

Preparing for Sunday Mass

In preparation for Sunday Mass spend some time reflecting on your life in the last week.

- For what do you want to give God thanks and praise?
- What in your life needs the nourishment of Word and Sacrament?

After Mass on Sunday choose one of the readings from the Liturgy of the Word and use it for your prayer in the coming week.

- Where does the reading challenge you to be a more faithful follower of Christ?
- Where in this reading does the Lord speak encouragement to you?



The liturgy is the source and summit of the whole Christian life.

The liturgy is the summit toward which the activity of the Church is directed; at the same time it is the fount from which all the Church's power flows.

SACROSANCTUM CONCILIUM IO

*They told their story
of what had happened on the road
and how they had recognised him
at the breaking of the bread.*

LUKE 24:35



God our Father,
in all the churches scattered
throughout the world
you show forth the one, holy, catholic
and apostolic Church.

Through the gospel and the eucharist
bring your people together
in the Holy Spirit
and guide us in your love.

Make us a sign of your love for all people,
and help us to show forth
the living presence of Christ in the world,
who lives and reigns with you
and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.
Amen.

**Liturgy
Office**
ENGLAND
& WALES

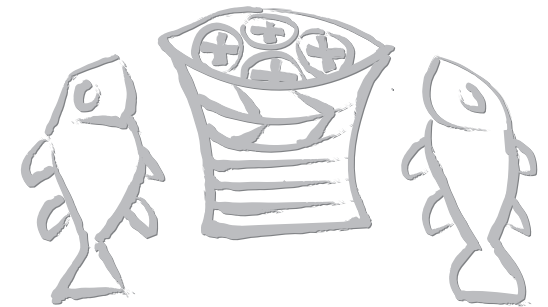
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Celebrating the Mass an Introduction



At the heart of the life of the Catholic Church has always been the celebration of the Mass. Taking part in the Mass is the hallmark of the Catholic, central and crucial to our Catholic identity.

CTM 1

What is *Celebrating the Mass*?

Celebrating the Mass is a document of the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales. A pastoral introduction to the Mass.

It is published alongside a new edition *General Instruction of the Roman Missal*. The *General Instruction* is a guide for the preparation and celebration of Mass.

It is where the Church gives direction about the preparation of the hearts and minds of the people and of the places, rites and texts for the celebration of the Most Holy Eucharist.

General Instruction of the
Roman Missal (GIRM) 1

Celebrating the Mass builds on the *General Instruction*. It addresses the Instruction's themes in a manner which makes them easier to follow. It allows a more precise application of the universal teaching of the Church to the circumstances of England and Wales.

The document places an emphasis on our participation in the Mass.

The *General Instruction of the Roman Missal* properly describes how Mass is to be celebrated in the Roman Rite. *Celebrating the Mass* has a broader catechetical and formational aim, inviting worshippers to deepen their understanding of why we celebrate Mass as we do. Deepening our understanding of why we do something, is often of great assistance to us as we seek to do things well.

Celebrating the Mass (CTM) 9

The publication of both the *General Instruction* and *Celebrating the Mass* provides us with a fresh opportunity to consider:

- How does our parish prepare to celebrate its liturgy?
- How do we celebrate Mass together in this parish?
- How does the liturgy feed us to live as Christ in the world?

The assembly and the Mass

In the celebration of the Eucharist the assembly is united in and by

- the principal actions of gathering,
- listening to God's word,
- praying for life of the Church and the world,
- giving thanks,
- sharing communion
- and being sent out for the work of loving and serving God.

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