

Saturday Morning Mass

Saturdays are traditionally dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary because she alone maintained her faith in Christ's resurrection during the grief and darkness of Holy Saturday. This ancient custom allows Christians to offer comfort to Mary, to meditate on her virtues, and to honor her through the tradition of special Marian devotions and prayers.

Why Latin? Mass responses during Saturday morning Mass are in Latin. While the Second Vatican Council allowed for the use of vernacular languages, the Council wished that the Latin language be preserved. The use of Latin in Mass maintains unity, ensures theological precision, and safeguards ancient tradition.

Why Chant? Many Mass responses during Saturday morning Mass are also chanted. Catholics chant at Mass to elevate the spoken word into a form of prayer that transcends ordinary speech. Chanting also serves as a powerful tool to engage the mind, heart, and senses in worship.

Why Marian Antiphons? At the end of Saturday morning Mass, a Marian antiphon is chanted to honor Our Lady. Marian antiphons reflect the Church's belief in the Intercession of the Saints and the *Theotokos* (Mary as Mother of God).

Mary, Mother of the Eucharist, *pray for us!*

Father Frei