



HOLY COMMUNION OUTSIDE OF MASS
AND
THE ROMAN MISSAL

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Highlights of Revisions

1. Greeting revised to match *Missal* greeting dialog
 - a. “And also with you” to “And with your Spirit”
2. Revised “Penitential Act” to match *Missal*
3. “Short form” readings updated to current Lectionary text
4. Introduction to “Lord’s Prayer” revised to match *Missal* text
5. Invitation to Communion revised to match *Missal* text
6. Concluding Prayers updated to match *Missal* texts
7. Solemn Blessings and Prayers Over the People updated to match *Missal* texts

RITE OF DISTRIBUTING HOLY COMMUNION OUTSIDE MASS WITH THE CELEBRATION OF
THE WORD OF GOD¹

26. This rite is to be used chiefly when Mass is not celebrated or when 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

27. After the people have assembled and preparations for the service are complete, all stand for the greeting of the minister.

GREETING

If he is a priest or a deacon he says:

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

The people answer:

And with your spirit.

Or:

The Lord be with you.

The people answer:

And with your spirit.

Or:

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

The people answer:

¹ Taken from *Holy Communion and Worship of the Eucharist Outside Mass* (1974). All paragraph numbers refer back to the original and have not been changed. Changes to the text reflect overlap with the *Roman Missal, third edition*, and have been underlined.

And with your spirit.

Any other customary forms of greeting from scripture may be used.

If the minister is not a priest or a deacon, he greets those present with these or similar words:

**Brothers and sisters,
the Lord invites us (you) to his table
to share in the body of Christ:
bless him for his goodness.**

The people answer:

Blessed be God for ever.

PENITENTIAL ACT

28. The penitential act follows, and the minister invites the people to recall their sins and to repent of them in these words:

**My brothers and sisters,
to prepare ourselves for this celebration,
let us call to mind our sins.**

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;

Then they 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 minister concludes:

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

The people answer:

Amen.

Or:

The minister invites the people to recall their sins and to repent of them in these words:

**My brothers and sisters,
to prepare ourselves for this celebration,
let us call to mind our sins.**

A pause for silent reflection follows.

The minister says:

Have mercy on us, O Lord.

The people answer:

For we have sinned against you.

Minister:

Show us, O Lord, your mercy.

The people answer:

And grant us your salvation.

The minister concludes:

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

The people answer:

Amen.

Or:

The minister invites the people to recall their sins and to repent of them in these words:

**My brothers and sisters,
to prepare ourselves for this celebration,
let us call to mind our sins.**

A pause for silent reflection follows.

The minister, or someone else, makes the following or other invocations:

Minister:

**You brought us to salvation by your paschal mystery:
Lord, have mercy.**

The people answer:

Lord, have mercy.

Minister:

**You renew us by the wonders of your passion:
Christ, have mercy.**

The people answer:

Christ, have mercy.

Minister:

**You give us your body to make us one with your Easter sacrifice:
Lord, have mercy.**

The people answer:

Lord, have mercy.

The minister concludes:

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

The people answer:

Amen.

CELEBRATION OF THE WORD OF GOD

29. The Liturgy of the Word now takes place as at Mass. Texts are chosen for the occasion either from the Mass of the day or from the votive Masses of the Holy Eucharist or the Precious Blood, the readings from which are in the Lectionary. A list of these passages can be found in nos. 113-153 of this Ritual. The Lectionary offers a wide range of readings which may be drawn upon for particular needs, such as the votive Mass of the Sacred Heart. See nos. 154-158 below.

There may be one or more readings, the first being followed by a psalm or some other chant or by a period of silent prayer.

The celebration of the word ends with the general intercessions.

THE SHORT FORM OF THE READING OF THE WORD

44. Omitting the celebration of the word of God, the minister or other person should read a short scriptural text referring to the bread of life.²

John 6:54-55

**Whoever eats my Flesh and drinks my Blood
has eternal life,
and I will raise him on the last day.
For my Flesh is true food,
and my Blood is true drink.**

John 6:54-58

**Whoever eats my Flesh and drinks my Blood
has eternal life,
and I will raise him on the last day.**

² Scriptural texts taken from the *Lectionary for Mass: second typical edition*

For my Flesh is true food,
and my Blood is true drink.

