



HOLY EUCHARIST

Historical Background

- ❑ From earliest times, the Eucharist has been at the heart of the Church worship. In it is celebrated the memory of the life, death and Resurrection of Jesus Christ.
- ❑ And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age (Matthew 28:20).
- ❑ At its celebrations of the Eucharist the Christian congregation gathers together and knows Jesus Christ to be present in its midst – according to the saying of Jesus that has been passed down: For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them (Matthew 18:20). The congregation prays and hears Gods word, as it is communicated in Scripture; here also Christ, the Word of God, is present.

Biblical and Historical Background

Old Testament

Jewish Passover Meal (Exodus Great Events)

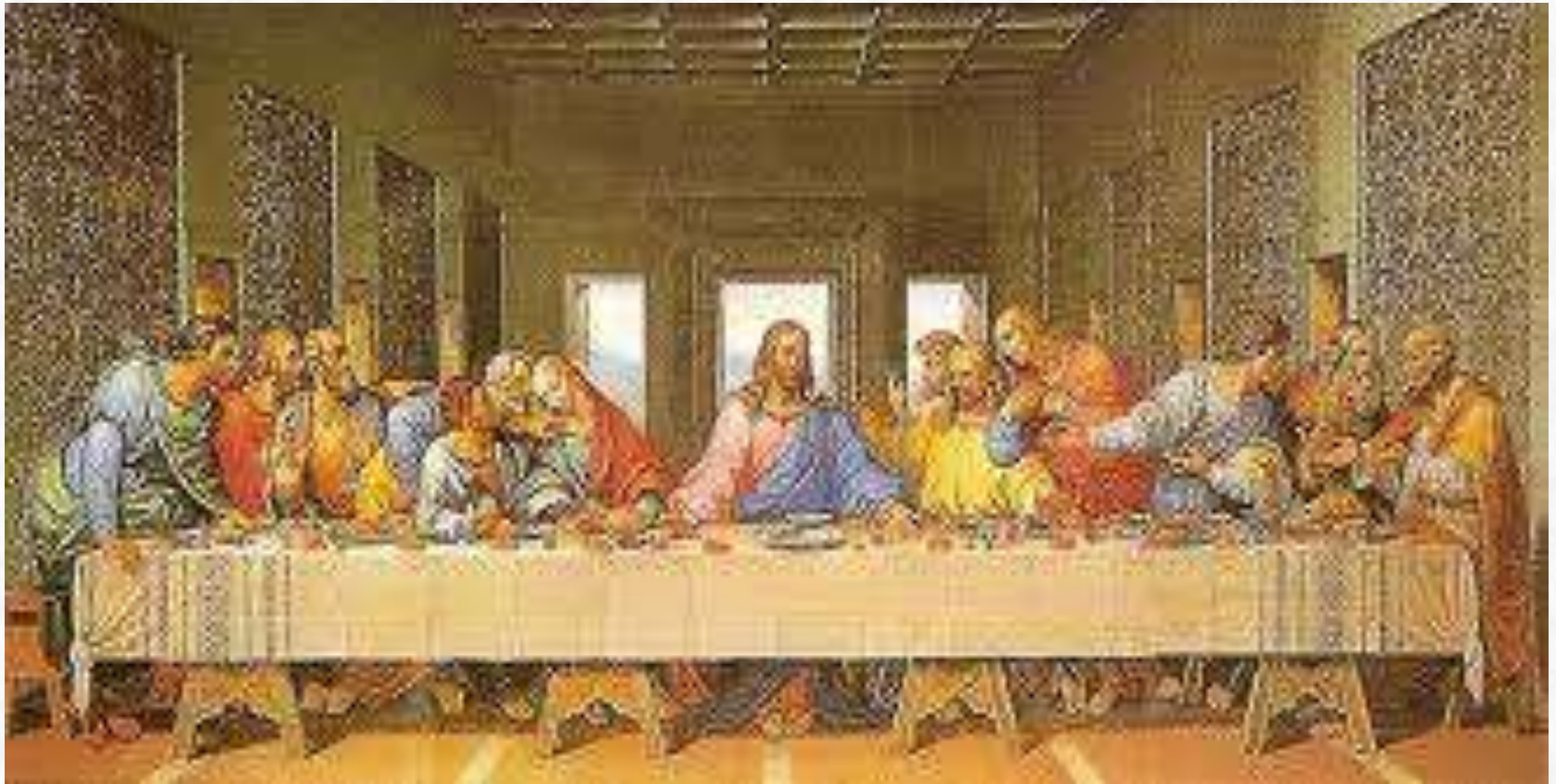
New Testament:

Last Supper ---It was celebrated in the context of the Jewish Passover Meal.

