

2025-26 Faith Formation

Dear Parents and Guardians,

First, let me start off by saying thank you for your dedication of passing on the Catholic faith to your child through Holy Family Elementary, TMP-Marian, or the Faith Formation Program. As primary teacher, you are the foundation for your child's Catholic faith journey. We know that our religious education program at Holy Family Elementary, TMP-Marian, or Faith Formation can never substitute for your work in forming the faith of your children at home, but we are still dedicated to supporting and helping you in the religious education of our youth.

It is important that you attend Mass and celebrate the sacraments regularly as a family. Weekend Mass times are as follows:

Saturday-4pm

Sunday-8am, 10am, 12:00pm-(Spanish), and 6pm

Confessions are available Thursdays-5pm, Fridays-12pm, Saturdays-3pm and Sundays-5pm.

More information about Mass attendance can be found in the Expectations section of the Handbook.

Secondly, I want to keep in communication with you throughout the year, so if you are new to Holy Family Elementary, TMP-Marian, or Faith Formation, we use Flocknote to communicate with our parishioners on various events. If you are not receiving messages through Flocknote, please contact me to make sure the information is correct. There is no need to sign up for an account or download an app; I will set you up for this messaging system. I will send information via text or email. In addition, I will be updating our website, especially for First Eucharist and Confirmation, to provide you with more information that I may need throughout the year. Please visit our website at www.ihm-church.com, look under the Sacraments/Holy Communion tab.

Thirdly, it is important that your child goes to school or to attend every Faith Formation session on time because our teachers have prepared valuable lessons about our faith to teach your child. Frequent absences or tardiness will make it difficult for your child to master the material designated for your child's grade level. If your child will be absent from Faith Formation, please call me, Jaclyn Brown, at 785.625.7339.

Finally, First Eucharist is the Source and Summit of our Catholic Faith. Without the Eucharist, we have no other sacraments, and without vocations to the priesthood, we have no Eucharist. If we don't believe in the True Presence of the Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity of our Lord Jesus Christ, there is no need for the Catholic Faith, because then it is just a piece of bread and a cup of wine, no different than having bread and wine at home. The evil one knows we have something special that he can't have. This concrete precept of the Catholic Church is what differentiates us from any other faith!

On behalf of the parish staff, I welcome you to the new year! Enclosed you will find a schedule and additional information specific to your child's grade.

Sincerely,

Jaclyn Brown

Jaclyn Brown

Director of Religious Education (DRE)

The following requirements apply to both Faith Formation and Holy Family Elementary Students for the completion of your sacramental preparation.

Faith Formation Students

1. Attendance:

Attendance is very important for your child to be fully prepared to receive this sacrament. Your child should attend every Faith Formation session and arrive on time. Your child is not to leave early or arrive late. **Please let any extracurricular activities know that your child is not allowed to miss Faith Formation.** *When it comes to deciding which Wednesday night activity is more important, I pose the question of which activity is going to ultimately help your child's eternal salvation.*

If your child **misses more than three** classes, they will need to meet with the Pastor and/or or the Director of Religious Education to discuss the continuation of preparing for the sacrament. No absences will be excused.

- Classes are (6:30 PM— 7:30PM) Wednesday Evenings.
- Missed classes will need to be made up by completing the missed lesson on Word of Life by the next class. Your catechist will inform you of what lesson to make up.

Holy Family Elementary Students-PLEASE NOTE!

We understand your First Eucharist Formation is completed in a Catholic School setting. Your class attendance is tracked at school, **but the attendance of Mass, retreats, and other programs is tracked by Jaclyn Brown, DRE, at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church.**

Faith Formation is an ongoing for the rest of your child's life, therefore your child should be returning to Faith Formation or Catholic School every year from K-8th grade and continuing 9th-12th grade with CYO. If you choose to skip years and only return for the sacrament years, your child will not be placed in the sacrament classes. They will need to complete any grades they skipped before moving onto receiving sacraments.

2. Sunday Mass:

As Catholics, we are obligated to attend Mass every Sunday [weekend] and Holy Days of Obligation. Those who fail in this obligation commit a grave sin (*Catechism of the Catholic Church, 2181*). If your child **misses more than two Masses**, they will need to meet with the Pastor and/or or the Director of Religious Education to discuss the continuation of preparing for the sacrament.