Whoever eats my Flesh and drinks my Blood
remains in me and I in him.

Just as the living Father sent me
and I have life because of the Father,
so also the one who feeds on me
will have life because of me.

This is the bread that came down from heaven.
Unlike your ancestors who ate and still died,
whoever eats this bread will live forever.

John 14:6

Jesus said to Thomas, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life.
No one comes to the Father except through me."

John 14:23

Jesus answered and said to him,
"Whoever loves me will keep my word,
and my Father will love him,
and we will come to him and make our dwelling in him."

John 15:4

Remain in me, as I remain in you.
Just as a branch cannot bear fruit on its own,
unless it remains on the vine,
so neither can you unless you remain in me.

1 Corinthians 11:26

For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup,
you proclaim the death of the Lord until he comes.

1 John 4:16

We have come to know and to believe in the love God has for us.
God is love, and whoever remains in love
remains in God and God in him.

HOLY COMMUNION

30. After the prayer the minister goes to the place where the sacrament is reserved, takes the ciborium or pyx containing the body of the Lord, places it on the altar and genuflects. He then introduces the Lord's Prayer in these or similar words:

At the Savior's command
and formed by divine teaching,
we dare to say:

He continues with the people:

Our Father...

31. The minister may invite the people in these or similar words:

Let us offer each other the sign of peace.

All make an appropriate sign of peace, according to local custom.

32. The minister genuflects. Taking the host, he raises it slightly over the vessel or pyx and, facing the people, says:

Behold the Lamb of God,
behold him who takes away the sins of the world.
Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

The communicants say once:

Lord, I am not worthy
that you should enter under my roof,
but only say the word
and my soul shall be healed.

33. If the minister receives communion, he says quietly:

May the Body of Christ
keep me safe for eternal life.

He reverently consumes the body of Christ.

34. Then he takes the vessel or pyx and goes to the communicants. He takes a host for each one, raises it slightly, and says:

The body of Christ.

The communicant answers:

Amen,

And receives communion.

35. During the distribution of communion, a hymn may be sung.

36. After communion the minister puts any particles left on the plate into the pyx, and he may wash his hands. He returns any remaining hosts to the tabernacle and genuflects.

37. A period of silence may now be observed, or a psalm or song of praise may be sung.

38. The minister then says the concluding prayer:

Let us pray.

O God, who in this wonderful Sacrament
have left us a memorial of your Passion,
grant us, we pray,
so to revere the sacred mysteries of your Body and Blood
that we may always experience in ourselves
the fruits of your redemption.
Who live and reign with God the Father
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.³

The people answer:

Amen.

Or:

O God, who have accomplished the work of human redemption
through the Paschal Mystery of your Only Begotten Son,
graciously grant that we, who confidently proclaim,
under sacramental signs, the Death and Resurrection of Christ,
may experience continued increase of your saving grace.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

³ Collect, Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ

one God, for ever and ever.⁴

The people answer:

Amen.

Or:

Pour on us, O Lord, the Spirit of your love,
and in your kindness
make those you have nourished
by this one heavenly Bread
one in mind and heart.
Through Christ our Lord.⁵

The people answer:

Amen.

Or:

May sharing at the heavenly table
sanctify us, Lord, we pray,
so that through the Body and Blood of Christ
the whole family of believers may be bound together.
Through Christ our Lord.⁶

The people answer:

Amen.

Or:

Replenished by the food of spiritual nourishment,
we humbly beseech you, O Lord,
that, through our partaking in this mystery,
you may teach us to judge wisely the things of earth
and hold firm to the things of heaven.
Through Christ our Lord.⁷

⁴ Collect, Votive Mass of the Most Holy Eucharist

⁵ Prayer After Communion, 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

⁶ Prayer After Communion, Votive Mass of the Most Holy Eucharist

⁷ Prayer After Communion, Tuesday of the 1st Week of Advent

The people answer:

Amen.

Or:

As we receive these glorious mysteries,
we make thanksgiving to you, O Lord,
for allowing us while still on earth
to be partakers even now of the things of heaven.
Through Christ our Lord.⁸

The people answer:

Amen.

Or:

Humbly we ask you, almighty God,
be graciously pleased to grant
that those you renew with your Sacraments
may also serve with lives pleasing to you.
Through Christ our Lord.⁹

The people answer:

Amen.

