

The Mass for Children



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Imprimatur: Patrick J. Sheridan, Vicar General, Archdiocese of New York

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CPSIA September 2017 10 9 8 7 6 5 L/P

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Printed in China ISBN 978-0-89942-489-7

THE SIGN OF THE CROSS

We Call upon the Holy Trinity

We begin our Mass as we begin any prayer, with the Sign of the Cross. We are calling upon God to be with us as we pray to him.

Priest: In the name of the Father, and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

THE GREETING

We Are Welcomed in God's Name

The Priest then greets us and welcomes us to church. He is speaking not only in his own name, but also in God's name. He uses one of these forms.

A

Priest: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
and the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit
be with you all.

People: And with your spirit.

B

Priest: Grace to you and peace from God our
Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ.

People: And with your spirit.

C

Priest: The Lord be with you.

People: And with your spirit.

THE PENITENTIAL ACT

We Express Sorrow for Our Sins

The Priest now invites us to think of our sins and to tell God that we are sorry for them. We want to apologize for having been selfish and for having sinned so that we can listen to God's Word and receive His Body and Blood with a pure heart.

To show our sorrow, we can 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 our breast, we say:

through my fault, through my fault,
through my most grievous fault;

Then we continue:

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 Priest says a short prayer asking for God's mercy.

THE KYRIE

We Ask Jesus for Mercy

Priest: Lord, have mercy.

People: Lord, have mercy.

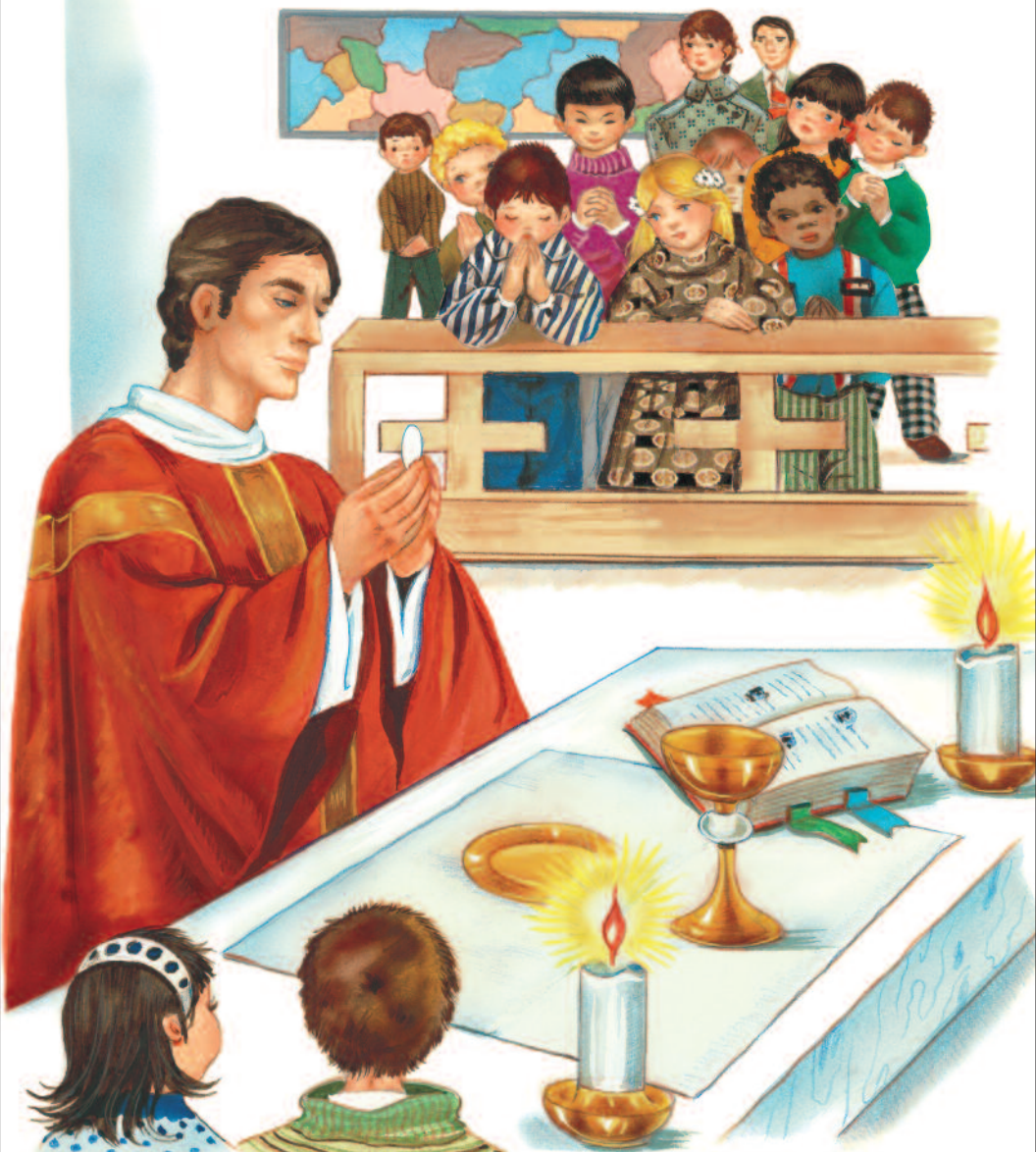
Priest: Christ, have mercy.

People: Christ, have mercy.

Priest: Lord, have mercy.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Sometimes, instead of saying these prayers, the Priest asks for God's mercy by calling upon him three times. He finishes his prayer with "Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy." We repeat those last words each time he says them.



THE BREAD BECOMES THE BODY OF CHRIST — *The Priest recalls Jesus' words at the Last Supper and by God's power the bread becomes the Body of Christ.*