
Lesson 2: The Parts of the Mass

OVERVIEW: In the last lesson we discussed our own family traditions. In this lesson, we will continue talking about traditions by looking at the traditions of the Church, especially how we celebrate together at Mass.

IN THIS LESSON WE WILL:

- Be able to identify each part of the Mass
- Learn the proper Order of Mass
- Be introduced to various prayers from the Mass

VOCABULARY VIDEO: Start lesson by watching the vocabulary videos with your child. The videos for this lesson are on the website under the Video Library > Glossary of Terms. The vocabulary terms for this lesson are:

- Glory
- Praise
- Honor
- Bless
- Begotten
- Consubstantial
- Lamb of God
- Alleluia
- Amen

PARENT/CHILD DISCUSSION: Take a few minutes to talk with your child about what they remember from going to Church. Ask them to walk you through what happens. Let them know not to worry if they forget pieces because next we are going to watch a video to help us remember.

UNDERSTANDING THE PARTS OF THE MASS

A major part of preparing for Eucharist is being able to fully participate in the Mass. On the website in the Video Library > Lesson Videos > Lesson Two there are five videos that will help you understand the part of Mass. Watch each of the following videos. After each one, take a moment

with your child to talk about if this looks familiar to them, when they have seen this at their parish, and to talk about if your local parish does anything different.

- Opening Prayers
- Penitential Rite
- Gospel – After watching the Gospel Reading, take an extra minute to two to talk with your child about this Gospel story.
- The Creed
- Final Blessing

There are two additional prayers that are frequently prayed by Catholics, generally outside of Mass. While they may not technically be “a part of the Mass” they are so common they shouldn’t be skipped. Take a few moments to watch these videos, pray the prayers together, and discuss when or if you have seen these prayers before.

- The Glory Be
- The Hail Mary

“PARTS OF THE MASS” ACTIVITY:

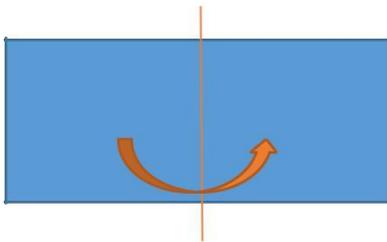
This activity aims to help identify the parts and order of the Mass. For this activity, you should have two copies of the Parts of the Mass page and a piece of poster board (the half size – 14” x 22” tends to work better than a full size piece).

Keep one copy for your reference to help make sure the final answer is right. Take the second copy and cut it up so that each part of the Mass is a separate piece. Mix the pieces up and let your child try to put them in the right order. Help them fix any pieces out of order, and talk about each part of the Mass to make sure it makes sense. The parts of the Mass coloring page simplified the Mass to broader categories that younger children can understand and have combined some parts that are similar.

1. Entrance Rite
2. Readings – First, Psalm, Second, Gospel and Homily have all been combined
3. The Creed
4. Presentation of the Offering I – Presentation of the Gifts
5. Presentation of the Offering II - Prayer over the Gifts

6. Washing of the Hands
7. The Preface
8. The Consecration of the Bread
9. The Consecration of the Wine
10. The Great Amen
11. The Lord's Prayer
12. Communion
13. Concluding Rite

Once the parts are in the right order, you and your child will make a "Mass Book". Take the poster board and fold it in half so it makes an oversized book



Start with poster board in "landscape" position
Fold as indicated by the dotted line and arrow

1. On the front of the book have your child write "My Mass Book" and allow them to color it to make it their own.
2. On the inside right page, glue the colored parts of the Mass piece in order.

Throughout the rest of their preparation, invite them to take their Book to Mass. As the Mass progresses, help them to identify each part in their book.

UNDERSTANDING EUCHARIST

Knowing the parts of the Mass are key, and knowing what is happening helps us more fully participate. Yet, many people who have been going to Mass their whole lives still struggle with expressing the meaning of one key part of the Mass – Eucharist.

Take time with your child to watch the "Understanding the Eucharist" video found at Video Library > Lesson Videos > Lesson Two. Re-watch it if need be. Then talk with your child about the following questions:

1. What does Eucharist mean?
2. What do we mean when we say that Jesus is with us in the Eucharist?