Or:

O God, who have willed that we be partakers
in the one Bread and the one Chalice,
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.¹⁰

The people answer:

⁸ Prayer After Communion, 2nd Sunday of Lent

⁹ Prayer After Communion, 1st Week in Ordinary Time

¹⁰ Prayer After Communion, 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Amen.

Or:

Renewed by this bread from the heavenly table,
we beseech you, Lord,
that, being the food of charity,
it may confirm our hearts
and stir us to serve you in our neighbor.
Through Christ our Lord.¹¹

The people answer:

Amen.

Or:

Nourished by this sacred gift, O Lord,
we give you thanks and beseech your mercy,
that, by the pouring forth of your Spirit,
the grace of integrity may endure
in those your heavenly power has entered.
Through Christ our Lord.¹²

The people answer:

Amen.

Or:

Renewed by the sustenance of the one Bread, O Lord,
we humbly pray,
that you may confirm us ever in your charity
and make us walk in newness of life.
Through Christ our Lord.¹³

The people answer:

Amen.

¹¹ Prayer After Communion, 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

¹² Prayer After Communion, 32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

¹³ Prayer After Communion, Common of Martyrs, II. During Easter Time, A. For Several Martyrs, #2 (variant)

Or:

Pour out on us, O Lord, the Spirit of your love,
and in your kindness make those you have nourished
by this paschal Sacrament
one in mind and heart.
Through Christ our Lord.¹⁴

The people answer:

Amen.

Or:

We pray, O Lord,
that the reverent reception of the Sacrament of your Son
may cleanse us from our old ways
and transform us into a new creation.
Through Christ our Lord.¹⁵

The people answer:

Amen.

Or:

Almighty ever-living God,
who restore us to eternal life
in the Resurrection of Christ,
increase in us, we pray, the fruits of this paschal Sacrament
and pour into our hearts the strength of this saving food.
Through Christ our Lord.¹⁶

CONCLUDING RITE

39. If the minister is a priest or deacon, he extends his hands and, facing the people, says:

The Lord be with you.

¹⁴ Prayer After Communion, Easter Vigil

¹⁵ Prayer After Communion, Wednesday within the Octave of Easter

¹⁶ Prayer After Communion, Thursday of the 2nd Week of Easter

The people answer:

And with your spirit.

He blesses the people with these words:

**May almighty God bless you,
the Father, and the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit.**

The people answer:

Amen.

Instead of this formula one of the following solemn blessings may be used or any other solemn blessing or prayer over the people, as in the concluding rite of Mass in the Roman Missal.

Or:

May the Lord bless you and keep you.

R. Amen.

**May he let his face shine upon you
and show you his mercy.**

R. Amen.

**May he turn his countenance towards you
and give you his peace.**

R. Amen.

**And may the blessing of almighty God,
the Father, and the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit,
come down on you and remain with you for ever.**

R. Amen.¹⁷

Or:

**May the peace of God,
which surpasses all understanding,
keep your hearts and minds
in the knowledge and love of God,
and of his Son, our Lord Jesus Christ.**

R. Amen.

¹⁷ Solemn Blessings, 9. Ordinary Time I

**And may the blessing of almighty God,
the Father, and the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit,
come down on you and remain with you for ever.**

R. Amen.¹⁸

Or:

**May almighty God bless you in his kindness
and pour out saving wisdom upon you.**

R. Amen.

**May he nourish you always with the teachings of the faith
and make you persevere in holy deeds.**

R. Amen.

**May he turn your steps towards himself
and show you the path of charity and peace.**

R. Amen.

**And may the blessing of almighty God,
the Father, and the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit,
come down on you and remain with you for ever.**

R. Amen.¹⁹

Or:

**May the God of all consolation order your days in his peace
and grant you the gifts of his blessing.**

R. Amen.

**May he free you always from every distress
and confirm your hearts in his love.**

R. Amen.

**So that on this life's journey
you may be effective in good works,
rich in the gifts of hope, faith and charity,
and may come happily to eternal life.**

R. Amen.

¹⁸ Solemn Blessings, 10. Ordinary Time II

¹⁹ Solemn Blessings, 11. Ordinary Time III

**And may the blessing of almighty God,
the Father, and the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit,
come down on you and remain with you for ever.**