TODAY:

Holy Eucharist ---it is modelled from the Last Supper

Biblical Foundation : The Last Supper



“ Then taking the bread and giving thanks , He broke it and gave it to them, saying: This is my body to be given for you. Do this as a remembrance of me”

He did the same with the cup after eating, saying as he did so: “This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which will be shed for you”

(Luke 22: 19-20)

How do we define this Sacrament?

The Holy Eucharist is the Sacrament of the New law, which our Lord Jesus Christ Instituted permanently. His body and blood, soul and divinity are contained, offered and received under the appearance of bread and wine.

In the Catholic Church refers to both the celebration of the Mass, that is, the Eucharist liturgy, and the bread and wine which after the consecration are transubstantiated (changed in substance) into the body and blood of Jesus Christ, Lord and God, a declaration formulated by the Council of Trent with an anathema against anyone who denied this

- ❑ Holy Eucharist is a Sacrament and a sacrifice
“Eucharist” comes from the Greek word “**Eucharistia**”.

- ❑ Means “giving thanks”, “Thanksgiving” or communion
give us opportunity to continue the memory of Christ
passion and unite ourselves to him.

- ❑ The Eucharist is the Catholic Church's fundamental act
of thanksgiving worship of God, constituting at once a
Sacrifice-Sacrament, a Communion-Sacrament, and a
Presence-Sacrament.

- ❑ In the Holy Eucharist, under the appearances of bread and wine, the Lord Christ is contained, offered and received.

- ❑ Christ instituted the Holy Eucharist at the Last Supper (final meal), the night (he betrayed) before he died. When our lord instituted it the apostles were present.

- ❑ The Holy Eucharist is the very center of catholic worship, the heart of catholic life. Because the (catholic) church believes that the Son of God is truly present in the Blessed Sacrament.

Other Names of the Holy Eucharist:

Blessed Sacrament because it is the most excellent of all sacraments.

Sacrament of the Altar because it is consecrated and received upon the altar

Holy Communion when it is received by the faithful

Bread of life because it is the nourishment of one's soul

Holy Viaticum when it is received during a serious illness, or at the hour of death.

Other Names of the Holy Eucharist:

The Lord's Supper because of its connection with the supper which the Lord took with his disciples on the eve of his Passion and because it anticipates the wedding feast of the Lamb in the heavenly Jerusalem.

The *Breaking of Bread*, because Jesus used this rite, part of a Jewish meal when as master of the table he blessed and distributed the bread, above all at the Last Supper. It is by this action that his disciples will recognize him after his Resurrection, and it is this expression that the first Christians will use to designate their Eucharistic assemblies; by doing so they signified that all who eat the one broken bread, Christ, enter into communion with him and form but one body in him.

Other Names of the Holy Eucharist:

The *Eucharistic assembly (synaxis)*, because the Eucharist is celebrated amid the assembly of the faithful, the visible expression of the Church.

Holy Mass (Missa), because the liturgy in which the mystery of salvation is accomplished concludes with the sending forth (*missio*) of the faithful, so that they may fulfill God's will in their daily lives.

Descriptions of the Holy Eucharist:

“The **Holy Eucharist is the heart and the Summit of Church’s life** for in it, Christ associates His Church and all her members with His sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving offered once for all on the cross to his Father; by this sacrifice he pours out the graces of salvation on his Body which is the Church” (CCC 1407).