It is important that you attend Mass and celebrate the sacraments regularly as a family.

At IHM, Mass attendance will be taken for every student in Sacrament preparations (Grades 2 and 8) beginning the weekend of September 13-14. There are several ways we take attendance. Weekend Mass Attendance cards ([Grade 2-blue](#) and [Grade 8-Purple](#)) will be in the kitchenette next to the gathering space. Please have your student print their name on the card, circle IHM, and place in the collection basket when passed to you. Mass attendance cards are available at St. Joseph, St. Nicolas of Myra, and the Comeau Catholic Campus Center.

Our Catholic Church is worldwide! Wherever you go, there is always a Catholic Church nearby. We would like to share with others the great and varied experiences of Mass that our families have, even outside of our parish. Another way we can track attendance is if you attend Mass in another parish/town, take a selfie at the church, being sure to capture in the background either the outside architecture, the inside with the sanctuary or some sort of window, statue, or art, or *even a picture with the priest!* Then, if you are willing to give us permission, we will periodically share in a Flocknote newsletter the various places our parishioners have travelled to and the interesting places they have attended Mass. For those in Sacramental preparation classes, these pictures will also count as proof of your weekly Mass attendance.

A third way to track attendance is for you to also grab a signed bulletin if you are not one for taking selfies.

To assist you in finding a Catholic church wherever you travel, visit masstimes.org. You can email your Mass selfies at jbrown@ihm-church.com.

Weekend Mass times at IHM are as follows:

Saturday-4pm

Sunday-8am, 10am, 12:00pm-(Spanish), and 6pm

Holy Days of Obligation are as follows:

November 1-All Saint's Day (Since this Holy Day falls on a Saturday, the obligation is abrogated.)

December 8-Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary (as this day is the Patronal Feast of the United States of America, this day is always a Holy Day of Obligation. **If December 8 naturally falls on a Saturday or a Monday, it would still be required to attend Mass for both the Immaculate Conception and the Sunday obligation, which means attending Mass two days in a row.** If the Immaculate Conception falls on a Sunday, the obligation to attend Mass is transferred to Monday.)

December 25-Christmas

January 1-Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

Please check the bulletin for Holy Days of Obligation Mass times!

If you miss Mass for reasons other than illness or taking care of one who is ill, it is important that you go to the Sacrament of Reconciliation, for those who have already made their First Reconciliation. If you need to miss Mass due to illness or taking care of someone who is ill please contact me by email, jbrown@ihm-church.com, or leave a voice message on Sunday, at 785.625.7643, ext 108. If you miss 3 Masses, you and your child will need to meet with the Pastor and/or the Director of Religious Education to discuss the continuation of preparing for the sacrament.

Confessions are available Thursdays-5pm, Fridays-12pm, Saturdays-3pm and Sundays-5pm.

3. Two retreats for the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist:

There will be **two mandatory retreats** given to further prepare your child for the Sacraments of Reconciliation and First Eucharist. The Forgiven Retreat is a pre-requisite in order for your child to attend the Bread of Life Retreat.

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

"Forgiven" First Reconciliation Retreat:

- **Mandatory Saturday Retreat-This retreat will be January 10, 2026, 8am – 1pm.**
 - This retreat is a pre-requisite in order for your child to attend the Bread of Life retreat and to receive the Sacrament of the Eucharist. At this retreat, your child will make their First Reconciliation. **Children must be accompanied by at least one parent.** No siblings in attendance please. There will be group and individual activities to build fellowship and help you to truly enter into this sacrament with your child. This is a great chance for you to spend some time showing your child what it means to you to share your faith. Additional information will be given at a later date.
 - If you miss this retreat, it will need to be made up at the discretion of the Pastor and the Director of Education.

