

# Getting Ready to Listen to God

## The Introductory Rite

Whenever you are invited to a party, you prepare or get ready for it. This also happens at Mass, the greatest party for everyone.

We prepare to listen to God.  
How do we prepare to listen to God?



- ◆ **We begin with a procession and entrance song.**

A procession is like a parade. This is how the altar servers, readers, deacons and priests go before the altar.

The entrance song is led by a cantor or song leader or a choir. It helps us know what will be the main idea for the Mass.

- ◆ **We begin with a greeting and say “Hello.”**

With all prayers we begin with the Sign of the Cross.

The priest also says, “The Lord be with you.”  
We respond, “And with your spirit.”



- ◆ **We ask for forgiveness.**

When we worship God, we need to be in a holy state. We need to be ready for God. We do this by asking God to forgive us for the things we did not do well during the week, our sins.

We also say a special prayer of forgiveness either the Confiteor or the Kyrie or Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Sometimes we are sprinkled with Holy Water.



- ◆ **We praise God.**

Except during Advent or Lent, we sing or say the Gloria. This is the song that the Angels sang to the shepherds when Jesus was born. We praise and thank God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

- ◆ **We pray.**

The priest says a special prayers to prepare us for hearing the Word of God. It tells us something about the season and what main ideas we will hear.

