



The Catholic Archdiocese of
Canberra and Goulburn

Sunday Celebration of the Word and Communion - Eastertide

INTRODUCTORY RITE

GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

[Welcome one another.

The leader of prayer (L) moves from the front pews to the presiding place.

The priest's chair is empty.

The readers and ministers with candles and incense wait at the entrance.

The community or assembly (A) is gathered]

GATHERING SONG

Stand

L and A: Make the SIGN OF THE CROSS

LITURGICAL GREETING (Easter, p. 67)

L: Blessed be the God of life
who broke the bonds of death by raising Jesus from
the dead
through the power of the Holy Spirit.
Bless the Father and the Son and Holy Spirit.

A: Blessed be God forever.

INTRODUCTORY REMARKS (p. 206)

L: Today, we, the people of God,
gather to hear and respond to God's word,
to return praise and thanks,
[and to share Christ's sacrament.]
We look forward to that day
when we will once more celebrate the Eucharist,
as Christ commanded us to do in his memory.
Our community makes its worship
in union with the Church throughout the world,
with N. our Pope, N. our bishop,
our pastor, Father N., who is unable to be with us,

and with our brothers and sisters in neighbouring
parishes
who keep holy this day
in the celebration of the Lord's sacrifice and supper.

OPENING RITE (Easter, p. 68)

*The server brings a vessel of water which was
previously blessed, or not.*

L: Brothers and sisters,
let us invoke and bless the name of God the all-holy,
that this water may be for us a sign of the new life in
Christ
which in baptism we have all received. (Pause)

L: (or Cantor)
O Lamb of God,
by your sacrifice upon the cross
you have made fountains of living water spring up for
us.

A: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

L: O risen Christ,
by the cleansing word of the Father's love
you have restored the holiness of the church.

A: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

L: O firstborn from the dead,
by the gift of the Spirit in the waters of baptism
you have made us the first fruits of a new humanity.

A: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

L: Almighty God,
in the sacred signs of our faith,
you renew the wonders of creation and redemption.
We give you thanks for this water
and we pray that all who have been born again in
baptism
may be heralds of the paschal mystery,

forever renewed in your church.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.

A: Amen

SPRINKLING

Taking the sprinkler, the Leader of Prayer moves through the church to sprinkle the Assembly with water.

OPENING PRAYER

(Easter p. 65; 71-86 Sunday Celebration of the Word and Hours or the Opening Prayer of the day.)

L: Let us pray.

God of everlasting mercy,
each year when the feast of Easter returns
you enliven the faith of your holy people.
Increase in us the grace you have already bestowed,
that we may understand more fully
in whose font we have been washed,
in whose Spirit we have been reborn,
and in whose blood we have found redemption.
We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God for ever and ever.

A: Amen.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

PROCESSION OF THE WORD OF GOD

Process in to sung acclamation.

(The reader/s (R) with Lectionary held aloft, move from the entrance down the aisle, accompanied by ministers with lighted candles. The Lectionary is placed on the ambo and incensed.)

INVITATION

L: May the Word of God always be heard in this place,
as it unfolds the mystery of Christ before us,
and achieves our salvation within the Church. Sit

FIRST READING

The First Reading of the Sunday from the Lectionary

R: The Word of the Lord.

A: Thanks be to God. *Followed by silent reflection*

RESPONSORIAL PSALM (sung if possible)

The Responsorial Psalm of the Sunday from the Lectionary

SECOND READING

The Second Reading of the Sunday from the Lectionary

R: The Word of the Lord.

A: Thanks be to God. *Followed by silent reflection*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (sung if possible)

Stand

The Gospel Acclamation of the Sunday from the Lectionary

Alleluia, alleluia...

Alleluia.

GOSPEL

The Gospel of the Sunday from the Lectionary

R: A reading from the holy Gospel according to
(e.g., Mark)

A: Glory to you, O Lord.

R: The Gospel of the Lord.

A: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ. Sit

SHARED REFLECTION on the Readings followed by silence.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

Stand

L: Brothers and sisters, let us profess the faith of the
Church we received on the day of our baptism.

Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty
Creator of heaven and earth?

A: I do.

L: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was born of the Virgin Mary,
was crucified, died and was buried,
rose from the dead,
and is now seated at the right hand of the Father?

A: I do.

L: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Catholic Church, the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting?

A: I do.

L: This is our faith.
This is the faith of the Church.
We are proud to profess it
in Christ Jesus our Lord.

A: Amen.

GENERAL INTERCESSIONS

L: Gathered together in Christ as brothers and sisters
let us call to mind God's many blessings
as we make our prayers for the Church and the world

A reader announces the intentions in the usual way.

R: Lord hear us.

A: Lord, hear our prayer.

L: God of love, hear the prayers of your people
and grant us today what we ask of you in faith.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.

A: Amen.

PROCLAMATION OF PRAISE

L Let us praise the Lord.
(Brief pause)

Left hand side: God of our salvation, we give you thanks
for Christ our Passover has been sacrificed.
Therefore, we celebrate the festival,
as we voice our praise and sing/say:
O God, we thank and praise you for healing and saving us.