Sacrament of the Eucharist:

"Bread of Life" First Eucharist Retreat:

- **Mandatory Saturday Retreat-This retreat will be March 7, 2026, 8am – 1pm.**
 - This retreat can only be attended after you attend the Forgiven Retreat and is a pre-requisite to your child making their First Communion. The Eucharist is the Source and Summit of our Catholic Faith. At this retreat, we will understand why the Eucharist is important to our faith. There will be group activities for your child to learn and to teach you what they know about the Bread of Life. **Children must be accompanied by at least one parent.** No siblings in attendance please. Additional information will be given at a later date.

- If you miss this retreat, it will need to be made up at the discretion of the Pastor and the Director of Education.

4. Stewardship Service Opportunities

Our parish embraces the stewardship model to promote active, engaged, and informed Catholics. It is our way of life. As you grow into young adults, there will be times in your life where it is necessary to give back to your community, church, and workplace. We promote stewardship from the time you become a member of the Catholic faith (at baptism). Now that you are entering into a time in your life where you are taking on more responsibilities, service to your church, community, and home is very important. You have chores at home because it is a way of life. Service to God is a way of life. There are many ways to get involved and serve in our parish, community, and at home.

A stewardship way of life involves the following:

- Becoming more and more aware that everything is a *gift* and *blessing*—that all that we are and have is a gift from God. This means *accepting the biblical truth that we own nothing*. Scripture reminds us that we come into the world with nothing, and we leave the world with nothing (Job 1).
- A stewardship way of life involves recognizing *God* as the sole creator and owner of all that we are and have and accepting the fact that we are merely the stewards or managers of God’s gifts and blessings. Our job or mission is to manage and use wisely and responsibly all that God has placed in our care.
- As we grow into a stewardship way of life, we gradually develop a lifestyle marked by *generosity*. A life of generosity is a clear sign that we do in fact believe and accept the biblical truth that God owns it all. Conversely, when we hoard our gifts and talents, we assign ownership of our good fortune to ourselves and not to God, doing with them as we please.
- As we seek to develop a stewardship way of life, we are aware that one day we will have to account for our stewardship here on earth. How well did we use God’s gifts to bless the lives of others?

In their *Pastoral Letter on Stewardship*, the U.S. bishops affirm: *“The Christian steward is one who receives God’s gifts gratefully, cherishes and tends them in a responsible and accountable manner, shares them in justice and love with others, and returns them with increase to the Lord.”*

If your child does not meet all of these expectations, your child may not be properly prepared to receive the Sacraments. If this occurs, the Sacrament may be delayed.

Sacrament of First Eucharist

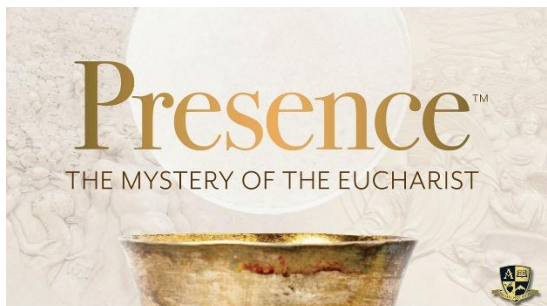
Please refer to the calendar for dates of when practice is. One parent/guardian must attend practice with their child.

- We will have practice of the sacrament prior to the day. Practice is as follows:
 - Celebration of First Eucharist:
 - **May 3, 2026, 2:30PM IHM Church**
 - Practice at 10AM, IHM Church, May 2, 2026
- On the day of receiving the sacrament, I ask that you and your child arrive **30 min prior to the start of Mass.**
- Candles will *not* be part of the First Eucharist celebration. This ritual has its place during Baptism.
- **Dress Code:** Modesty is a virtue to be encouraged. Clothing for the celebration of First Eucharist is as follows:
 1. Boys- Dress Pants and Shirt (white or pastel) and Tie. NO JEANS!!
(Optional: Suit, Sweater, Suspenders, and Vest)
 2. Girls- Modest dress (can be long or short, pastel or white), white veil or hat. Gloves cannot be worn during Mass.

Parent Responsibilities for Sacramental Preparation

IHM Parish calls upon parents to suitably help prepare their children for reception of the sacraments. The home is where the faith is developed and lived out. Each parent models to their child what the life of faith looks like. The following will help you to properly assist your child in this time of sacramental preparation.

