

FAMILY HOME CELEBRATION DURING SUSPENSION OF MASS

OUTLINE OF THE RITE

- A. Rite of Family Home Celebration
 - a. Introductory Rite
 - b. Celebration of the Word of God
 - c. Prayer of Thanksgiving
 - d. Spiritual Communion
 - e. Concluding Rite

A. RITE OF FAMILY CELEBRATION WHEN SUNDAY MASS IS SUSPENDED

1 This rite is to be used only when Mass is suspended and Communion is not distributed at scheduled times. The purpose is that the people should be nourished by the word of God. By hearing it they learn that the marvels it proclaims reach their climax in the paschal mystery of which the Mass is a sacramental memorial and in which they share by Communion. Nourished by God's word, they are led on to grateful and fruitful participation in the saving mysteries.

INTRODUCTORY RITES

2 After the family has assembled and preparations for the service are complete, all stand for the greeting.

Greeting

The prayer leader greets the family with these or similar words:

Brothers and sisters,
the Lord invites us to gather in His name:
Let us bless him for his goodness.

The people answer: Blessed be God for ever.

Penitential Act

3 The penitential act follows, and the prayer leader invites the family to recall their sins and to repent of them in these words:

Brothers and sisters, let us acknowledge our sins, and so prepare ourselves for this sacred celebration.

A pause for silent reflection follows.

All say:

I confess to almighty God
and to you, my brothers and sisters,
that I have greatly sinned,
in my thoughts and in my words,
in what I have done and in what I have failed to do,

And, striking their breast, they say:
through my fault, through my fault,
through my most grievous fault
therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin,
all the Angels and Saints,
and you, my brothers and sisters,
to pray for me to the Lord our God.

The prayer leader concludes:

May almighty God have mercy on us,
forgive us our sins,
and bring us to everlasting life.

R/. Amen.

CELEBRATION OF THE WORD OF GOD

4 The Liturgy of the Word now takes place as at Mass. Texts are chosen for Sunday Mass of the day which can be found at <http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/031620.cfm>

Readings

There are three readings, the first from the Old Testament, being followed by a psalm. The second reading is from the New Testament. The third is from the Gospels. After each reading the family will pause to reflect on the reading and if comfortable they can share what God is saying to them through the reading.

General Intercessions

The celebration of the word ends with the general intercessions. The prayer leader or another family member will pray for a need and end with, "We pray to the Lord." The family responds, "Lord hear our prayer". A suggested outline

Pray for the church

Pray for civil leaders

Pray for issues facing the family and/or community

Pray for the sick, the needy and dying

Pray for particular family needs

SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

Lord's Prayer

5 The prayer leader says

And now let us pray with confidence as Christ our Lord commanded:

The prayer leader continues with the family

Our Father...

Sign of Peace

6 The prayer leader invites the family in these words:

Let us offer each other the sign of peace.

Invitation to make a Spiritual Communion

7 The prayer leader invites the family to make a Spiritual Communion

We believe that Jesus is the Lamb of God,
We believe that He takes away the sins of the world.
He invites us now to be in communion with him and one another.

The prayer leader invites the family to repeat each line after him/her.

My Jesus,
I believe that you are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.
I love you above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul.
Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally,
Come spiritually into my heart.
I embrace You as You unite me wholly to You.
Never permit me to be separated from You.
Amen.

A period of silence is now observed

Concluding Prayer

The prayer leader prays the following prayer.

Let us pray.
O God, who have willed that we be in communion
with you and with each other,
grant us, we pray, so to live
that, made one in Christ,
we may joyfully bear fruit
for the salvation of the world.
Through Christ our Lord.
R/. Amen.

Concluding Rite

Blessing

The prayer leader invokes God's blessing and, crossing himself or herself, says:

May the Lord bless us,
protect us from all evil
and bring us to everlasting life.

Dismissal

Finally the minister says:
Go in the peace of Christ.

The people answer: Thanks be to God