R. Amen.²⁰

Or:

**May almighty God always keep every adversity far from you
and in his kindness pour out upon you the gifts of his blessing.**

R. Amen.

**May God keep your hearts attentive to his words,
that they may be filled with everlasting gladness.**

R. Amen.

**And so, may you always understand what is good and right,
and be found ever hastening along
in the path of God's commands,
made coheirs with the citizens of heaven.**

R. Amen.

**And may the blessing of almighty God,
the Father, and the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit,
come down on you and remain with you for ever.**

R. Amen.²¹

40. If the minister is not a priest or a deacon, he invokes God's blessing and, crossing himself, says:

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

Or:

**May the almighty and merciful God bless and protect us,
the Father and the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit.**

The people answer:

Amen.

²⁰ Solemn Blessings, 12. Ordinary Time IV

²¹ Solemn Blessings, 13. Ordinary Time V

41. Finally the minister says:

Go in the peace of Christ.

The people answer:

Thanks be to God.

Then after the customary reverence, the minister leaves.

42-53. The short rite with the celebration of the word has been incorporated in the previous paragraphs in this edition.

ADMINISTRATION OF COMMUNION AND VIATICUM TO THE SICK BY AN
EXTRAORDINARY MINISTER

54. A priest or deacon administers communion or viaticum to the sick in the manner prescribed by the Rite of Anointing and Pastoral Care of the Sick. When an acolyte or extraordinary minister, duly appointed, gives communion to the sick, the rite here described is followed.

55. Those who cannot receive communion in the form of bread may receive it in the form of wine...

THE ORDINARY RITE OF COMMUNION OF THE SICK

INTRODUCTORY RITE

GREETING

56. Wearing the appropriate vestments (see no. 20), the minister approaches the sick person and greets him and others present in a friendly manner. He may use this greeting:

Peace to this house and to all who live in it.

Any other customary form of greeting from scripture may be used. Then he places the sacrament on the table, and all adore it.

PENITENTIAL RITE

57. The minister invites the sick person and those present to recall their sins and to repent of them in these words:

**My brothers and sisters,
to prepare ourselves for this celebration,
let us call to mind our sins.**

A.

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;

Then they 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 minister concludes:

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

The people answer:

Amen.

B.

The minister says:

Have mercy on us, O Lord.

The people answer:

For we have sinned against you.

Minister:

Show us, O Lord, your mercy.

The people answer:

And grant us your salvation.

The minister concludes:

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

The people answer:

Amen.

C.

The minister, or someone else, makes the following or other invocations:

Minister:

**You brought us to salvation by your paschal mystery:
Lord, have mercy.**

The people answer:

Lord, have mercy.

Minister:

**You renew us by the wonders of your passion:
Christ, have mercy.**

The people answer:

Christ, have mercy.

Minister:

**You give us your body to make us one with your Easter sacrifice:
Lord, have mercy.**

The people answer:

Lord, have mercy.

The minister concludes:

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

The people answer:

Amen.

THE SHORT FORM OF THE READING OF THE WORD OF GOD

58. A brief passage from sacred scripture (see no. 71) may then be read by one of those present or by the minister himself.²²

John 6:54-58

Whoever eats my Flesh and drinks my Blood
has eternal life,
and I will raise him on the last day.
For my Flesh is true food,
and my Blood is true drink.

Whoever eats my Flesh and drinks my Blood
remains in me and I in him.
Just as the living Father sent me
and I have life because of the Father,
so also the one who feeds on me
will have life because of me.
This is the bread that came down from heaven.
Unlike your ancestors who ate and still died,
whoever eats this bread will live forever.

John 14:6

Jesus said to Thomas, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life.
No one comes to the Father except through me."

John 14:23

Jesus answered and said to him,
"Whoever loves me will keep my word,
and my Father will love him,
and we will come to him and make our dwelling in him."

John 15:4

Remain in me, as I remain in you.
Just as a branch cannot bear fruit on its own,
unless it remains on the vine,
so neither can you unless you remain in me.

²² Scriptural texts taken from the *Lectionary for Mass: second typical edition*

John 15:5

**I am the vine, you are the branches.
Whoever remains in me and I in him will bear much fruit,
because without me you can do nothing.**

1 Corinthians 11:26

**For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup,
you proclaim the death of the Lord until he comes.**

1 John 4:16

**We have come to know and to believe in the love God has for us.
God is love, and whoever remains in love
remains in God and God in him.**

See the Rite of Anointing and Pastoral Care of the Sick (nos. 247ff. or 153ff.) for a further selection of texts.

