

# For Newcomers to the Traditional Mass

WELCOME! A THOUSAND WELCOMES!. If you are thinking about coming back to the Traditional Latin Mass, or if you are assisting at it for the first time, you probably have a number of questions about why we do what we do. We have remained faithful to the Traditional Mass NOT out of nostalgia, love of the Latin language, aesthetic considerations, stubbornness, or "DISOBEDIENCE." We have remained faithful because it is the Catholic thing to do.

The traditional Mass is a perfect expression of the unchanging and unchangeable Catholic teaching on the NATURE of the Mass and the Holy Eucharist, as well as a refuge from or an antidote to the countless false teachings and sacrilegious practices which have found their way into our parish churches as a result of the New Mass and the "changes" in the mainstream Church of the SPIRIT of Vatican II. We have a RIGHT to assist at this Mass, guaranteed in perpetuity by Pope, St. Pius V, which NO ONE can take away from us, and we have a DUTY to assist at this Mass so we can save our souls.

In 1969, 70% of the Mass was rewritten by a Vatican commission whose membership included six Protestant ministers! The VERY NATURE of the Mass was changed: the altar was replaced with a table; the sacrificing priest became a "President of the Assembly"; the traditional Offertory prayers, so redolent of the Catholic THEOLOGY OF SACRIFICE, were discarded and replaced with a Jewish grace before meals; the actual words of Consecration used by Our Lord Himself at the Last Supper have been changed and perverted, thus calling into doubt the validity of the New Mass. The New Mass, so similar to Protestant worship services, mirrors a new "ecumenical" religion. The evident result of all this is that the sacred element of the Mass has been turned into "interesting entertainment."

RECEIVING COMMUNION: In the context of the new religion which the New Mass expresses, everyone is expected and encouraged to receive Communion, no matter what. This perhaps may have been your experience. Our practice here, however, is different. Catholic law and tradition emphasize the seriousness and the sanctity of the act of receiving the Holy Eucharist. While you are most welcome to assist at Mass with us whenever you wish, we trust that you will respect our requirements for Holy Communion.

- 1) Non-Catholics are not permitted to receive Holy Communion.
- 2) Should you be a Catholic who is assisting at the Traditional Mass for the first time (or for the first time in a long time), we ask that you refrain from receiving Communion until you can conclude that you have come here, not out of idle curiosity, but because you have a strong feeling of loyalty to the Sacred Mysteries which take place here. You should be willing to decide to assist at the Traditional Mass exclusively. This is a major decision to make, and a difficult one for many. Please take the time to make an informed decision.
- 3) Please remember that Holy Communion must be received fasting (three hours from solid foods and alcoholic beverages; one hour from liquids other than water), and in the state of sanctifying grace.

OUR DRESS CODE: Since the changes in the Church, few parishes these days have a dress code. Here, however, we still believe that modest and appropriate attire at Mass is a sign of respect for Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament and of fraternal charity toward our neighbor. Please observe the following rules:

- 1) Women and girls should have their heads covered (coverings available).
- 2) Slacks, short skirts, shorts, and sleeveless or revealing clothing are forbidden.
- 3) Suggested dress for men is coat (except in extreme Summer's heat) and tie.
- 4) Jeans and other forms of casual dress are inappropriate.

We request that you maintain SILENCE in church, before, during and after Mass. It is a sign of reverence in the presence of God and it demonstrates your spirit of consideration toward those who wish to pray a while.

May the powerful intercession of the Queen of the Most Holy Rosary obtain for you the grace and courage to return to this Mass which is YOUR PORTION, YOUR INHERITANCE AND YOUR RIGHT AS A CATHOLIC!

