

This “Walk Through the Mass” was developed by Archdiocese of Chicago. To offer parishes a way to provide a formative, reflective and interactive opportunity for Catholics to come to a deeper understanding and appreciation of the Sunday Mass. [<https://www.chicagocatholic.com/chicagoland/-/article/2013/04/28/a-walk-through-the-mass>] This is part 3 of 4.

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

The Liturgy of the Eucharist follows another Jewish tradition, the Passover meal. In the Passover meal prayers are said to remind the people of God’s love and mercy, and where food is blessed and shared.

Presentation of the Gifts

People from the community bring forth the bread and wine to be shared with everyone. However, the bread and the wine aren’t the only things we offer God in the presentation of the gifts. We also offer ourselves. Each time we go to Mass, we are called to offer to God all that we are. We offer ourselves as “gift” to God. Even though you are not walking forward, you can still “carry” a gift, given to you by God that you bring to this Mass to be blessed, broken and shared with others. During this time you can think about what gifts you have that you will share this week.

Washing Hands

In ancient times when the gifts were brought forth from the community, those could have included live animals. The washing ritual was a practical step before consecrating the bread and wine to be shared. The ritual remains in our Mass of today as a symbolic washing with a prayer that the priest says for interior purification, “Wash me, O Lord, from my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin.” It is a prayer that we can pray with him in our hearts to help prepare to receive the Bread of Life, and the Cup of Salvation.

Presider: Pray, brothers and sisters, that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

All: 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 holy church. Everything we experience at Mass can be summed up in this invitation to prayer that the people say.

Eucharistic Prayer

This is a great prayer of praise and thanks. While the words are different in the 13 different eucharistic prayers, the underlying structure is the same. Each eucharistic prayer acknowledges our need to give thanks to God, offers the bread and wine, asks God to send the Holy Spirit to transform the bread and the wine into the very presence of Christ, and intercedes on behalf of the church, the world, the poor, and those who have gone before us.

The eucharistic prayers are based on prayers that we have had in our tradition since the earliest years of the church, as well as more recent prayers. In a very real way, everything that we have done at Mass before this point, has prepared us to enter into this great prayer.

The Lord’s Prayer

This is the prayer that unites all Christians, the prayer that Christ gave us. Before we share in the Bread of Life and the Cup of Salvation, we recognize that our daily bread comes from God.

Sign of Peace

In this ritual sharing of Christ’s peace we use the first words of Jesus after the resurrection: “Peace be with you.” Once we have received Christ’s peace (not just a kind greeting) then we are prepared to receive the fullness of Christ in the Eucharist.

Presider: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

All: And with your spirit.

OVER

Presider: Let us offer each other the sign of peace. (The participants share the sign of Christ's peace.)

Communion Rite

Once more, we enter into a procession. All processions are outward, physical symbols of inward and spiritual realities. Each one of us, in our own faith lives, is on a procession. Our whole life is one great procession — one great journey — to heaven and to the Father. So now, as we move forward to receive Holy Communion, we are more than simply “in line.” We are in another procession that is a symbol of our pilgrimage to the Heavenly Banquet.

As we reach the priest or the extraordinary minister, we are presented with the Eucharist in the very simplest of words: “The Body of Christ.” This most awesome mystery, the very presence of Christ Jesus, given for our lives, and for the life of the world, demands a response from each one of us. And so we respond, “Amen,” another Hebrew word that means, “Yes,” or “So be it.” Similarly, we are presented with the chalice with the words, “The Blood of Christ,” and again we respond with a strong “Amen!”

The Eucharist is the spiritual and sacramental nourishment for our life journey. As the Lord fed his chosen people with manna from heaven, so too does he feed us with this Bread from Heaven. As the two disciples at Emmaus recognized the presence of the Lord in the breaking of the bread, so too do we recognize the presence of Christ in our midst, feeding us with his very Body and Blood.

When all have received Holy Communion, the priest prays a prayer of thanks, which brings the Liturgy of the Eucharist to a close.

Día Mundial de los Abuelos y de las Personas Mayores • 27 de julio de 2025 • Fe • Confianza • Oración

Los abuelos transmiten la fe y mantienen la oración en el corazón de la vida familiar.

Los abuelos son miembros muy queridos de nuestra familia. Aportan dones de sabiduría, experiencia, amor y comparten con nosotros su vida de fe. Demos gracias a Dios por su ejemplo y le pedimos que los bendiga con felicidad y buena salud. Señor Dios Todopoderoso, bendice a nuestros abuelos con una vida larga, felicidad y salud. Que permanezcan constantes en Tu amor y sean signos vivos de Tu presencia para sus hijos y nietos.

Te lo pedimos por Cristo nuestro Señor.

R/. Amén

World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly • July 27, 2025 • Faith • Trust • Prayer

Grandparents pass on the faith and keep prayer in the heart of family life.

Grandparents are cherished members of our family. They bring gifts of wisdom, experience, and love, and share with us their life of faith. We thank God for their example and ask that He bless them with happiness and good health. Lord God Almighty, bless our grandparents with long life, happiness, and health. May they remain constant in Your love and be living signs of Your presence to their children and grandchildren. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

R/. Amen

Bishop Jacques Fabre-Jeune has invited all leaders of the current/active ministries and apostolates serving within our parish to a meeting on **Saturday, August 9th**, at Our Lady of the Lake Church, 195 Amicks Ferry Road in Chapin. This is to share ideas regarding Via Fidelis, and the Bishop will listen to your suggestions on how your apostolate or ministry can serve the Via Fidelis. The English session will be from 10 am to 12 pm. A bilingual Mass at 12:15 pm. The Spanish session will be from 2 pm to 4 pm. Ministry leaders need only attend one of the two sessions. Contact the parish office, as the Diocese requires an RSVP. Thank you.

El Obispo Jacques Fabre-Jeune ha invitado a todos los líderes de los ministerios y apostolados actuales/activos que sirven en nuestra parroquia a una reunión **el sábado 9 de agosto** en Our Lady of the Lake Church, ubicada en 195 Amicks Ferry Road, Chapin. El objetivo es compartir ideas sobre Vía Fidelis, y el Obispo escuchará sus sugerencias sobre cómo su apostolado o ministerio puede contribuir a Vía Fidelis. La sesión en inglés será de 10:00 a. m. a 12:00 p. m. La misa bilingüe será a las 12:15 p. m. La sesión en español será de 2:00 p. m. a 4:00 p. m. Los líderes de ministerio solo necesitan asistir a una de las dos sesiones. Comuníquese con la oficina parroquial, ya que la Diócesis requiere confirmar su asistencia. Gracias.

Diocesan Back to School Mass will be celebrated at St. John Neumann located at 100 Polo Rd. in Columbia on Sunday, **August 10th, at 5 p.m.** All are welcome to attend.