

## **Preparing for Holy Mass**

### **Remote Preparation:**

- 1) Maintain a regular practice of prayer, specifically mental prayer.
- 2) Learn about the Mass. There is always more to learn.

### **Immediate Preparation:**

- 3) Be in the state of grace or get to Confession.
- 4) Fast for at least one hour.
- 5) Dress fittingly for the occasion.
- 6) Prepare your missal.
- 7) Have some silence (as able) beforehand; perhaps arrive a few minutes early.

### **Finding the liturgical feast of the day:**

I would suggest starting with the website <https://divinumofficium.com>

Click 'Ordo' to see just the liturgical feasts for each day of the month/year. Make sure the setting is the 1960 Rubrics.

Click 'Missale' or 'Sancta Missa' to see the full set of prayers for a particular Mass. Make sure you plug in the proper date and it is set to 1960 rubrics.

Nota bene: sometimes the priest will be using a different liturgical feast than the one indicated, which he will usually note before the Mass or during the sermon/announcements.

## Anatomy of a Hand Missal

To use a hand missal, you need to know where things are. It is good to spend some time with your missal and page through it to locate the various sections and to see what other gems might be hiding there. Yours might be slightly different, but a typical missal layout is as follows:

**Proper of Seasons** - the one-year cycle of the liturgical year, including Masses for Sundays, seasonal days with propers (such as Lent), and moveable feasts

**Ordinary of the Mass** - the unchanging parts of the Mass such as the Prayers at the Foot of the Altar, the Gloria, Credo, Roman Canon, etc.; Prefaces (before the Sanctus) are sometimes in the Ordinary or directly before it and vary according to the season or feast

**Commons** - general proper prayers for various categories of saints (Martyr, Pastor, Virgin, etc.) that are used to supplement a saint's Mass or offer Mass for a saint not on the calendar

**Proper of Saints** - Masses honoring saints on particular calendar days; these will often point you to other pages with readings found in the commons (there is sometimes a supplemental section at the back of the missal as well)

**Ritual Masses & Votive Masses** - Ritual Masses such as Funerals, Weddings, Confirmations, etc. and Votive Masses such as Most Sacred Heart, Blessed Virgin Mary on Saturday, etc.

**Popular Prayers & Devotions** - various other prayers, litanies, Stations, and such that are not part of the Mass but included to promote devotional practice before, during, or after Masses

## Preparing your Hand Missal for Holy Mass

1. **Determine the Liturgical Day.** Sometimes this is easy if it is a Sunday or a saint's feast. Other times the priest has options of which saint to celebrate or to celebrate a votive Mass or a daily Mass for the Dead and you just have to do your best to figure it out on the fly! You can check <http://divinumofficium.com> for assistance with this part.
2. **Set the ribbons.** A) If it's a Sunday, you'll have one ribbon to set in the Proper of Seasons. If you go weekly it may be set from last week. (Thank you, past self!) If a weekday, you may have a ribbon in the propers and another in the commons. B) Set another at the Ordinary for the beginning of the Mass. C) You can also set the preface if you know it and any other devotional prayers you would like to pray.
3. **Pray.** If the priest chooses an option that you don't have marked and aren't sure you can find, you can always just follow along with the Ordinary parts and benefit greatly.

	Proper of Seasons	Ordinary	Commons	Proper of Saints	Rituals & Votives	Prayers & Devotions
Baronius	141	895	981	1096	1600	25, 1869
Angelus	135	833	931	1041	1519	20, 1787
SJ Daily	33	639	1137	715	1222	1292
Stedman	67	35	-	309	-	329

## Resources for Further Study

**The Spirit of the Liturgy - Joseph Cardinal Ratzinger**

A must read for anyone serious about liturgy. A theology of liturgy in rich terms and in concrete application.

**The Bugnini-Liturgy and the Reform of the Reform - Laszlo Doszay\***

Available for pdf download, out of print. A thorough introduction to the changes the liturgy has undergone over the last year in its various aspects.

**Noble Beauty, Transcendent Holiness - Peter Kwasniewski**

A defense of why we need the TLM today.

**The Old Mass and the New - Marc Aillet**

On Summorum Pontificum and a theology of liturgy.

**Sacred Then and Sacred Now - Thomas E. Woods, Jr.**

A brief guide to the TLM.

**Nothing Superfluous - James Jackson**

A deep dive into the rich symbolism of the TLM.

**The Traditional Mass - Michael Fiedrowicz**

A deep dive into the history, form, and theology of the TLM..

**My Book of the Church's Year - Enid M. Chadwick**

An illustration "Children's Book" that is great for all ages.

**The Organic Development of the Liturgy - Alcuin Reid**

Describes the history of the form of the Roman Liturgy and it's evolution over the centuries.

