



# The Holy Family

## INTRODUCTORY RITES

+ In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**A - Amen.**

+ The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**A - And also with you.**

## PENITENTIAL RITE

+ My brothers and sisters, to prepare ourselves to celebrate the sacred mysteries, let us call to mind our sins.

**I confess to almighty God, and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have sinned through my own fault in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done, and in what I have failed to do. And 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.**

+ May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life. **A - Amen.**

+ Lord, have mercy. **A - Lord, have mercy.**

+ Christ, have mercy. **A - Christ, have mercy.**

+ Lord, have mercy. **A - Lord, have mercy.**

## GLORIA

**Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth. Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father, receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in the glory of God the Father Amen.**

## OPENING PRAYER

+ Let us pray. Father, help us to live as the holy family, united in respect and love. Bring us to the joy and peace of your eternal home. Grant this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

**A - Amen.**

## LITURGY OF THE WORD

### First reading **Genesis 15:1 -6. 21:1 -3**

The word of the Lord was spoken to Abram in a vision. "Have no fear, Abram, I am your shield; your reward will be very great". "My Lord God," Abram replied "what do you intend to give me? I go childless." Then Abram said, "See, you have given me no descendants; some man of my household will be my heir". And then this word of the Lord was spoken to him, 'He shall not be your heir; your heir shall be of your own flesh and blood'. Then taking him outside he said, 'Look up to heaven and count the stars if you can. Such will be your descendants' he told him. Abram put his faith in the Lord, who counted this as making him justified. The Lord dealt kindly with Sarah as he had said and did what he had promised her. So Sarah conceived and bore a son to Abraham in his old age, at the time God had promised. Abraham named the son born to him Isaac, the son to whom Sarah had given birth.

+ This is the word of the Lord. **A - Thanks be to God.**

### Responsorial Psalm - 127

**He, the Lord, is our God. He remember his covenant for ever.**

Give thanks to the Lord, tell his name,  
make known his deeds among the peoples.  
O sing to him, sing his praise;  
tell all his wonderful works!

Be proud of his holy name,  
let the hearts that seek the Lord rejoice.

Consider the Lord and his strength;  
constantly seek his face.

Remember the wonders he has done,  
his miracles, the judgements he spoke.  
O children of Abraham, his servant,  
O sons of the Jacob he chose.

### Second reading **Hebrews 1 1:8. 1 1-12. 17-19**

It was by faith that Abraham obeyed the call to set out for a country that was the inheritance given to him and his descendants, and that he set out without knowing where he was going.

It was equally by faith, that Sarah, in spite of being past the age, was made able to conceive, because she believed that he who had made the promise would be faithful to it. Because of this, there came from one man, and one who was already as good as dead himself, more descendants than could be counted, as many as the stars of heaven or the grains of sand on the seashore.

It was by faith that Abraham, when put to the test, offered up Isaac. He offered to sacrifice his only son even though the promises had been made to him and he had been told: It is through Isaac that your name will be carried on. He was confident that God had the power even to raise the dead; and so, figuratively speaking, he was given back Isaac from the dead.

+ This is the word of the Lord. **A - Thanks be to God.**

### Alleluia, Alleluia. **Hebrews 1:1-2**

At various times in the past and in various different ways. God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets; but in our own time, the last days, he has spoken to us through his Son.

### Alleluia, Alleluia.



### Gospel

**Luke 2.22-40**

+ The Lord be with you.

**A - And also with you.**

+ A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

**A - Glory to you, Lord.**

When the day came for them to be purified as laid down by the Law of Moses, they took him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord - observing what stands written in the Law of the Lord: Every first-born male must be consecrated to the Lord — and also to offer in sacrifice, in accordance with what is said in the Law of the Lord, a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons. Now in Jerusalem there was a man named Simeon. He was an upright and devout man; he looked forward to Israel's comforting and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death until he had set eyes on the Christ of the Lord. Prompted by the Spirit he came to the Temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the Law required, he took him into his arms and blessed God; and he said: "Now, Master, you can let your servant go in peace, just as you promised; because my eyes have seen the salvation which you have prepared for all the nations to see, a light to enlighten the pagans and the glory of your people Israel."

As the child's father and mother stood there wondering at the things that were being said about him, Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, "You see this child: he is destined for the fall and for the rising of many in Israel, destined to be a sign that is rejected - and a sword will pierce your own soul too - so that the secret thoughts of many may be laid bare."

There was a prophetess also, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was well on in years. Her days of girlhood over, she had been married for seven years before becoming a widow. She was now eighty-four years old and never left the Temple, serving God night and day with fasting and prayer. She came by just at that moment and began to praise God; and she spoke of the child to all who looked forward to the deliverance of Jerusalem. When they had done everything the Law of the Lord required, they went back to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. Meanwhile the child grew to maturity, and he was filled with wisdom; and God's favour was with him.