“The **Holy Eucharist is prayer** because it offers a perfect worship to the Father, making present the sacrifice of His incarnate Son, on the Cross, Through the power of the Holy Spirit” (CFC 1742)

The Eucharist as Sacrifice ---Sacrament:

- ❑ it makes present Christ's sacrifice on the Cross
- ❑ it exerts Christ's saving power for the forgiveness of sins

The Eucharist as Communion ---Sacrament:

- ❑ those who share in Christ's Body and Blood become one body with Him
- ❑ a sign of unity and charity

The Eucharist as Presence---Sacrament:

- ❑ Christ is present in the assembly, the priest, the Holy Scriptures and in the Eucharistic species of bread and wine

Matter

Bread



Wine



Form

“ Take this all of you and eat it; This is my body which will be given up for you. Take this, all of you and drink from it; This is the cup of my blood the blood of the new and everlasting covenant. It will be shed for you and for all men so that sins maybe forgiven. Do this in memory of me.

Minister

Bishop



Priest



Effects of the Sacrament

1. Unites us with Christ
2. Building up of the Christian community
3. Separates us from our sins
4. Takes away social or racial differences
5. To reconcile and be reconciled to and with the Church

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Sacred vessels. Linens and
vestments

Vestments

Alb – is a long white robe which symbolizes purity of heart.



Cape – is a cloak-like robe used at benediction, procession, etc.



Vestments

Chasuble- is the real sacerdotal dress which symbolizes the royal virtue of charity



Cincture – is a cord with which the alb is bound around the waist, symbolizing purity



Vestments

Humeral veil – is vestment placed over the cape of a priest during benediction, procession, etc.



Linens

Burse – serves as the keeper of corporal



Corporal – is a linen placed over the altar where the chalice and paten are placed



Purificator – is a linen placed over the chalice which is used to clean the chalice before and after putting the wine



