

Roman Missal, 3rd edition

Good Friday — The Celebration of the Passion of the Lord

We adore your Cross, O Lord,
we praise and glorify your holy Resurrection,
for behold, because of the wood of a tree
joy has come to the whole world.

What's New

General

- At the beginning of the liturgy as the Priest and Deacon prostrate themselves all kneel — this is new to this edition of the Missal but reflects customary practice. [5]
- **The Solemn Intercessions.** The first part of each intercession (the intention) is said or sung by a Deacon, or if there is no Deacon a lay minister, at the ambo. After silent prayer the Priest sings or says the prayer, with hands extended at the chair or the altar. [11]
- **The Showing of the Holy Cross. First Form** — the Deacon, or another minister, carries the Cross from the sacristy through the church to the priest who is standing in front of the altar. [15]
- **The Showing of the Holy Cross. Second Form** — The Priest, or the Deacon, or another suitable minister processes with the Cross through the church. [16] (In both these forms the question of ministry has been clarified with other details)
- **The Adoration of the Holy Cross** — the Cross is placed at the entrance to the Sanctuary or another suitable place. [17]
- At the end of the liturgy all depart in silence after genuflecting to the Cross. [32] After the celebration the Cross remains with two or four candlesticks. [33]

For the Presider

- The Sacraments of Penance & the Anointing of the Sick may be celebrated. [1]
- The Prayer at the beginning of the liturgy is now said with hands extended. [6]
- The brief homily is no longer optional. It may be followed by a period of silent prayer. [10]
- The Solemn Intercessions — see above
- The Showing of the Holy Cross — see above

Structure

The Celebration of the Passion of the Lord

Prayer

First Part: Liturgy of the Word

First Reading

Psalm

Second Reading

Gospel Acclamation

Passion

Homily

The Solemn Intercessions

Second Part: The Adoration of the Holy Cross

The Showing of the Holy Cross

The Adoration of the Holy Cross

Third Part: Holy Communion

Lord's Prayer

Invitation to Communion

Holy Communion

Prayer after Communion

Prayer over the People

- The Adoration of the Holy Cross — the Priest Celebrant approaches first, he may remove his chasuble and shoes. [18]
- Prayer after Communion — there may be a period of silence after *Let us pray*. [30]

For the Deacon

- The Solemn Intercessions — see above.
- The Showing of the Holy Cross — see above.
- At the end of the Adoration of the Holy Cross the Deacon, or another minister, moves the Cross to its place at the altar. Lighted candles are placed by it. [21]
- Holy Communion — the Deacon, wearing a humeral veil, brings the Blessed Sacrament to the altar by a shorter route, while all stand in silence. [22]
- Before the Prayer over the People the Deacon may say the invitation *Bow down for the Blessing*. [31]

For Consideration

- Silence — The liturgy begins and ends in silence but as shown in the notes there are various other points in the liturgy where silence is called for. These silences are of varying length and significance but in what can be a very wordy liturgy can provide time for prayer and reflection.
- Passion — there is a choice of whether it is read by a single voice or by a number. Whichever is chosen make sure that it is read well. Rather than have the congregation reading parts which draws attention away from the proclamation of the Passion have the crowd read by a small group, perhaps the musicians.
- The Missal notes that there are various ways of adoring the Cross [18] the choice which belongs to the individual.

Music

Music is given in the Missal for:

- The Solemn Intercessions [12-13]
- The Showing of the Holy Cross [15] in English & Latin

Chants to be Sung during the Adoration of the Holy Cross

- The Missal gives 3 texts (in new translations):
 - We adore your Cross, O Lord
 - The Reproaches
 - Faithful Cross (*Crux fidelis/Pange lingua*)
 - Other versions of these texts may be sung.
- Other suitable chants/songs may be sung. [20]

Holy Communion

- There is now reference to Psalm 21 or another appropriate chant being sung. [28]