

BORING MASS

Part 1

Mass is boring? NO! Mass is not a tedious chore we do for God, but a miracle Jesus does with us, for us, and in us. Every Mass is the renewal of the most important and critical event that ever occurred: the eternal, infinite sacrifice of praise of God the Son, Jesus, to God the Father, on a cross on Calvary. Many of us forget about this sacrifice of God the Son for our salvation. Mass reminds us of this sacrifice, of our salvation. Mass is not about us, but about God.

Going to Mass is about growing in relationship with God. Our relationship with God should not be dependent upon priests, music, liturgical style, or our personal feelings. For our relationship with God to be authentic, we must be open to God's call. What is God saying to us? What is God asking us to give back?

We don't attend Mass to be entertained. We go to pray and to offer sacrifice and praise to God. Everyone who comes to Mass is making an offering. Every one of us has the opportunity to breathe life into Holy Child Jesus Parish.

The good news is that we can offer sacrifice and be authentic if:

- Do our best to arrive ten or fifteen minutes before Mass starts – not ten or fifteen minutes after it starts. Getting to church on time helps us to prepare our hearts and minds for worship and to open our hearts to be ready to receive Jesus during Holy Communion.
- Turn cellphones off before Mass starts. Even vibrations from cell phone can distract us and take our minds away from the liturgy.
- Listen actively to the readings. How are these readings speaking to you?
- The lay faithful should join in with the words of the liturgy and join in singing the hymns – engaging their hearts and minds. (During these unusual times, please keep your mask on when you join in singing and in prayers.)
- When we leave Mass and go forth into world, become evangelists. We are all called to discipleship. Get involved in spreading the Good News through what we do and what we say. As St. Francis of Assisi declared, “Always preach the Gospel. When necessary, use words.”
- Commit to volunteer work and to ministry that the Church and the parish needs. What is God calling us to do? Be open to that call! Be the seed of change and make that small sacrifice for the honor and glory of God.
- It takes more than a priest to make a parish. Become his support and help energize him. What a perfect opportunity to teach not only our children, but everyone who is present, how to behave and act through our words and actions during Mass, to help us understand the love and

sacrifice that our Lord Jesus Christ has given us. Through the Mass, we praise and adore the One and Only One King of the universe, of Love, of Forgiveness, and of Patience, who holds nothing back, and who takes nothing and makes it into something. The something of God reaching out to us, calling us to a relationship with the Divine. Let us hear God's call, see God's glory everywhere and especially in the Mass.