

# **ITS TIME TO CELEBRATE!**

**Do You ATTEND Mass OR do You CELEBRATE Mass? Our Mass begins in Song as the Celebrant processes behind the Victory Cross: our Trophy won by Christ's victory over sin and death! Are you singing or at least reading the words of our song? Then, we all begin the celebration with the Sign of the Cross, the sign of our God's great love for us.**

**Then, we look within and humbly express our sorrow for our sins, which cost our Lord so great a sacrifice on the Cross for us. We trust that our merciful God will forgive all our sins and bring us to everlasting life. We celebrate our merciful God in song again: "Glory to God in the Highest!" "You take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us."**

## **THE LITURGY OF THE WORD OF GOD**

**Are you ready? God is about to speak to me and to you! His Sacred Word is proclaimed from the Old and New Testaments, as we listen and listen deeper for a Word meant for me and you. We cross ourselves again over our mind, our lips, and our heart when the Holy Gospel is proclaimed. Yes, Jesus Himself is speaking to us in the Holy Gospel. Focus on what He is saying to you.**

**The Celebrant valiantly tries to apply the Scriptures we have just heard to our lives. He may help, but it is up to me and you to adapt what we have heard to our lives as Jesus disciples.**

**Together, we profess what we believe in our CREED from 325AD: we believe in God the the Creator of All, in Jesus our Savior, and in the Holy Spirit, present with us always. We also celebrate and pledge our allegiance to the One, Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic Church as we await our resurrection from the dead and the life of the world to come. We proudly profess it together in Jesus Christ our Lord.**

## **THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST**

**Next, we prepare to pray the world's greatest prayer, our EUCHARISTIC PRAYER in Thanksgiving for Jesus' Sacrifice to God the Father, to save the world from sin and death.**

**First we place gifts of bread and wine on the Altar, along with the gift of ourselves, our talents and treasure.**

**Then, the Celebrant begins: “Lift up your hearts! Let us give thanks to the Lord our God!” The world’s greatest prayer has begun. We join the Angels and Saints in praising our God by singing the 6<sup>th</sup> Century prayer: “Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of Hosts! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!”**

**All kneel for the consecration of the bread and wine. With the celebrant, we call down the Holy Spirit, that by His power, the gifts of bread and wine might become the Body and Blood of Christ, that all who receive Him might be saved. Why do we do this? Because, Jesus, Himself, told us to do this! We respond in this most sacred moment: “When we eat this Bread of Life and drink this Cup of Salvation, we proclaim your Death and Resurrection Lord, until You come again.”**

**The celebrant unites this great offering with the whole Church, all the Saints, and all those who have gone before us in faith. Then, we offer ourselves with Jesus to the Father in one final prayer with the Celebrant: “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! And we all sing a great and thunderous - AMEN!**

### **OUR HOLY COMMUNION WITH OUR LORD**

**Not to be out done, the Father offers His Son to us in a Holy Communion. We prepare for this Great Gift of His Life by praying the prayer Jesus taught us: Our Father, may Your Kingdom come; May Your Will be Done; Give us this day the Bread from Heaven, as we wait in joyful hope for Your Kingdom of Love!**

**We offer each other the Peace of Christ, which Jesus offered the Apostles after His Resurrection, that we all might be one in Him.**

**We then approach the altar to receive the Living God, our Lord and Savior. This Holy Communion with Jesus is the closest we will get in this life to our Risen Lord. The Lord wants to live on in us! Lord, help us reach the day when we can say with St Paul: “The life I live is not my own, but Christ is living in me.”**

**Finally, having received Jesus, we are charged by the Celebrant to love as Jesus loved, to bring His Mercy and His Peace, His healing and His Hope to our world: “Go in Peace, glorifying the Lord by your life.”**