

THE PRESENTATION OF THE CREED (Third Week of Lent)

(WITHIN MASS)



DIOCESE OF MEATH

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RCIA, 144-150

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144. The presentation of the Creed, which takes place during the week after the first scrutiny, should preferably be celebrated in the presence of a community of the faithful, within Mass, after the homily.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

READINGS

145. In place of the readings assigned for the weekday Mass, the following readings are used, as indicated in the Lectionary for Mass, ritual Masses, 'Christian Initiation: Presentation of the Creed, (Vol III, pp. 6-10).

FIRST READING

Deuteronomy 6:1-7 – *Listen, Israel: You shall love the Lord with all your heart.*

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 18(19): 8,9,10,11

R./ (John 6:68c) You have the message of eternal life., O' Lord.

SECOND READING

Romans 10:8-13 – *The believer in God professes his faith.*

Or

1 Corinthians 15:1-8a (longer) or 1-4 (shorter) – *The Gospel will save you only if you keep believing exactly what I preached to you.*

VERSE BEFORE THE GOSPEL

John 3:16

God loved the world so much,
That he gave his only Son;
Everyone who believe in him
Has eternal life.

GOSPEL

Matthew 16:13-18 – *On this rock I will build my Church.*

Or:

John 12:44-50 – *I, the light, have come into the world, so that whoever believe in me need not stay in the dark.*

HOMILY

146. After the readings and guided by them, the celebrant explains in the homily the meaning and importance of the Creed in relation to the teaching that the elect have already received and to the profession of faith that they must make at their baptism and uphold throughout their lives.

PRESENTATION OF THE CREED

147. After the homily, a deacon or other assisting minister says:

Celebrant: Let the elect now come forward to receive the Creed from the Church.

Before beginning the Apostles' Creed (option A) or the Nicene Creed (option B), the celebrant addresses the elect in these or similar words.

Celebrant: My dear friends, listen carefully to the words of that faith by which you will be justified. The words are few, but the mysteries they contain are great. Receive them with a sincere heart and be faithful to them.

Together with the assembly they recite The Apostle's Creed.

A APOSTLES' CREED

The celebrant alone begins:

I believe in God, the Father almighty,

As the elect listen, he continues with the assembly of the faithful.

**Creator of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried;
he descended into hell;
on the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty;
from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,**

and life everlasting. Amen.

B NICENE CREED

The celebrant alone begins:

I believe in one God,

As the elect listen, he continues with the assembly of the faithful.

**the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.**

**I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the Only Begotten Son of God,
born of the Father before all ages.
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us men and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,**

**and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary,
and became man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate,
he suffered death and was buried,
and rose again on the third day
in accordance with the Scriptures.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

**I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.
I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins**

and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYER OVER THE ELECT

148. Using the following or similar words, the celebrant invites the assembly to pray.

Celebrant: Let us pray for these elect, that God in his mercy may make them responsive to his love, so that through the waters of rebirth they may receive pardon for their sins and have life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

All pray in silence.

Then the celebrant, with hands outstretched over the elect, says:

Celebrant: Lord,
eternal source of light, justice, and truth,
take under your tender care
your servants **N.** and **N.**

Purify them and make them holy;
give them true knowledge, sure hope, and sound
understanding,
and make them worthy
to receive the grace of baptism.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen

DISMISSAL OF THE ELECT

149. If the eucharist is to be celebrated, the elect are normally dismissed at this point by use of option A; if the elect are to stay for the celebration of the eucharist, option B is used; if the eucharist is not to be celebrated, the entire assembly is dismissed by use of option C.

A

The celebrant dismisses the elect in these or similar words.

Celebrant: Dear elect, go in peace,
and may the Lord remain with you always.

Elect: Amen.

B

If for serious reasons the elect cannot leave (see no. 75.3) and must remain with the baptized, they are to be instructed that though they are present at the eucharist, they cannot take part in it as the baptized do. They may be reminded of this by the celebrant in these or similar words.

Celebrant: **Although you cannot yet participate fully in the Lord's eucharist, stay with us as a sign of our hope that all God's children will eat and drink with the Lord and work with his Spirit to re-create the face of the earth.**

C

The celebrant dismisses those present, using these or similar words.

Celebrant: **Go in peace, and may the Lord remain with you always.**

All: **Thanks be to God.**

An appropriate song may conclude the celebration.

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

150. After the elect leave, the celebration of Mass continues in the usual way.