Sing the Mass: Diocesan Fall Liturgy Workshop

Church of St. Aloysius Olivia, MN Saturday, November 11, 2017



The Sacred Liturgy and Sacred Music: Singing the Mass

What Is the Liturgy?

According to the Second Vatican Council

Sacrosanctum Concilium, 5-13, 47

Catechism of the Catholic Church, 1322-1419

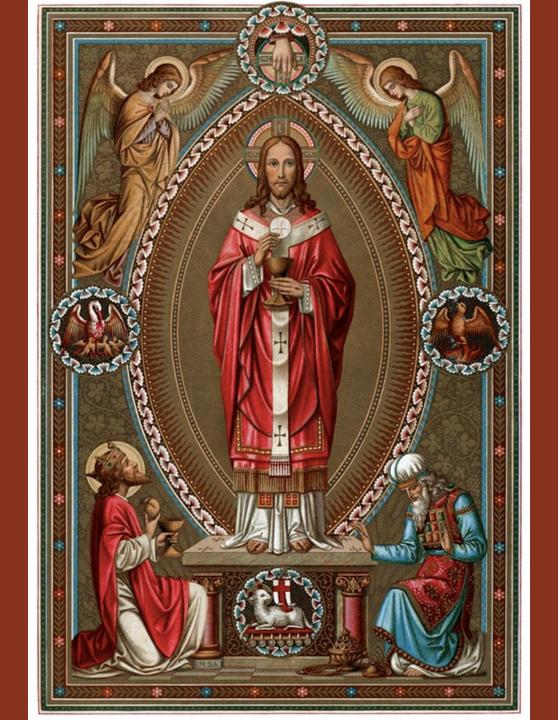
The liturgy is...a participation in Christ's own prayer addressed to the Father in the Holy Spirit.

CCC 1073

Christ indeed always associates the Church with Himself in this great work wherein God is perfectly glorified and men are sanctified.

Rightly, then, the liturgy is considered as an exercise of the priestly office of Jesus Christ...[I]n the liturgy the whole public worship is performed by the Mystical Body of Jesus Christ, that is, by the Head and His members.

From this it follows that every liturgical celebration, because it is an action of Christ the priest and of His Body which is the Church, is a sacred action surpassing all others; no other action of the Church can equal its efficacy by the same title and to the same degree.



A Foretaste of and Participation in the Heavenly Liturgy

In the earthly liturgy we take part in a foretaste of that heavenly liturgy which is celebrated in the holy city of Jerusalem toward which we journey as pilgrims, where Christ is sitting at the right hand of God, a minister of the holies and of the true tabernacle;...

A Foretaste of and Participation in the Heavenly Liturgy

...we sing a hymn to the Lord's glory with all the warriors of the heavenly army; venerating the memory of the saints, we hope for some part and fellowship with them; we eagerly await the Savior, Our Lord Jesus Christ, until He, our life, shall appear and we too will appear with Him in glory.



The Source and Summit of the Life of the Church

Nevertheless the liturgy is the summit toward which the activity of the Church is directed; at the same time it is the font from which all her power flows.

The Source and Summit of the Life of the Church

For the aim and object of apostolic works is that all who are made sons of God by faith and baptism should come together to praise God in the midst of His Church, to take part in the sacrifice, and to eat the Lord's supper.

The Sacramental Memorial and Re-Presentation of the Sacrifice of Christ on the Cross

At the Last Supper, on the night when He was betrayed, our Savior instituted the Eucharistic sacrifice of His Body and Blood.

The Sacramental Memorial and Re-Presentation of the Sacrifice of Christ on the Cross

He did this in order to perpetuate the sacrifice of the Cross throughout the centuries until He should come again, and so to entrust to His beloved spouse, the Church, a memorial of His death and resurrection...

The Sacramental Memorial and Re-Presentation of the Sacrifice of Christ on the Cross

The sacrifice of the Cross and the sacrifice of the Eucharist are one single sacrifice: "The victim is one and the same: the same now offers through the ministry of priests, who then offered Himself on the Cross; only the manner of offering is different."



The Sacred Liturgy

Prayer

Praise

of Christ

Presence



Sacrosanctum Concilium 112-121

Tra le sollicitudine, Pope St. Pius X

The musical tradition of the universal Church is a treasure of inestimable value, greater even than that of any other art.

The main reason for this pre-eminence is that, as sacred song united to the words, it forms a necessary or integral part of the solemn liturgy...

Therefore sacred music is to be considered the more holy in proportion as it is more closely connected with the liturgical action, whether it adds delight to prayer, fosters unity of minds, or confers greater solemnity upon the sacred rites. But the Church approves of all forms of true art having the needed qualities, and admits them into divine worship.

The Church acknowledges Gregorian chant as specially suited to the Roman liturgy: therefore, other things being equal, it should be given pride of place in liturgical services.

But other kinds of sacred music, especially polyphony, are by no means excluded from liturgical celebrations, so long as they accord with the spirit of the liturgical action...

Sacred music, being a complementary part of the solemn liturgy, participates in the general scope of the liturgy, which is the glory of God and the sanctification and edification of the faithful.

Tra le sollicitudine 1

It contributes to the decorum and the splendor of the ecclesiastical ceremonies, and since its principal office is to clothe with suitable melody the liturgical text proposed for the understanding of the faithful, its proper aim is to add greater efficacy to the text...

Tra le sollicitudine 1

...in order that through it the faithful may be the more easily moved to devotion and better disposed for the reception of the fruits of grace belonging to the celebration of the most holy mysteries.

Tra le sollicitudine 1

What To Sing at Mass

Musicam Sacram

General Instruction of the Roman Missal (GIRM)

Musicam Sacram

Numbers 27-34 are in your folder.

Promulgated March 5, 1967 by the Sacred Congregation of Rites

Instruction on Music in the Liturgy

General Instruction of the Roman Missal

GIRM

Numbers 47-48, 74, 86-87 are in your folder.

Sing the Mass!

Preference for singing the texts of the Mass over singing other songs at Mass; to sing the Mass rather to sing at Mass.