+ This is the gospel of the Lord.

**A - Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

## HOMILY

### THE PROFESSION OF FAITH

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he was born of the Virgin Mary, and became man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshipped and glorified, he has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

## PREPARATION OF THE ALTAR AND GIFTS

+ Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation. Through your goodness we have this bread to offer, which earth has given and human hands have made. It will become for us the bread of life.

**A - Blessed be God for ever.**

+ Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation. Through your goodness we have this wine to offer, fruit of the vine and work of human hands. I will become our spiritual drink.

**A - Blessed be God for ever.**

+ Pray, brethren, that our sacrifice may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

**A - May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good, and the good of all his Church.**

## PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

+ Lord, accept this sacrifice and through the prayers of Mary, the virgin Mother of God, and of her husband, Joseph, unite our families in peace and love. We ask this in the name of Jesus the Lord.

**A - Amen.**

## PREFACE

+ The Lord be with you. **A - And also with you.**

+ Lift up your hearts. **A - We lift them up to the Lord.**

+ Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**A - It's right to give him thanks and praise.**

Father, it is our duty and our salvation, always and everywhere to give you thanks through your beloved Son, Jesus Christ. He is the Word through whom you made the universe, the Saviour you sent to redeem us. By the power of the Holy Spirit he took flesh and was born of the Virgin Mary.

For our sake he opened his arms on the cross; he put an end to death and revealed the resurrection. In this he fulfilled your will and won for you a holy people.

And so we join the angels and the saints in proclaiming your glory as we say:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord. God of power and might. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

## LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

+ Lord, you are holy indeed, the fountain of all holiness.

**CC -** Let your Spirit come upon these gifts to make them holy, so that they may become for us the body + and blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ. Before he was given up to death, a death he freely accepted, he took bread and gave you thanks. He broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said:

**TAKE THIS, ALL OF YOU, AND EAT IT: THIS IS MY BODY WHICH WILL BE GIVEN UP FOR YOU.**

When supper was ended, he took the cup. Again he gave you thanks and praise, gave the cup to his disciples, and said:

**TAKE THIS, ALL OF YOU, AND DRINK FROM IT; THIS IS THE CUP OF MY BLOOD, THE BLOOD OF THE NEW AND EVERLASTING COVENANT. IT WILL BE SHED FOR YOU AND**

ST. PETER'S ITALIAN CHURCH

**FOR ALL SO THAT SINS MAY BE FORGIVEN. DO THIS IN MEMORY OF ME.**

+ Let us proclaim the mystery of faith.

**A - Christ has died, Christ has risen, Christ will come again.**

**CC -** In memory of his death and resurrection, we offer you, Father, this life-giving bread, this saving cup. We thank you for counting us worthy to stand in your presence and serve you. May all of us who share in the body and blood of Christ be brought together in unity by the Holy Spirit.

**C1 -** Lord, remember your Church throughout the world; make us grow in love, together with N. our Pope, N. our bishop, and all the clergy.

**C2 -** Remember our brothers and sisters who have gone to their rest in the hope of rising again; ... bring them and all the departed into the light of your presence. Have mercy on us all: make us worthy to share eternal life, with Mary, the virgin mother of God, with the apostles, and with all the saints who have done your will throughout the ages. May we praise you in union with them, and give you glory through your Son, Jesus Christ.

**CC -** Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honour is yours, almighty Father, for ever and ever.

**A - Amen.**

## RITE OF COMMUNION - PATER NOSTER

+ Let us pray with confidence to the Father in the words our Saviour gave us:

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.**

+ Deliver us, Lord, from every evil, and grant us peace in our day. In your mercy keep us free from sin and protect us from all anxiety as we wait in joyful hope for the coming of our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

**A - For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever.**

+ Lord Jesus Christ, you said to your apostles: "I leave you peace, my peace I give you", look not on our sins, but on the faith of your Church, and grant us the peace and unity of your kingdom where you live for ever and ever.

**A - Amen.**

+ The Peace of the Lord be with you always.

**A - And also with you.**

+ Let us offer each other the sign of peace.

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, grant us peace.**

+ This is the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world. Happy are those who are called to his supper.

**A - Lord, I am not worthy to receive you, but only say the word and I shall be healed.**

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

+ Eternal Father, we want to live as Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, in peace with you and one another. May this communion strengthen us to face the troubles of life. Grant this through Christ our Lord.

**A - Amen.**

## CONCLUDING RITE

+ The Lord be with you. **A - And also with you.**

+ May almighty God bless you, the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit. **A - Amen.**

+ Go in the peace of Christ. **A - Thanks be to God.**