

LITURGY OF THE WORD

THE GREATEST BIBLE STUDY ON EARTH

What is the Liturgy of the Word?



- First main part of the Mass in which readings from Scripture are read and proclaimed
- Hebrews 4:12

Why is the Liturgy of the Word important?

- Liturgy of the Word is organically and essentially linked to the Liturgy of the Eucharist. (The Scripture is broken open for us to prepares us to receive Jesus in the Eucharist.)
- We encounter Jesus in the Scriptures. The proclamation of Scripture is a manifestation of Jesus (know Jesus to receive Him meaningfully).
- Word of God spoken personally to us, as we **listen** with the ears of faith. God enters into a dialogue/conversation with the faithful (understanding & intentional)
- Opens our hearts to the living Word as we find nourishment for our lives as we do not live by bread alone.

Elements of the Liturgy of the Word

- First Reading
- Responsorial Psalm
- Second Reading
 - Gospel
 - Homily
- Profession of Faith
- Prayer of the Faithful

Reflection Questions

- 1. How do I prepare for listening to God's Holy Word at Mass? Do I quiet myself before Mass and clear my mind of distractions?
- 2. Do I keep the proclaimed Word of God in my mind and heart as I listen to the homily, profess the Creed and join in the Prayer of the Faithful?
- 3. Do I go beyond the Liturgy itself and engage fully in the task of making Christ known to the world by all that I do and say?

First Reading

- Taken from the Old Testament except during Easter (Acts of the Apostles)
- Text chosen for their connection with the Gospel reading

Responsorial Psalm

- Normally sung: the cantor leads the faithful praying to God
- We praise and thank God as a lector and the people recite lines from the Scripture

Second Reading

- Taken from the New Testament; used for Sundays and solemnities.
- No direct connection with the First Reading or the Gospel; gives life lessons

Gospel

- Taken from the New Testament
- Life of Jesus Christ: true God and true Man (epicenter of the Liturgy of the Word)

Homily

- The word homily in Greek means “explanation”
- Gives the faithful a better understanding on the proclaimed Word.

Profession of Faith

- Reciting the Apostle’s Creed/Nicene Creed which is the summary of the central dogmas of our Faith and is the heart of what we believe and profess.

Prayer of the Faithful

Concluding part of the Liturgy of the Word where we present our petitions to God

Introductory Rite

COME

The Entrance

Greeting of the Altar

The Act of Penitence

The Kyrie Eleison

The Gloria

The Collect

Liturgy of the Word

LISTEN

The First Reading

The Responsorial Psalm

The Second Reading

Gospel Acclamation

Gospel

The Homily

The Profession of Faith

The Prayer of the Faithful

Liturgy of the Eucharist

DO

The Preparation of the Gifts

The Prayer over the Offerings

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Communion Rite

The Lord's Prayer

The Rite of Peace

The Fraction

Communion

Concluding Rite

GO

The Concluding Rites

THE ORDER OF THE MASS