- Attend Sunday Mass and Holy Days of Obligation with your children.
- Go to Reconciliation on a regular basis. Parents model this by their personal participation in the sacrament. We recommend that once your child has made their First Reconciliation, that your family go back and receive this grace and forgiveness at least once a month.
- Provide proof of Baptism to the parish.
- Attend parent sessions.
- You and your child attend the sacramental retreats.
- Do home lessons and tasks with your child to foster love and understanding for the Faith.
- Make sure your child attends the religious education sessions offered by the parish or Catholic school and does any assigned homework.
- At home, work on memorizing prayers. Explain the meaning of the prayers to your child. Practice with your child on how to go to confession.
- Have family prayer time together daily.
- Have a Bible and a *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, as well as religious articles such as a crucifix, holy water, and sacred images in the home.
- Watch episodes 1-3 of *Forgiven* and *Presence* on FORMED as a refresher of these sacraments. FORMED is free to IHM Parishioners and has a plethora of resources on all things Catholic. It's basically a Catholic version of Netflix.



A Walk Through the Mass

We come together as a family to worship God in praise and thanksgiving in the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. The Mass is the celebration of the Eucharist that Jesus instituted at the Last Supper, when He commanded His apostles, "Do this in memory of me." (Lk 22:19) The Mass begins with a brief introduction. After this, we then listen to, reflect on and allow the Word of God to transform us. The culmination of the Mass is the sacrifice of the Cross made present to us in the Eucharist. Finally, we share in these fruits and take them out into the world.

The Introductory Rites

Sign of the Cross

We begin the Mass with the Sign of the Cross. We sign ourselves in the form of the cross invoking the Holy Trinity, Father, Son and the Holy Spirit, to be with us and to bless us. There is also an introductory greeting in which the priest greets the people and the people respond by saying, "And with your Spirit." This response acknowledges the Holy Spirit's work through the priest during the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass.

The Penitential Rite

We prepare for an intimate meeting with God by acknowledging and asking for forgiveness for the times we have offended Him. There are several options to this prayer in the Mass. Sometimes we pray the prayer which begins "I confess". At other times the priest leads us in a shorter formal way of responding as we say, "Lord have mercy" / "Christ have mercy."

Glory to God

The words from the "Glory to God" come from the song of the angels when they announced the Good News of the birth of Jesus Christ to the shepherds in the field, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among men with whom he is pleased." (Lk 2:14) Have you ever noticed that we do not sing the "Glory to God" during Advent or Lent? This is because the "Glory to God" gives us a sense of the present mystery of the Incarnation and Resurrection each Sunday Mass. During Advent we are in a time of anticipation of Christ to come again and during Lent it is a time of penance.

The Collect

After the "Glory to God" the priest invites us to pray. He "collects" our prayers and prays that all our intentions are joined and offered to the Father in the Mass. This concludes the Introductory Rites.

The Liturgy of the Word

Prior to the people being nourished by the Body of the Lord in the Eucharist they are nourished from the Word of God proclaimed in the Holy Scriptures. During a Sunday Mass we hear two readings, a Psalm, and a reading from one of the Gospels.

Readings

Most Sunday's of the year the first reading is from the Old Testament. The exception is after Easter when we read from the Acts of the Apostles. In the Old Testament we hear the story of Israel and how God prepares His people to receive His Son, Jesus Christ.

Knowing the stories of the Old Testament helps us to see the unity of the Bible and gives us a clearer understanding of the New Testament.

After we hear the First Reading we respond not by our own words but by the beautiful words which King David sung to God in praise and thanksgiving from the book of Psalms.

The Second Reading comes from the New Testament. This reading reflects on the saving work of Jesus Christ and the meaning it has for our life.

Gospel

The Gospel has a special place because we hear the actual words of Jesus Christ. This is why special reference is made before we hear the words of Christ; we stand, the ambo is revered and we sing “Alleluia”, which is a Hebrew expression of joy. The priest or the deacon addresses the people in a dialogue: “Lord be with you,” to which we respond “And with your Spirit.” The Gospel reading is announced and we trace the sign of the cross on our forehead, lips, and heart as the priest (or deacon) does the same.

By this ritual we consecrate our thoughts, words and actions to the Lord asking that His Word be always on our minds, on our lips and in our hearts.