HOLY COMMUNION

59. The minister then introduces the Lord's Prayer in these or similar words:

**At the Savior's command
and formed by divine teaching,
we dare to say:**

He continues with the people:

Our Father...

60. Then the minister shows the holy eucharist, saying:

**Behold the Lamb of God,
behold him who takes away the sins of the world.
Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.**

The sick person and the other communicants say once:

Lord, I am not worthy
that you should enter under my roof,
but only say the word
and my soul shall be healed.

61. The minister goes to the sick person and, showing him the sacrament, says:

The body of Christ.

The sick person answers:

Amen,

And receives communion.

Others present receive in the usual manner.

62. After communion the minister washes the vessel as usual. A period of silence may now be observed.

The minister then says the concluding prayer:

Let us pray.

God our Father, almighty and eternal,
we confidently call upon you,
that the body [and blood] of Christ
which our brother (sister) has received
may bring him (her)
lasting health in mind and body.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.

The people answer:

Amen.

Or:

O God, who have accomplished the work of human redemption through the Paschal Mystery of your Only Begotten Son, graciously grant that we, who confidently proclaim, under sacramental signs, the Death and Resurrection of Christ, may experience continued increase of your saving grace. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.²³

²³ Collect, Votive Mass of the Most Holy Eucharist

The people answer:

Amen.

Or:

**Pour on us, O Lord, the Spirit of your love,
and in your kindness
make those you have nourished
by this one heavenly Bread
one in mind and heart.
Through Christ our Lord.**²⁴

The people answer:

Amen.

Or:

**May sharing at the heavenly table
sanctify us, Lord, we pray,
so that through the Body and Blood of Christ
the whole family of believers may be bound together.
Through Christ our Lord.**²⁵

The people answer:

Amen.

Or:

**Replenished by the food of spiritual nourishment,
we humbly beseech you, O Lord,
that, through our partaking in this mystery,
you may teach us to judge wisely the things of earth
and hold firm to the things of heaven.
Through Christ our Lord.**²⁶

The people answer:

²⁴ Prayer After Communion, 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

²⁵ Prayer After Communion, Votive Mass of the Most Holy Eucharist

²⁶ Prayer After Communion, Tuesday of the 1st Week of Advent

Amen.

Or:

As we receive these glorious mysteries,
we make thanksgiving to you, O Lord,
for allowing us while still on earth
to be partakers even now of the things of heaven.
Through Christ our Lord.²⁷

The people answer:

Amen.

Or:

Humbly we ask you, almighty God,
be graciously pleased to grant
that those you renew with your Sacraments
may also serve with lives pleasing to you.
Through Christ our Lord.²⁸

The people answer:

Amen.

Or:

O God, who have willed that we be partakers
in the one Bread and the one Chalice,
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.²⁹

The people answer:

Amen.

²⁷ Prayer After Communion, 2nd Sunday of Lent

²⁸ Prayer After Communion, 1st Week in Ordinary Time

²⁹ Prayer After Communion, 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Or:

Renewed by this bread from the heavenly table,
we beseech you, Lord,
that, being the food of charity,
it may confirm our hearts
and stir us to serve you in our neighbor.
Through Christ our Lord.³⁰

The people answer:

Amen.

Or:

Nourished by this sacred gift, O Lord,
we give you thanks and beseech your mercy,
that, by the pouring forth of your Spirit,
the grace of integrity may endure
in those your heavenly power has entered.
Through Christ our Lord.³¹

The people answer:

Amen.

Or:

Renewed by the sustenance of the one Bread, O Lord,
we humbly pray,
that you may confirm us ever in your charity
and make us walk in newness of life.
Through Christ our Lord.³²

The people answer:

Amen.

During Easter Time, the following prayers are preferred.

³⁰ Prayer After Communion, 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

³¹ Prayer After Communion, 32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

³² Prayer After Communion, Common of Martyrs, II. During Easter Time, A. For Several Martyrs, #2 (variant)

Pour out on us, O Lord, the Spirit of your love,
and in your kindness make those you have nourished
by this paschal Sacrament
one in mind and heart.
Through Christ our Lord.³³

The people answer:

Amen.