Vessels

Chalice – is the vessel for precious blood of Christ



Ciborium – is a vessel which contains the sacred hosts for Holy Communion



Cruets - are containers of wine and water



Vessels

Monstrance – is a richly decorated vessel



Pyx- is a vessel where the small hosts are kept to be carried to sick persons



Paten – is a small round plate placed over the chalice which holds the big Host



Vessels

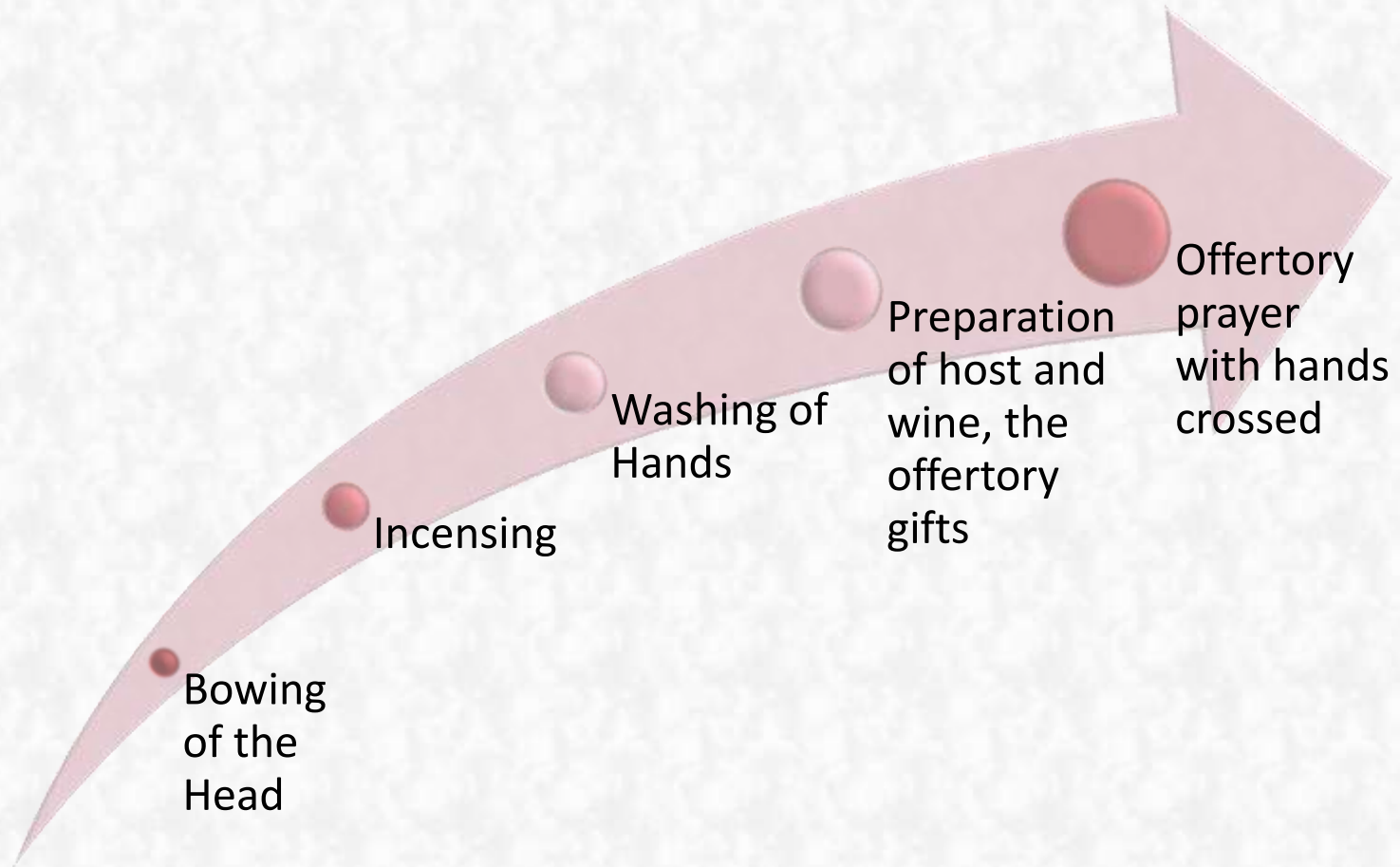
Reliquary - is a richly decorated vessel where the sacred remains or material things connected with a particular saint are exposed for veneration



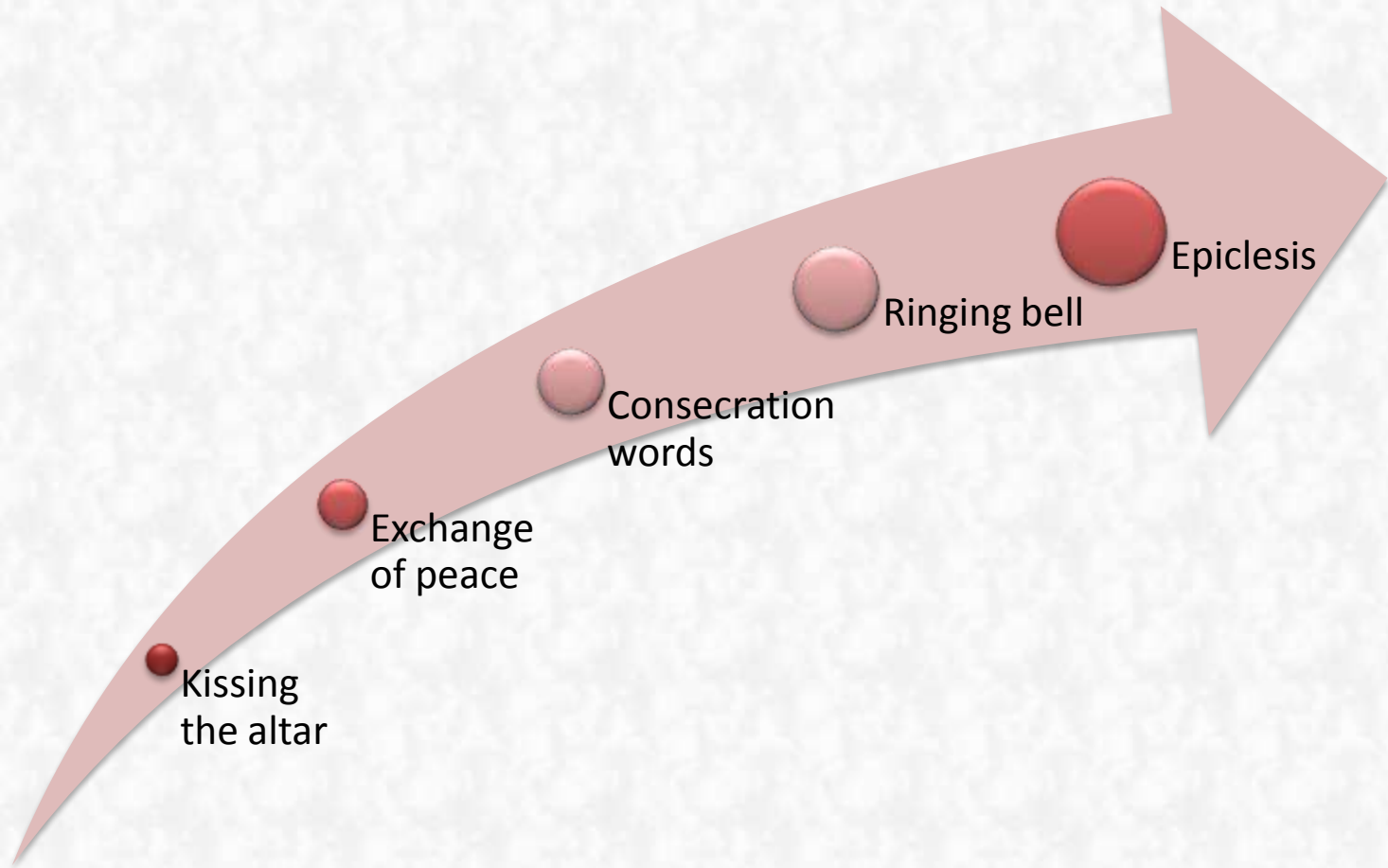
Tabernacle - is a richly decorated shrine where the sacred hosts are preserved for Holy Communion