Homily

After the proclamation of the Gospel, we sit and listen to the bishop, priest or deacon, as he reflects and teaches us about the readings we just heard and how to live them in our daily lives. The word “homily” means “explanation” in Greek. The successor of the apostles, the bishop, and his collaborators, his priests and deacons, have the responsibility to proclaim the Gospel and to pass on what Jesus has taught.

The Creed

The Creed, a summary statement of our beliefs, is professed.

The Prayer of the Faithful

The conclusion of the Liturgy of the Word is the Prayers of the Faithful. Here we ask for intercession for all our needs and the needs of the Church.

The Liturgy of the Eucharist

In this part of the Mass, the sacrifice of Jesus on the cross is made present by the priest. The priest carries out what Jesus did at the Last Supper and what He commanded the apostles to do in His memory. It is during this part of the Mass that the bread and wine are offered, and then consecrated and changed into the Body and Blood of Christ.

The Preparation of the Gifts

In this part of the Mass the gifts of bread and wine are brought forward. Traditionally, the gifts also were meant to symbolize the offerings of the people from the field and were made by hard work and labor.

This is why the presentation of the gifts is also representing our giving of ourselves to God as gifts. On our behalf the priest offers the gifts of bread and wine to God.

The Mingling of Water and Wine and the Washing the Hands

As the priest mixes the water and wine, he says, “By the mystery of this water and wine may we come to share in the divinity of Christ, who humbled himself to share in our humanity.” This prayer symbolizes the Incarnation: Christ through His divinity (the wine) elevates our humanity (the water).

The Eucharist Prayer

Through this prayer the priest recalls the saving acts of Jesus and asks God’s blessing to come down upon us, as the climax of the Holy Mass is about to happen.

Holy, Holy, Holy

The “Holy, Holy, Holy” comes from Isaiah 6:3, when the prophet Isaiah had a vision of angels surrounding the throne of the Lord, adoring Him and singing, “holy, holy, holy.” This prayer helps us to see the reality that in the liturgy we are taken spiritually to heaven to adore the Lord, as He is about to be brought down to us in the consecration of the bread and wine.

Consecration of the Bread and Wine

This is the climax of the Mass, when the priest, acting in the person of Christ, changes the bread and wine into the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ. When Jesus said to the apostles at the Last Supper, “Do this in memory of me,” He told them to celebrate the Last Supper as a liturgical memorial. This means that the sacrifice of Jesus is made present to us. So, by this act we are made sacramentally present to the events that happen in the Upper Room and on Calvary. This is why we refer to the Mass as a sacrifice. It unites us more intimately with Jesus and His act of self-giving love for our salvation.

The Communion Rite

There is a brief preparation for the reception of Holy Communion.

The Lord’s Prayer

We start the prayer that Jesus taught us in a very intimate way: we refer to God as “Our Father.” We recall the special relationship we have with God who in a few moments will come to us.

The Sign of Peace

At the Last Supper Jesus said to the apostles, “Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you.” (Jn 14:27) This peace is a deeper, longer lasting peace than the world can give, rooted in Jesus Christ and placed in our hearts to endure any kind of trial for the sake of the Kingdom of God. In unity and charity we greet one another with this kind of peace, not a worldly peace, not a “good morning” but the peace of Jesus Christ. This symbolic action shows the unity of the Church as the Body of Christ, those visible around us, the souls in purgatory and the saints in heaven.

Lamb of God

The priest breaks the Eucharistic host and in a symbolic action places a small piece in the chalice, expressing the unity of the faithful and their bishop.

While the priest is performing this action, the people are saying or signing the “Lamb of God.” In this prayer we again are taken right up to the throne of God and repeat the words of the angels as they worship the Lamb on the throne (as we read in the book of Revelation). The priest then brings this to mind as he says, “Behold the Lamb of God.”

At this point we recognize in all humility that this is pure gift and that we, in our sinful humanity, are not worthy. We repeat the words of the centurion who told Jesus that he was not worthy that Jesus should come under his roof to heal his servant. With great faith he said that he believed that whatever Jesus said would come true. The centurion said, “only say the word and my servant shall be healed.” Jesus praised this man for his faith.

