

## Liturgy of the Word.

**Homily** in Greek means explanation. We not only hear God's Word, but we also get an explanation and how the Words apply to our daily lives.

- The homily is part of the Liturgy for it is necessary for the nurturing of the Christian life. It actualizes the message in concrete terms for today. It helps the faithful understand the Word of God applies to the hear and now.
- It should be an exposition of some aspect of the readings from Sacred Scripture or of another text from the Ordinary or from the Proper of the Mass of the day and should take into account both the mystery being celebrated and the particular needs of the listeners.
- Ordinarily given by the priest celebrant himself.
- May entrust it to a concelebrating priest or to the deacon.

After the homily a brief period of silence should be observed

Be attentive to the readings and to the homily.

If you are attentive, something from all that you heard will remain in you.

Sometimes it may be two verses, other times the reading of the entire Gospel, or perhaps only one word.

Prepare for the Sunday liturgy by reflecting beforehand upon the Word of God to be proclaimed.

### The Profession of Faith - Creed)

- The Profession of Faith helps us **acknowledge** and **profess** the **great deeds of God in salvation history** – in creation, redemption, and in continued fidelity to the Church.
- The **Creed challenges** us each week to stand up before God and before all our brothers and sisters and say, **I Believe from my Heart.**
- Tell Story

Story about man who walked the tightrope across Niagara Falls: He would walk across and people would cheer him and asked him to do it again. He said, do you believe, I can do it again – yes we believe in you, do it again. Do you believe I can cross blindfolded, Do you believe I can cross blindfolded, pushing a wheelbarrow, Do you believe that I can cross blindfolded, pushing a wheelbarrow, with somebody in the wheel borrow, and they said yes we believe in you. All right, who wants to get into the wheelbarrow? **You see there is belief and then there is Belief!**

- **Lord I believe, I am willing to jump into the wheelbarrow with you. Lord I desire to entrust more of myself to you. - help me to do that.**

In the Creed, we **bow** at the words which commemorate the Incarnation: "and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man."

The Prayer of the Faithful our response to word of God.

- It is very important to note that this is the prayer of the faithful, not of the priest or reader.

The General Intercessions help us

- become who God is calling us to be.
- We pray that our assembly really comes to look like the Body of Christ,
- a body at peace, with shelter for the homeless, healing for the sick, food for the hungry.

We pray for the

- **Needs of the Church;**
- **Public authorities and the salvation of the world;**
- **People in Special Needs;**
- **Local needs of Parish and Community;**
- **Deceased of Church/Community or Special Intentions**

We have listened to the Word of God,

"Were not our hearts burning (within us) while he spoke to us and opened the scriptures to us?"