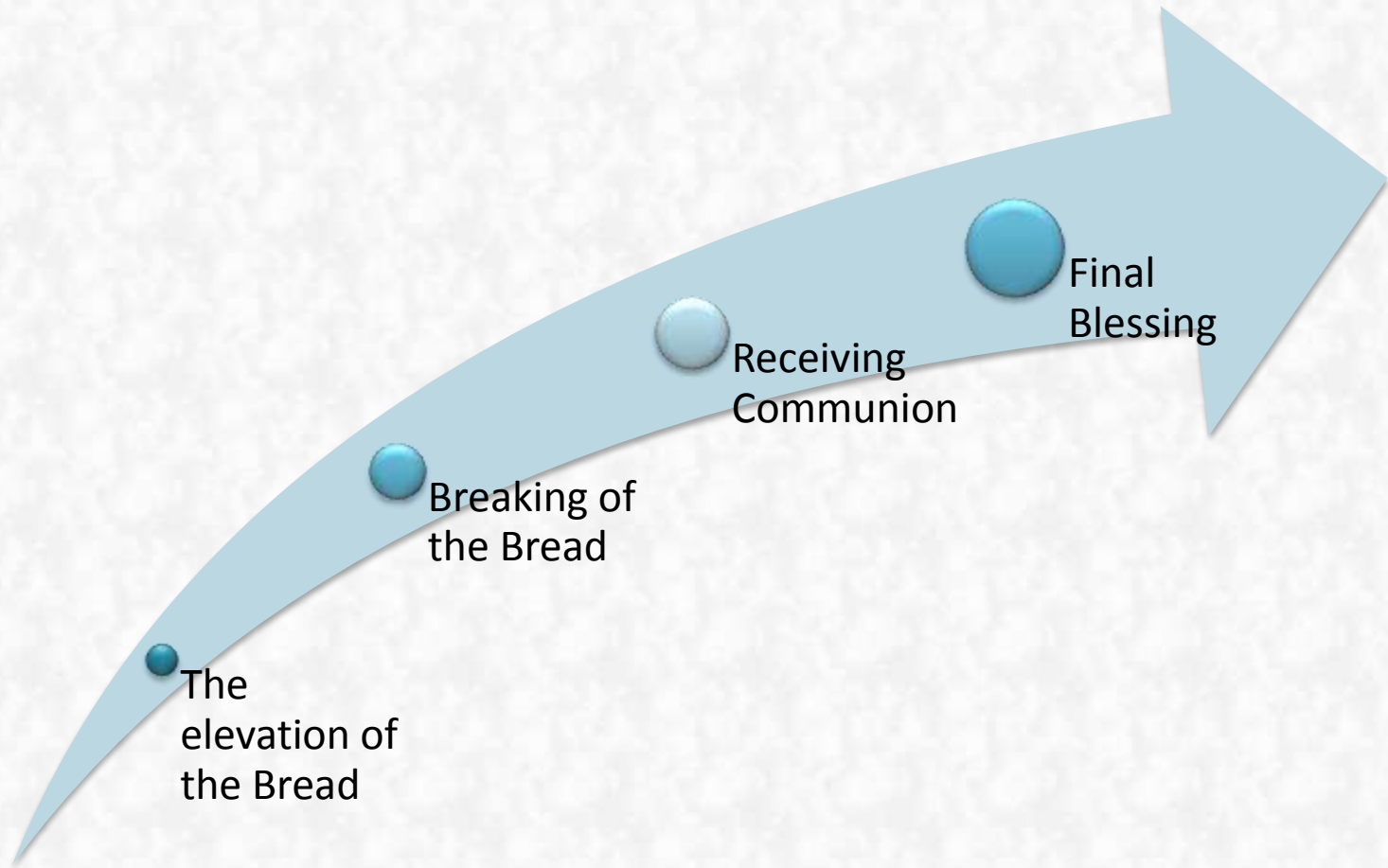
Rituals in the Holy Eucharist



Rituals in the Holy Eucharist

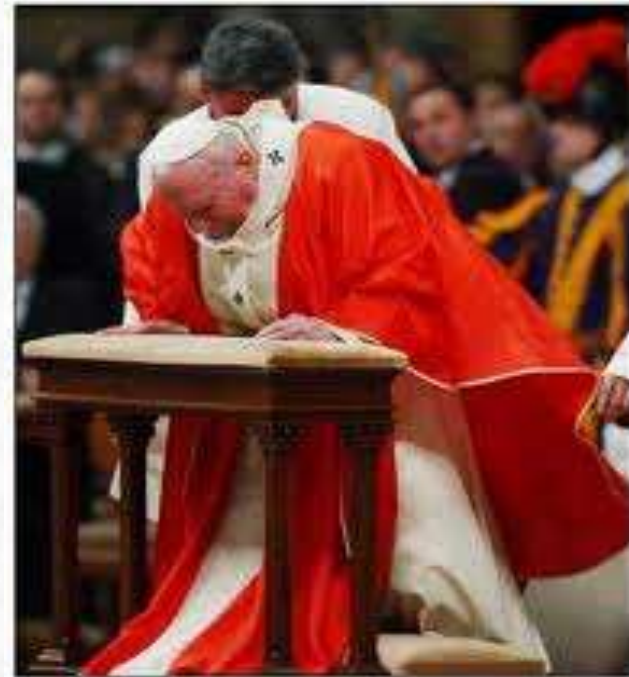


Rituals in the Holy Eucharist



Bowing of Head

When the resurrection hymn (Lord of all we praise you) is sung the faithful bows their head along with the celebrant. It is the expression of our profound respect and submission to Lord God almighty.



