

Further Information for Mass Preparation

Item	Who is Responsible?	Notes
INTRODUCTORY RITES: <i>We are reminded that we are one family, united in Christ</i>		
Opening Hymn and Gathering Procession	All the Assembly	Choose a hymn which fosters unity. Begin the singing before the ministers enter in procession. <i>If you are presenting something special during this Mass – eg badges to school captains, then they are brought forward during the gathering procession rather than the Offertory procession</i>
Penitential Rite		A time when the community is invited to participate in the penitential act – a time to acknowledge the wrong we have done
Kyrie Eleison (Lord have mercy)		A chant by which the faithful acclaim the Lord and implore his mercy – usually carried out by all present
Gloria	All the Assembly	Do not usually have during the week – but may be used if a special feast day. Ask your celebrant.
Collect/Opening Prayer	Priest/Presiding Celebrant	The Priest calls upon the Assembly to pray...The Priest pronounces the <i>Collect</i> through which the character of the celebration finds expression.
LITURGY OF THE WORD: <i>The main part of the Liturgy of the Word is made up of readings from Sacred Scripture together with the chants occurring between them (GIRM #55)</i>		
1st reading	Minster of Reading/Proclamation	Readings should be proclaimed from the Ambo (Table of the Word). They should not be replaced with other non-biblical texts (GIRM #57) Old Testament – links to the Gospel reading After the reading – acclamation is pronounced: <i>The Word of the Lord and responded to by Assembly Thanks be to God and then a short time of SILENCE for all to reflect upon the Word.</i>
Responsorial Psalm	Cantor/Psalmist	Psalm sung in response to the Old Testament Reading. “It is preferable that the Responsorial Psalm be sung” (GIRM # 61)
2nd reading	Minster of Reading/Proclamation	New Testament – usually Epistles or Letters After the reading – acclamation is pronounced <i>The Gospel of the Lord and responded to by Assembly Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ and then a short time of SILENCE for all to reflect upon the Word</i> <i>For school Masses – you may decide to have only one reading plus the Gospel.</i>

Gospel Acclamation	All the Assembly	This SHOULD be sung – as it constitutes a rite, or act, in itself – as those gathered welcome and greet the Lord who is to speak to all through the Gospel. All stand for the Acclamation. The Alleluia is sung in every season of the Liturgical year EXCEPT during Lent, when the verse before the Gospel is sung. (GIRM # 62-63)
Gospel	Priest/Presiding Celebrant	When choosing your Scriptural reading – look at the reading/s for the Day (see Ordo). If they really are not appropriate for the event that you are celebrating, speak to your celebrant and he may be happy for you to choose a different relevant scriptural reading. After the reading – acclamation is pronounced and responded to by Assembly and then a short time of SILENCE for all to reflect upon the Word.
Homily	Priest/Presiding Celebrant	The Homily is part of the Liturgy of the Word and is necessary for nurturing Christian life and “should take into account both the mystery being celebrated and the particular needs of the listeners”.(GIRM #65)
Prayer of the Faithful	Priest and Minister of Word	The <i>Prayer of the Faithful</i> is a response from the people to the Word of God and are those prayers that we pray for the needs of the Church, the world and the local community. There is a formula for preparing these prayers. (GIRM #69 – 71)
LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST: <i>The Eucharist evolved from the Last Supper. At the Last Supper Jesus took the bread, blessed it, broke it and gave it to his disciples. In the Liturgy of the Eucharist this four-fold action is carried out: Taking – during the procession of the gifts bread and wine. Blessing – during the Eucharistic Prayer. Breaking – during the breaking of the bread. Giving – in sharing in Holy communion</i>		
Offertory Hymn	All Assembly	It is also appropriate to use quiet instrumental music at this part of the Mass
Procession	Members of Assembly	Bring forward those gifts that will be staying with the Church community: Bread and Wine for the Eucharist and if it is a time you have collected gifts for the poor – then they can be brought forward at this time.
Eucharistic Prayer	Priest/Presiding Celebrant	
Holy Holy Holy(Sanctus)	All Assembly	Acclamation by which whole congregation SINGS the Holy Holy Holy (Sanctus).
Memorial Acclamation	All Assembly	Should be sung : as it celebrates the memorial of Christ – recalling his blessed Passion, Glorious Resurrection and Ascension into Heaven
Doxology / Amen	Priest and All Assembly	Should be sung as the assembly affirms the glorification of God
Our Father	All Assembly	Said aloud by all present
Sign of Peace	All Assembly	Church entreats peace and unity for all. The sign of peace (usually a handshake) is offered in a “sober” manner only to those nearest!!!!

Lamb of God (Agnus Dei)	All Assembly	During the Fraction Rite the Priest breaks the bread and the assembly, often lead by a cantor, SINGS the supplication <i>Lamb of God...</i>
Communion	<i>Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion</i> may be needed to assist the Priest with distribution of Holy Communion	The Ordinary Ministers of the Body and Blood of Christ are the Bishop and the Priest. However, the local Bishop can give permission for non-ordained members of the community to be <i>Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion</i> in the Mass and to the sick.
Communion Hymn	All Assembly	Choose hymns appropriate to the action of the Mass – they should express our joy and unity. If a second hymn is needed – then this can be one which the younger children will know well and join in the singing

CONCLUDING RITES:

The priest's greeting and blessing is important. By raising his hand and making the Sign of the Cross, he calls down God's help and protection upon the people. We are called to go into the world to do good works, to thank God for what we have received and to be faithful witnesses to the Gospel.

Blessing and Dismissal	Priest	Sometimes may be opportunity for special blessing – graduates, school leaders etc. Can be a sung blessing. Dismissal is important as this is time we are called to go out and share the Gospel of Jesus in the wider world
Closing Hymn	All Assembly	Again choose a hymn which is appropriate to the action of sending everyone forward to live the Gospel. Start immediately after the dismissal and end when the ministers have left the church

FURTHER INFORMATION:

When **choosing music**, we need to ask the questions: *“Does this particular piece of music possess the universal beauty that invites the involvement of the entire assembly in this particular prayer?” Does it enhance the action of the Mass at this time?*

Directory for Masses with Children:

According to the Directory for Masses with Children *“The Church must show special concern for baptised children who have yet to be fully initiated through the sacraments of confirmation and Eucharist as well as for children who have only recently been admitted to holy communion”*. Every Primary school should have a copy of the Directory for Masses with children to assist with preparation of Masses for children up to the age of ten.

Eucharistic Prayers for Masses with Children:

There are three *Eucharistic Prayers for Masses with Children*. All these prayers are restricted to Masses which are celebrated with children only, or where the majority of participants are children. Although these prayers for children feature language appropriate for children, they have the same elements and structure as Eucharistic Prayers I to IV and the wording of the introductory dialogue, the institution narrative and the closing doxology is identical to that of the adult prayers. Two of the children's Eucharistic Prayers include responses that are repeated during the prayer to **enhance participation**. Music has been included in the text of the *Eucharistic Prayers for Masses with Children*. Where the text is taken directly from the Missal the same chant is used; for other texts — e.g. the additional acclamations — the music is based on the Missal chants. As with the Missal, the chants are intended both to provide a simple basic setting which can be used whatever resources are available and to highlight the **importance of singing in the liturgy**.