Holy Communion

At this time the faithful are invited to come forward to receive the Body and Blood of the Lord in Holy Communion. This is where Jesus comes to us most intimately.

If a person is not Catholic they should not come forward for Holy Communion until they have been properly prepared and have made a formal commitment to the Church. The same is true for Catholics who have committed mortal sins, such as skipping Mass on Sunday. Mortal sin offends God, but Jesus has given us a way to make us right again with God through the sacrament of Reconciliation. In these two instances, the person can ask for a blessing by the priest or Extraordinary Minister of the Holy Eucharist by crossing their arms over their chest.

After Holy Communion is a time when we pray and reflect on this great gift of intimacy that has just been given to us and how we desire to become more like Jesus.

The Blessing and Dismissal

An interesting fact about the dismissal is that this is where the Mass gets its name. The Latin words, "Ite missa est," mean "Go, you are dismissed." The word "missa" really means a "sending forth." You are now given a blessing and are being dismissed to go forth and be a disciple of Jesus. To live the Christian life and bring forth fruit in your life and give to others what has been given to you.

After Mass it is a good time to say a prayer of thanksgiving for all that has just happened in the Mass; which is your salvation.

Receiving Holy Communion

Stay United to Jesus in the Eucharist

The Eucharist truly is the "source and summit" of the Christian life. As such, your child's First Eucharist represents an important event in his or her life. If you want great things for your child, you will want them to be united to the Eucharist their whole life; for if they are united to the Eucharist, they will do great things. Look, for example, at the life of Saint Teresa of Calcutta, known during her life as Mother Teresa. One cannot consider all the good works she accomplished without taking into account the fact that her day, from beginning to the end, was centered on the Eucharist. The same can be said for all the saints. Your child may or may not accomplish great works that everybody can see and appreciate like those of Saint Teresa, but a child in love with God can become great in that he or she loves as Jesus loves. What's more, they will be on their way to heaven.

Requirements for Reception

To receive the Eucharist, we must prepare ourselves by examining our conscience. Anyone conscience of grave sin must receive the sacrament of Reconciliation before going to Holy Communion. We must also observe a one-hour fast before receiving Holy Communion (we cannot eat or drink anything other than water).

How to Receive the Eucharist

As you approach for Holy Communion, make a sign of reverence to the Eucharist. It is a universal norm that the faithful are to make a simple bow with the head. The Church has approved two ways for receiving the Eucharist, on the tongue or in the hand. Be sure to practice both ways with your child. When receiving on the tongue, make sure you open your mouth wide and the tongue is extended out. When receiving on the hand, place one hand over the other. After the host is placed on your top hand, pick up the host reverently with the bottom hand and place it in your mouth. Be sure your hands are washed and clean.

Furthermore, what you wear to Mass (appropriate attire) needs to reflect the honor and respect due to Jesus in the Eucharist.

Prayers for Second Grade

Here are some of the prayers parents should help their child to learn.

Sign of the Cross

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Our Father

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. Amen.

Hail Mary

Hail Mary, full of grace! the Lord is with thee; blessed are thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

Glory Be

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Act of Contrition

Oh My God, I am heartily sorry for having offended You, and I detest all my sins, because of Your just punishments, but most of all, because they offend You, my God, Who are all good and deserving of all my love. I firmly resolve, with the help of Your grace, to sin no more and to avoid the near occasions of sin.

Prayer before the Eucharist

O my God, I firmly believe that you are truly present in the Holy Eucharist. I confess that I am a poor sinner and am not worthy to receive you. But you just say a word and my soul shall be healed, and then I can receive you into my soul.

Prayer after the Eucharist

Lord Jesus, I believe that I have received your Body and Blood. I adore you. I praise you. I thank you. I love you. Thank you for giving yourself to me. Now I give myself to you, every part of my body that I may always love and live for you.

Prayer to St. Michael, the Archangel

Saint Michael, the Archangel, defend us in battle; be our defense against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray; and do thou, O prince of the heavenly host, by the power of God, cast into hell Satan and the other evil spirits who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls.