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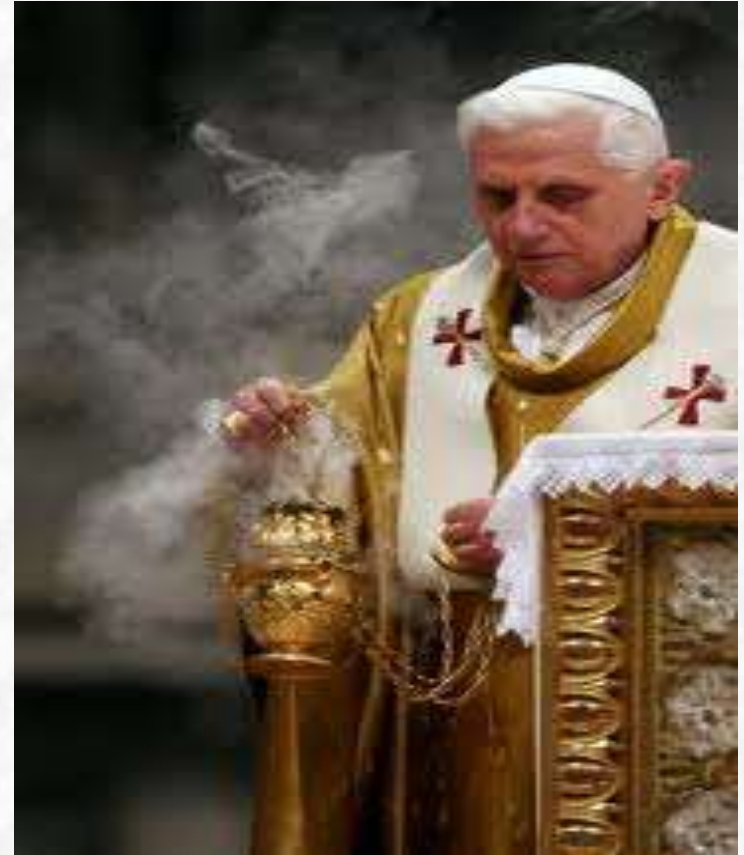
AP Associated Press

Incensing

Two purposes:

- ❑ Sanctifying us (the celebrant, the people, the altar and the objects) with the blessed incense, the divine fragrance, the symbol of divine presence. It is the sign of forgiveness of sins and total surrender to God.
- ❑ Just as the smoke of incense goes up to heaven, our praises and worship are raised to heaven. It is an exhortation that our hearts, mind and thoughts should raise up to heaven along with the incensing.

Incensing



Washing of Hands

The celebrant washes his hands with a prayer before the offertory. This signifies that God in his abundant mercy cleanses the celebrant and the community and make purify their hearts. It reminds us also the washing of feet by Jesus during the last supper.



Preparation of host and wine, the offertory gifts

Host represents the body of Christ and wine represents the blood of Christ. Adding water into wine is the symbol of the blood and water that was poured out of the side of Jesus, when he was pierced with a lance on the Cross.



Offertory prayer with hands crossed

The celebrant takes chalice with wine in right hand and paten with host in the left and raises with hands in the form of cross. This symbolizes the death of Jesus on the cross. It reminds us of the self sacrifice of Jesus on the cross in Calvary.