Or:

We pray, O Lord,
that the reverent reception of the Sacrament of your Son
may cleanse us from our old ways
and transform us into a new creation.
Through Christ our Lord.³⁴

The people answer:

Amen.

Or:

Almighty ever-living God,
who restore us to eternal life
in the Resurrection of Christ,
increase in us, we pray, the fruits of this paschal Sacrament
and pour into our hearts the strength of this saving food.
Through Christ our Lord.³⁵

³³ Prayer After Communion, Easter Vigil

³⁴ Prayer After Communion, Wednesday within the Octave of Easter

³⁵ Prayer After Communion, Thursday of the 2nd Week of Easter

CONCLUDING RITE

63. Then the minister invokes God's blessing and, crossing himself, says:

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

Or:

**May the almighty and merciful God bless and protect us,
the Father and the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit.**

The people answer:

Amen

SHORT RITE OF COMMUNION OF THE SICK

64. This shorter rite is to be used when communion is given in different rooms of the same building, such as a hospital. Elements taken from the ordinary rite may be added according to circumstances.

65. The rite may begin in the church or chapel or in the first room, where the minister says the following antiphon:

**How holy this feast
in which Christ is our food:
his passion is recalled,
grace fills our hearts,
and we receive a pledge of the glory to come.**

Or:

**How gracious you are, Lord:
your gift of bread from heaven
reveals a Father's love and brings us perfect joy.
You fill the hungry with good things
and send away the rich in their pride.**

Or:

**Body of Jesus, born of the Virgin Mary,
body bowed in agony,
raised upon the cross
and offered for us in sacrifice,
body pierced and flowing with blood and water,
come at the hour of our death
as our living bread,
the foretaste of eternal glory:
come, Lord Jesus,
loving and gracious Son of Mary.**

Or:

**I am the living bread,
that came down from heaven, says the Lord.
Whoever eats of this bread will live for ever,
and the bread that I will give is my flesh for the life of the world.**³⁶

³⁶ Communion Antiphon, Votive Masses, 5. The Most Holy Eucharist

66. Then the minister may be escorted by someone carrying a candle. He says to all the sick persons in the same room or to each communicant individually:

**Behold the Lamb of God,
behold him** who takes away the sins of the world.
Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

The one who is to receive communion then says once:

Lord, I am not worthy
that you should enter under my roof,
but only say the word
and my soul shall be healed.

He receives communion in the usual manner.

67. The rite is concluded with a prayer (see no. 62) which may be said in the church or chapel or in the last room:

Let us pray.
God our Father, almighty and eternal,
we confidently call upon you,
that the body [and blood] of Christ
which our brother (sister) has received
may bring him (her)
lasting health in mind and body.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.

The people answer:

Amen.

Or:

**O God, who have accomplished the work of human redemption
through the Paschal Mystery of your Only Begotten Son,
graciously grant that we, who confidently proclaim,
under sacramental signs, the Death and Resurrection of Christ,
may experience continued increase of your saving grace.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.**³⁷

³⁷ Collect, Votive Masses, 5. The Most Holy Eucharist

The people answer:

Amen.

Or:

Pour on us, O Lord, the Spirit of your love,
and in your kindness
make those you have nourished
by this one heavenly Bread
one in mind and heart.
Through Christ our Lord.³⁸

The people answer:

Amen.

Or:

May sharing at the heavenly table
sanctify us, Lord, we pray,
so that through the Body and Blood of Christ
the whole family of believers may be bound together.
Through Christ our Lord.³⁹

The people answer:

Amen.

Or:

Replenished by the food of spiritual nourishment,
we humbly beseech you, O Lord,
that, through our partaking in this mystery,
you may teach us to judge wisely the things of earth
and hold firm to the things of heaven.
Through Christ our Lord.⁴⁰

³⁸ Prayer After Communion, 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

³⁹ Prayer After Communion, Votive Masses, 5. The Most Holy Eucharist

⁴⁰ Prayer After Communion, Tuesday of the 1st Week of Advent

The people answer:

Amen.

Or:

As we receive these glorious mysteries,
we make thanksgiving to you, O Lord,
for allowing us while still on earth
to be partakers even now of the things of heaven.
Through Christ our Lord.⁴¹

The people answer:

Amen.