**Handbook of Christian Feasts and Customs - Francis X. Weisner**

A guide to history and how to celebrate various feasts through the liturgical year.

**The Mass: A Study of the Roman Liturgy - Adrian Fortescue**

Describes the history of the form of the Roman Liturgy and it's evolution over the centuries.

**The Holy Mass - Dom Prosper Gueranger**

A rich explanatory guide to the TLM.

**Calvary and the Mass - Fulton J. Sheen**

A powerful guide to praying with the TLM.

**Treasure in Tradition from St. Augustine Press**

A guide to pronunciation, vestments, and more that serves as a great introductory book.

## Comparisons in the Structure of Holy Mass

<b>1962 Missale Romanum (Traditional Latin)</b>	<b>1970 Missale Roman (Novus Ordo)</b>	<b>Notable Differences</b>
Entrance Procession	Entrance Procession/ Introit	TLM - instrumental, hymn, or silence NO - hymn, introit, or silence
Sprinkling Rite	-	NO - Sprinkling Rite given as an option in Penitential Rite
Prayers at the Foot of the Altar	Sign of the Cross	TLM - Introit sung during Sign of the Cross, Judica me, Confiteor, Preparatory Prayers NO - Sign of the Cross
Introit	-	TLM - priest recites it even if sung by the choir
Kyrie	Penitential Rite	TLM - triple Kyrie NO - 4 Options - Confiteor, tripartite Kyrie, Penitential Verse, Sprinkling Rite
Gloria	Gloria	same
Collect (with commemorations)	Collect (no commemorations)	Commemoration is when one or more prayers is added to the Mass of the day
Lesson	First Readings	TLM - can be OT or NT NO - usually OT, Acts in Easter Season
Gradual/Tract	Responsorial Psalm	TLM - Gradual/Tract psalm verse NO - responsorial psalm includes refrains
-	Second Reading	TLM - additional readings only at special feasts NO - NT reading
Alleluia	Alleluia/Gospel Acclamation	TLM - Alleluia omitted in penitential season NO - Gospel Acclamation used in penitential seasons
Gospel	Gospel	same
Homily/Sermon	Homily/Sermon	same
Creed	Creed	same
Offertory Verse	Prayers of the Faithful	TLM - Offertory Verse is recited/sung NO - Prayers of the Faithful
Offertory	Offertory	TLM - offertory on altar or brought from credence NO - offertory brought from credence or brought in procession
Lavabo & Additional Prayer	Washing of Hands	TLM - uses a longer portion of a Psalm and has an additional prayer after the Lavabo NO - a single psalm verse is recited
Orate, fratres	Pray, brethren	same

Secret (with commemorations)	Secret (no commemorations)	TLM - recited quietly NO - recited aloud
Preface	Preface	same
Roman Canon	Eucharistic Prayer	TLM - 1 Canon NO - 9 options in Missal
Pater Noster	Our Father	TLM - priest recites it alone until the last line NO - recited by everyone
	Additional Prayers	NO - one of the TLM silent Preparatory Prayers is moved here and said aloud
Fraction Rite	Sign of Peace	TLM - breaking of the Host NO - Sign of Peace (optionally) exchanged
Sign of Peace	Fraction Rite/Agnus Dei	TLM - sign of peace exchanged among clergy, verbally to people by the priest NO - breaking of the Host accompanied by Agnus Dei
Agnus Dei	-	TLM - Agnus Dei recited separately
Preparatory Prayers	Preparatory Prayers	TLM - 3 prayers silently recited by the priest NO - 2 options, priest prays it silently
Priest's 'Domine, non sum dignus'	-	TLM - priest celebrant prepares & receives Holy Communion alone to complete the sacrifice
Priest's Communion	-	
Second Confiteor	-	Servers' preparatory prayer
Ecce, Agnus Dei	Ecce, Agnus Dei	NO - additional line added to the verse
People's 'Domine, non sum dignus'	'Lord, I am not worthy'	TLM - recited 3x NO - recited 1x
People's Communion	Communion Antiphon	TLM - communio sung by the choir during distribution, recited by priest after purification NO - communio sometimes said/sung at distribution
Communio	Communion	
Post-Communion Prayer	Post-Communion Prayer	same
Dismissal	Blessing	TLM - Ite, Placeat, Blessing NO - Blessing, Ite
Blessing	Dismissal	
Last Gospel	-	NO - no Last Gospel
Leonine Prayers	-	TLM - after Low Mass, 3 Hail Mary's, Hail Holy Queen, Prayer for the Church, St. Michael Prayer, Sacred Heart invocation NO - no prescribed prayers, but in some places the St. Michael Prayer or other local custom
Recessional	Recessional	same