procession, departing the sanctuary area in the order in which they entered.