Or:

Humbly we ask you, almighty God,
be graciously pleased to grant
that those you renew with your Sacraments
may also serve with lives pleasing to you.
Through Christ our Lord.⁴²

The people answer:

Amen.

Or:

O God, who have willed that we be partakers
in the one Bread and the one Chalice,
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.⁴³

⁴¹ Prayer After Communion, 2nd Sunday of Lent

⁴² Prayer After Communion, 1st Week in Ordinary Time

⁴³ Prayer After Communion, 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

The people answer:

Amen.

Or:

Renewed by this bread from the heavenly table,
we beseech you, Lord,
that, being the food of charity,
it may confirm our hearts
and stir us to serve you in our neighbor.
Through Christ our Lord.⁴⁴

The people answer:

Amen.

Or:

Nourished by this sacred gift, O Lord,
we give you thanks and beseech your mercy,
that, by the pouring forth of your Spirit,
the grace of integrity may endure
in those your heavenly power has entered.
Through Christ our Lord.⁴⁵

The people answer:

Amen.

Or:

Renewed by the sustenance of the one Bread, O Lord,
we humbly pray,
that you may confirm us ever in your charity
and make us walk in newness of life.
Through Christ our Lord.⁴⁶

⁴⁴ Prayer After Communion, 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

⁴⁵ Prayer After Communion, 32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

⁴⁶ Prayer After Communion, Common of Martyrs, II. During Easter Time, A. For Several Martyrs, #2 (variant)

The people answer:

Amen.

During Easter Time, the following prayers are preferred.

**Pour out on us, O Lord, the Spirit of your love,
and in your kindness make those you have nourished
by this paschal Sacrament
one in mind and heart.
Through Christ our Lord.**⁴⁷

The people answer:

Amen.

Or:

**We pray, O Lord,
that the reverent reception of the Sacrament of your Son
may cleanse us from our old ways
and transform us into a new creation.
Through Christ our Lord.**⁴⁸

The people answer:

Amen.

Or:

**Almighty ever-living God,
who restore us to eternal life
in the Resurrection of Christ,
increase in us, we pray, the fruits of this paschal Sacrament
and pour into our hearts the strength of this saving food.
Through Christ our Lord.**⁴⁹

⁴⁷ Prayer After Communion, Easter Vigil

⁴⁸ Prayer After Communion, Wednesday within the Octave of Easter

⁴⁹ Prayer After Communion, Thursday of the 2nd Week of Easter

VIATICUM

INTRODUCTORY RITE

GREETING

68. Wearing the appropriate vestments (see no. 20) the minister approaches the sick person and greets him and the others present in a friendly manner. He may use this greeting:

Peace to this house and to all who live in it.

Any other customary form of greeting from scripture may be used. Then he places the sacrament on the table, and all adore it.

69. Afterward the minister addresses those present using the following instruction or one better suited to the sick person's condition:

My brothers and sisters:

Before our Lord Jesus Christ passed from this world to return to his Father, he gave us the sacrament of his body and blood. This is the promise of our resurrection, the food and drink for our journey as we pass from this life to join him. United in the love of Christ, let us ask God to give strength to our brother (sister).

A period of silent prayer then follows.

PENITENTIAL ACT

70. The minister invites the sick person and all present to recall their sins and to repent of them in these words:

**My brothers and sisters,
to prepare ourselves for this celebration,
let us call to mind our sins.**

A.

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;

Then they 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 minister concludes:

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

The people answer:

Amen.

B.

The minister says:

Have mercy on us, O Lord.

The people answer:

For we have sinned against you.

Minister:

Show us, O Lord, your mercy.

The people answer:

And grant us your salvation.

The minister concludes:

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

The people answer:

Amen.

C.

The minister, or someone else, makes the following or other invocations:

Minister:

**You brought us to salvation by your paschal mystery:
Lord, have mercy.**

The people answer:

Lord, have mercy.

Minister:

**You renew us by the wonders of your passion:
Christ, have mercy.**

The people answer:

Christ, have mercy.

Minister:

**You give us your body to make us one with your Easter sacrifice:
Lord, have mercy.**

The people answer:

Lord, have mercy.

