

Theo 101, Session #10: Items Used at Mass

The University of St. Francis

BOOKS



Sacramentary

Contains the opening prayer, prayer over the gifts, prayer after communion, and solemn blessings.

Eucharistic prayers and prefaces for all of the masses including most special occasions.



Book of the Gospels

Contains only the Gospel readings. It is used on more solemn occasions and is carried by the deacon if it is used.



Lectionary

Contains the scripture readings for Mass. It is carried in the procession by the lector and placed on the ambo.

Hymnal/Missalette

Contains all the parts of the mass for a specific season in the liturgical year including instructions on when to stand, sit, or kneel.

OBJECTS



Ciborium

A vessel used to hold the Hosts which will be used

for communion. They are also used to reserve the Blessed Sacrament in the tabernacle.



Paten

A saucer-like disk which holds the bread which becomes the Body of

Christ.

Communion Cups

Vessels used at communion for the congregation for the distribution of the Precious Blood.



Purificator

A white cloth use to cleanse the chalice. It resembles a napkin.

Decanter or Flagon

The bottle or pitcher like vessel used to hold the wine which will be consecrated at Mass.



Corporal

A white linen cloth on which are placed the vessels containing the bread and wine during Mass which will become the Body and Blood of Christ.



Cruet

A small container holding the wine and water that are used during the Mass.



Pall

The stiff, square, white cover that is placed over the paten when it is on the chalice.



Tabernacle

The shrine or receptacle either round or rectangular that serves as a place for the exclusive reservation of the Blessed Sacrament. It should be of solid material, opaque, secure and inviolable, fitting the architecture of the church in a preeminent place.



Censor & Boat

The Censor, also known as the Thurible, is used at solemn occasion to incense the bread and wine after the offertory, the priest, and congregation. The Boat holds the incense until it is place in the censor by the celebrant.



Monstrance

A sacred vessel designed to expose the consecrated Host to the congregation either for adoration in church or carrying in procession, particularly on the Solemnity of the Body and Blood of Christ.



Sanctuary Lamp

An oil lamp or wax candle that burns near the tabernacle. It is always lit whenever the Blessed Sacrament is reserved in churches or chapels as a sign of honor shown to the Lord.

VESTMENTS



Alb

A long white garment which can be used by all liturgical ministers. It is a reminder of the baptismal garment worn when the new Christian "Put on Christ."



Cincture

A long cord used for fastening albs at the waist. It holds the loose-fitting type of alb in place and is used to adjust it to proper length. It is usually white, although the liturgical color of the day may be used.



Chasuble

The sleeveless outer garment, slipped over the head, hanging down from the shoulders covering the alb and stole of the priest. It is the proper Mass vestment for the main celebrant and

its color varies according to the feast.



Dalmatic

A loose-fitting robe with open sides and wide sleeves worn by a deacon on more solemn feasts. It takes its color from the liturgical feast as listed

above.



Priest Stole

A long cloth "scarf." According to the manner in which it worn it is the mark of the Office of the priest or deacon. A priest wears it around the neck, letting it hang down in front.



Deacon Stole

A long cloth "scarf." According to the manner in which it worn it is the mark of the Office of the priest or deacon. A deacon wears it over his left shoulder, fastening it at his right side.



Cassock

A long black garment worn by Altar Servers under the Surplice. Also worn by Diocesan Priests (Black), Monsignors (Rose), Bishops (Violet), Cardinals (Red), and the Pope (White).



Surplice

This is a wide-sleeved garment, slipped over the head, covering the shoulders, and coming down below the hips. It

is worn over the cassock.



Cope

A cape-like garment which is put over the shoulders and hangs to the ankles, it is open in the front and worn by a priest or deacon in processions at Benediction and in other services.



Benediction Veil

Also called the humeral veil. This is a long narrow shawl-like vestment used at Benediction.

LITURGICAL COLORS USED AT MASS

- **GREEN** - Worn during "Ordinary Time." Ordinary does not mean ordinary in the sense of common or normal. Ordinary means counting, as in the 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time
- **RED** - Worn on Passion (Palm) Sunday, Good Friday, Pentecost Sunday, and on the Feast Days of Martyrs including the Apostles and Evangelists.
- **VIOLET** - Worn during Advent and Lent or at Masses for the dead.
- **WHITE** - Worn during the Christmas, Easter seasons and celebrations of Mary, the Angels, Saints who were not martyrs, All Saints, Birth of John the Baptist, Chair of Peter, Conversion of Paul, St. John the Evangelist and is the preferred color for Masses for the dead.
- **ROSE** - Worn on the 3rd Sunday of Advent (Gaudete Sunday) and the 4th Sunday of Lent (Laetare Sunday).
- **BLACK** - Was traditionally worn at Masses for the dead. Now the preferred color is White or Violet.