Grace Before Meals

Bless us, O Lord, and these thy gifts which we are about to receive from thy bounty, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Grace After Meals

We give You thanks, almighty God, for all Your benefits. Who lives and reigns now and forever. May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God rest in peace. Amen.

Sacred Vestments and Vessels You See at Mass!

Sacred Vestments

Alb: A long, white linen garment reaching to the feet.

Cincture: Cord tied around the waist like a belt.

Stole: Long scarf-like garment worn behind the neck and draped over the shoulders. A sign of priestly office, worn in the celebration of the sacraments.

Chasuble: The cape-like outer vestment put on over the others. This is worn by the preside at the Eucharist. There are different colors which match the Liturgical season or special day.

- 1) purple – Lent and Advent;
- 2) rose – 3rd Sunday of Advent, 4th Sunday of Lent
- 3) red – Good Friday, Pentecost, Confirmation, feasts of Holy Spirit, martyrs;
- 4) white – solemnities (like Christmas and Easter), weddings, baptisms, etc.;
- 5) green – ordinary time.

Amice

A white square linen worn over the neck and shoulders under the alb; used to cover the shoulders.

Dalmatic

A sleeved outer garment that looks very similar to a chasuble but is worn by a deacon. A bishop may wear a dalmatic under a chasuble during solemn Masses.

Cassock

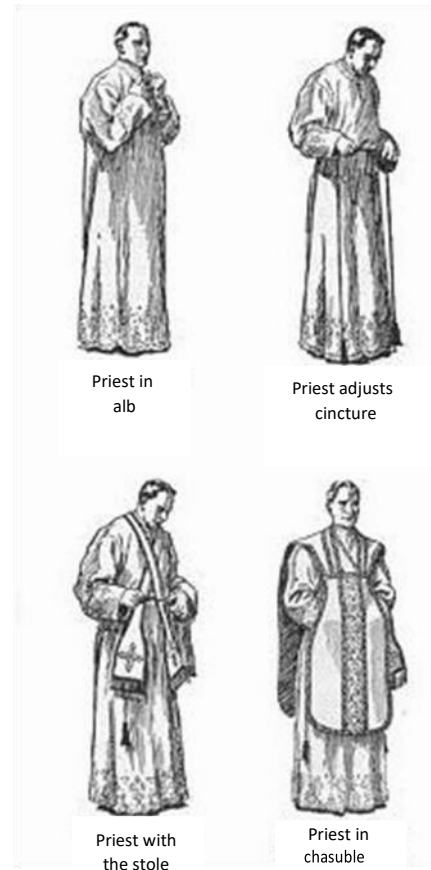
A full length black robe worn by boys or men who serve at the altar; also worn by bishops and priests in celebrations outside of Mass. The pope's cassock is white.

Cope

A long cloak that hooks at the front by the neck, worn on solemn occasions outside of Mass.

Humeral veil

A wide long garment that is worn over the shoulders and covers the hands when carrying sacred vessels or the Blessed Sacrament.



Sacred Vessels and Linens

Chalice: Cup of precious metal (inside usually is gold) that holds the wine consecrated at Mass.

Ciborium: It is made of precious metal and contains the hosts consecrated for distribution to the Faithful in Holy Communion. Looks like a chalice with a cover.

Purificator: A small linen cloth used by the priest to dry his fingers and the chalice.

Paten: A small plate of precious metal that holds the large host that the priest uses until Offertory.

Pall: A small square of stiffened linen, or of cardboard covered with linen, used to cover the chalice to prevent dust or other matter from falling into it.

Chalice Veil: A cloth covering, of the same color as the Chasuble that conceals the chalice and paten up to the Offertory and after Communion.

Corporal: The linen cloth spread by the priest on the altar at the beginning of Mass. The chalice and host rest upon this cloth.

Burse: Square container for the corporal when the latter is not in use. It is made of the same material and color as the vestments.

Two Cruets: Small glass vessels; one is filled with water and the other with wine.

Lavabo bowl and towel: Bowl that catches the water after the priest washes his hands at the Offertory. The priest wipes his hands on the towel.

Wine: Made from grapes, can be either red or white wine.

Bread/Hosts: Must be made with wheat with no additives.

