Votive Mass of the Most Holy Eucharist

(to be celebrated at any time on a Sunday of Ordinary Time, preferably in small groups)
(For use in 2020 when the pandemic eases)

Candidates for First Communion, catechists or teachers, relatives and friends, representatives of the faithful, and the pastor(s) are to take part in this Mass.

In the Homily, the Priest should explain about the Eucharist, which is the climax of the Sacraments of Christian Initiation and the center of the whole of Christian life.

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON (Cf. Ps 81(80):17)

He fed them with the finest wheat and satisfied them with honey from the rock.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

COLLECT

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.

R. Amen.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING (He gave you a food unknown to you and your fathers.)
A reading from the Book of Deuteronomy (8:2-3, 14b-16a)

Moses said to the people: "Remember how for forty years now the Lord, your God, has directed all your journeying in the desert, so as to test you by affliction and find out whether or not it was your intention to keep his commandments. He therefore let you be afflicted with hunger, and then fed you with manna, a food unknown to you and your fathers, in order to show you that not by bread alone does one live, but by every word that comes forth from the mouth of the Lord.

"Do not forget the Lord, your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, that place of slavery; who guided you through the vast and terrible desert with its saraph serpents and scorpions, its parched and waterless ground; who brought forth water for you from the flinty rock and fed you in the desert with manna, a food unknown to your fathers." — The Word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM (147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20)

R. Praise the Lord, Jerusalem. (Ps 147:12)

Glorify the Lord, O Jerusalem; praise your God, O Zion. For he has strengthened the bars of your gates; he has blessed your children within you. (R)

He has granted peace in your borders; with the best of wheat he fills you. He sends forth his command to the earth; swiftly runs his word! (R)

He has proclaimed his word to Jacob, his statutes and his ordinances to Israel. He has not done thus for any other nation; his ordinances he has not made known to them. (R)

SECOND READING (For as often as you eat and drink, you proclaim the death of the Lord.)

A reading from the first Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians (11:23-26)

Brothers and sisters: I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus, on the night he was handed over, took bread, and, after he had given thanks, broke it and said,

"This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me." In the same way also the cup, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the death of the Lord until he comes. — The Word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

R. Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the living bread that came down from heaven, says the Lord; whoever eats this bread will live forever. (R)

GOSPEL ((My flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink.)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John (6:51-58)

Jesus said to the Jewish crowds: I am the living bread that came down from heaven; whoever eats this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give is my flesh for the life of the world."

The Jews quarreled among themselves, saying, "How can this man give us his flesh to eat?" Jesus said to them, "Amen, amen, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you do not have life within you. Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up 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." —The Gospel of the Lord.

R. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

HOMILY

(In the Homily, the Priest should explain about the Eucharist, which is the climax of the Sacraments of Christian Initiation and the center of the whole of Christian life.).)

CREED

GENERAL INTERCESSIONS

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

(Then the candidates for First Communion bring forward the bread and wine.)

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Grant your Church, O Lord, we pray, the gifts of unity and peace, whose signs are to be seen in mystery in the offerings we here present. Through Christ our Lord.

R. Amen.



PREFACE (The fruits of the Most Holy Eucharist.)

It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation, always and everywhere to give you thanks, Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God, through Christ our Lord.

For at the Last Supper with his Apostles, establishing for the ages to come the saving memorial of the Cross, he offered himself to you as the unblemished Lamb, the acceptable gift of perfect praise.

Nourishing your faithful by this sacred mystery, you make them holy so that the human race, bounded by one world, may be enlightened by one faith and united by one bond of charity.

And so, we approach the table of this wondrous Sacrament, so that, bathed in the sweetness of your grace, we may pass over to the heavenly realities here foreshadowed.

Therefore, all creatures of heaven and earth sing a new song in adoration, and we, with all the host of Angels, cry out, and without end we acclaim: *Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts*

(Before the Behold the Lamb of God, the Celebrant may briefly address those receiving their first Communion about the excellence of this great mystery, which is the climax of the Sacraments of Christian Initiation and the center of the whole of Christian life.)

COMMUNION ANTIPHON (Jn 6:57)

Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me and I in him, says the Lord.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Grant, O Lord, we pray, that we may delight for all eternity in that share in your divine life, which is foreshadowed in the present age by our reception of your precious Body and Blood. Who live and reign for ever and ever.

R. Amen.

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