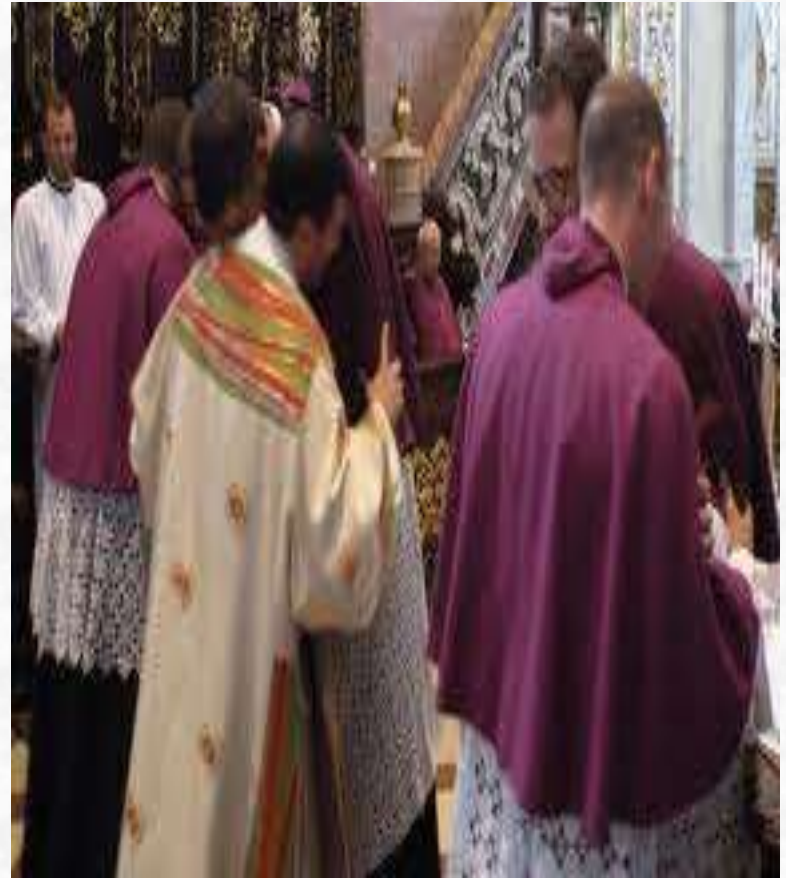
Kissing the altar

- After the offertory, approaching the altar the celebrant bows three times and then kisses the altar in the middle and on both sides. This to show respect and veneration to the most Holy Trinity, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.



Exchange of peace

- The celebrant offers peace of Christ to the faithful raising his hands and with the sign of cross. And the faithful receives this offer of peace with bowed head. Following this the faithful offer one another the peace of Christ that was received through the celebrant.



Consecration Words

- This is one of the most important part of the Holy Eucharist. It is the commemoration of what Jesus did during the last supper as he was instituting Holy Eucharist for us. As we join in the Consecration, we experience the same incident as Jesus and his disciples experienced during last supper. Holy Eucharist is the reenactment of that first sacrifice of Jesus as he had commanded us to do in his memory.

Ringling of Bell

- Bell is to bring to the mind of the people the importance of the rituals in the Eucharist. It evokes in our minds a spirit of devotion and worship.



Epiclesis (Prayer of inviting the Holy Spirit)

- This is another most important part of the Holy Eucharist. The celebrant prays to the Almighty Father to send his Holy Spirit on the gifts and sanctify them, by which the bread and wine on the altar becomes the body and blood of our Lord Jesus.



Elevation of the Bread

The Holy bread that has become the living body and blood of Christ through Consecration words and sanctification by the Holy Spirit (Epiclesis) is raised to signify the resurrection and apparitions of Jesus. When Jesus was appeared to his disciples after resurrection, the disciples worshipped him saying “My God and My Lord”. In the same way, the faithful worship the risen Lord at this time.

Elevation of the Bread



Breaking of the Bread

After the elevation of the holy bread, the celebrant breaks the bread into two and blesses the wine with one half of the bread. Then he blesses the part of the bread with the other half that was dipped in wine. Then hold the host together and prays for various intentions. This reminds the body of Christ broken by death and rejoined in resurrection.

Breaking of the Bread



Receiving Communion

- This is the ritual of receiving the blessed and sanctified body and blood of Christ just as Jesus gave bread and wine to his disciples during last supper as his body and blood. As we receive Holy Communion from the minister, we receive it from the hands of Jesus himself.



Final Blessing

- Eucharist concludes with a blessing just as Jesus blessed his disciples before he ascended into heaven after having entrusted his mission to the disciples. Having received the body and blood of Jesus and his blessing, we go to continue the mission and sacrifice of Jesus in our lives.



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STRUCTURE OF THE HOLY MASS

INTRODUCTORY RITE

- Entrance Hymn
- Greeting
- Penitential Rite
- Gloria
- Opening Prayer

LITURGY OF THE WORD

- Scripture Readings
- Homily
- The Creed
- Prayers of the Faithful
(Intercessions)

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

A. Preparation of the Gifts

B. Eucharistic Prayer

- Invocation of the Holy Spirit (Epiclesis)

- Last Supper's Narrative of Institution, Acclamation

- Commemoration (Anamnesis), 2nd Invocation of the Holy Spirit

COMMUNION RITE

- Our Father
- Prayer of Deliverance
- Prayer for Peace
- Breaking of the Bread
- Communion
- Prayer after Communion

CONCLUDING RITE

- Final Blessing
- Dismissal