The minister concludes:

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

The people answer:

Amen.

THE SHORT FORM OF THE READING OF THE WORD

71. It is most fitting that one of those present or the minister himself read a brief text from scripture:

John 6:54-58

Whoever eats my Flesh and drinks my Blood
has eternal life,
and I will raise him on the last day.

For my Flesh is true food,
and my Blood is true drink.

Whoever eats my Flesh and drinks my Blood
remains in me and I in him.

Just as the living Father sent me
and I have life because of the Father,
so also the one who feeds on me
will have life because of me.

This is the bread that came down from heaven.

Unlike your ancestors who ate and still died,
whoever eats this bread will live forever.

John 14:6

Jesus said to Thomas, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life.
No one comes to the Father except through me."

John 14:23

Jesus answered and said to him,
"Whoever loves me will keep my word,
and my Father will love him,
and we will come to him and make our dwelling in him."

John 15:4

Remain in me, as I remain in you.
Just as a branch cannot bear fruit on its own,
unless it remains on the vine,
so neither can you unless you remain in me.

1 Corinthians 11:26

For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup,
you proclaim the death of the Lord until he comes.

1 John 4:16

We have come to know and to believe in the love God has for us.
God is love, and whoever remains in love
remains in God and God in him.

See the Rite of Anointing and Pastoral Care of the Sick (nos. 247ff. or 153ff.) for a further selection of texts.

PROFESSION OF BAPTISMAL FAITH⁵⁰

72. It is desirable that the sick person renew his baptismal profession of faith before he receives viaticum. The minister gives a brief introduction and then asks the following questions:

Do you believe in God,
the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth?

R. I do.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered death and was buried,
rose again from the dead
and is seated at the right hand of the Father?

R. I do.

⁵⁰ Taken from the Proper of Time, Easter Vigil, Renewal of Baptismal Promises,

**Do you believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and life everlasting?**

R. I do.

PRAYER FOR THE SICK PERSON

73. If the condition of the sick person permits, a brief litany is recited in these or similar words. The sick person, if he is able, and all present respond:

My brothers and sisters, let us pray with one mind and heart to our Lord Jesus Christ:

Lord, you loved us to the end, and you accepted death that we might have life: hear our prayer for our brother (sister).

R. Lord, hear our prayer.

Lord, you said; “He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life”: hear our prayer for our brother (sister).

R. Lord, hear our prayer.

Lord, you invite us to the banquet of your kingdom, where there will be no more pain or mourning, no more sorrow or separation: hear our prayer for our brother (sister):

R. Lord, hear our prayer.

VIATICUM

74. The minister introduces the Lord’s Prayer in these or similar words:

**At the Savior’s command
and formed by divine teaching,
we dare to say:**

All continue:

Our Father...

75. Then the minister shows the holy eucharist, saying:

**Behold the Lamb of God,
behold him who takes away the sins of the world.
Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.**

The sick person and all who are to receive say once:

Lord, I am not worthy
that you should enter under my roof,
but only say the word
and my soul shall be healed.

76. The minister goes to the sick person and, showing him the sacrament, says:

The body of Christ (or: The blood of Christ).

The sick person answers:

Amen.

Immediately, or after giving communion, the minister adds:

May the Lord Jesus Christ protect you and lead you to eternal life.

The sick person answers:

Amen.

Others present then receive communion in the usual manner.

77. After communion the minister washes the vessels as usual. Then a period of silence may be observed.

CONCLUDING RITE

78. The minister says the concluding prayer:

**O God, whose Son is for us the way, the truth and the life,
look lovingly upon your servant N.
and grant that, trusting in your promises
and strengthened by the Body of your Son,
he (she) may journey in peace to your Kingdom.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.**⁵¹

The people answer:

Amen.

Or:

**O Lord, eternal health and salvation
of those who believe in you,
grant, we pray, that your servant N.,
renewed by heavenly food and drink,
may safely reach your Kingdom of light and life.
Through Christ our Lord.**⁵²

The people answer:

Amen.

Then the minister says:

**May the Lord be with you always,
to be your strength and your peace.**

The minister and the others may then give the sign of peace to the sick person.

⁵¹ Collect, Ritual Masses, III, For the Administering of Viaticum

⁵² Prayer After Communion, Ritual Masses, III, For the Administering of Viaticum