Right hand side: God of life, we praise you
for Christ, being raised from the dead,
will never die again:
death no longer has dominion over him.
The death that he died, he died to sin, once and
for all;
but the life that he lives, he lives to you, O God.
So we also should consider ourselves dead to sin,
and alive to you in Christ Jesus.
Therefore, we celebrate the festival,
as we voice our praise and sing/say:
O God, we thank and praise you for healing and saving us.

Left hand side: God of mercy and love, we bless you
for Christ has been risen from the dead,
the first fruits of those who have died.
For since death came through human means,
the resurrection of the dead has also come
through human means.
For as in Adam all have died,
so also in Christ all shall be made alive.
Therefore, we celebrate the festival,
as we voice our praise and sing/say:
O God, we thank and praise you for healing and saving us.

Right hand side: God of majesty, we glorify you
for now Christ reigns on high,
having been exalted by you and given the name
above all names,
so that at the name of Jesus every knee should
bend,
in the heavens, on the earth, and in the depths.
And every tongue proclaim:
Jesus Christ is Lord,
to your glory, our God and Father.
Therefore, we celebrate the festival,
as we voice our praise and sing/say:
O God, we thank and praise you for healing and saving us.

Left hand side: God of power and might, we rejoice
in Christ, the Lamb that was slain,
for with his blood he has redeemed for you,
saints from every family, language, people and
nation,
and made us a kingdom of priests to serve you on
earth.
To you, O God, who sits upon the throne of glory,
and to Christ the Lamb,
be worship and praise, dominion and splendour.
Therefore, we celebrate the festival,
as we voice our praise and sing/say:
O God, we thank and praise you for healing and saving us.

SIGN OF PEACE

L: In the name of Christ, let us offer each other a sign of
peace.
[The leader of prayer returns to the body of the
Church.]
[The Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion (EM)
prepares for Communion.]

COMMUNION RITE

Kneel

BRINGING OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT TO THE ALTAR
[by Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion.]

THE LORD'S PRAYER Stand

EM: Taught by our Saviour's command and formed by
the Word of God, we dare to say/sing:

A: **Our Father...**
...now and forever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION Kneel

EM: Behold the Lamb of God,
behold him who takes away the sins of the world.
Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

**A: Lord, I am not worthy
that you should enter under my roof,
but only say the word
and my soul shall be healed.**

The distribution of Communion takes place in the usual way.

REPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

PERIOD OF SILENCE Sit

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION Stand

EM: Let us pray. (Easter, p. 262)
(*Silent prayer*)

Lord, remain close to your people.
whom you have enriched with the grace of this
sacrament,
that we may pass from our old life of frailty
to new life in the risen Christ.
We make our prayer in the name of Jesus the Lord.

A: Amen.

[The Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion
returns to his/her place.]
[The leader of prayer returns to the sanctuary.]

CONCLUDING RITE

ANNOUNCEMENTS Sit

COLLECTION

BLESSING (p. 249-250) Stand

L: May God, the source of every good,
bless and give success to our work,
so that we may rejoice in the gifts we have received
(*make the Sign of the Cross*)
and praise God's name now and for ever.

A: Amen.

DISMISSAL

L: Let us go in peace, glorifying the Lord by our life.

A: Thanks be to God.

Considerations for music

"The Church's liturgy moves within the cycle and rhythm of the liturgical seasons that celebrate the many facets of the mystery of Christ and salvation through the course of the liturgical year. The use of the Lectionary with the Sunday scriptures unites each Sunday assembly with the Church universal" *Pastoral Handbook for the Dioceses of Australia: Sunday Celebration of the Word, Sunday Celebration of the Hours*, p. 28. This cycle and rhythm of liturgical seasons should also be reflected in the musical selections for a Celebration of the Word.

"The hymn chosen for communion should speak of the meaning of the act of communion, and not adoration. The communicant is in union with Christ, and with the whole body of Christ. The hymn's text should reflect the ritual action or speak of unity and service. Texts should not give the impression that the eucharistic celebration has taken place at *this* celebration." *Pastoral Handbook*, p. 30.

As with selecting music for Mass, priority should be given to those parts of the liturgy that by their nature are sung e.g. Responsorial Psalm, Gloria (when appropriate), the Gospel Acclamation, and the Acclamations during the Proclamation of Praise. Then consideration should move to the Processional songs (Entrance, Word and Communion) and the verses of the Proclamation of Praise, followed by music for other parts of the liturgy.

For more information about musical selection see our document on *Music in the Liturgy* and p. xxxix-xlii in *Sunday Celebration of the Word and Hours*.

Acknowledgement

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Other Useful Resources:

Archdiocese of Brisbane. *Lay Leaders of Liturgy with Sample Rites for Sundays, Weekdays and Funerals*. Brisbane: The Liturgical Commission, 2004.

Chase, A. *Remaining Faithful: Sundays without the Eucharist*. Brisbane: The Liturgical Commission, 2004.

National Liturgical Commission. *Pastoral Handbook for the Dioceses of Australia: Sunday Celebration of the Word, Sunday Celebration of the Hours*. Brisbane: The Liturgical Commission, 2004.

