



A Journey through the Mass...

Greetings brothers and sisters, as we continue on our journey together through the Mass, this week we'll look at 'the Gospel'

As the Gospel Acclamation begins, we all stand as a sign of reverence.

The posture of standing highlights the fact that the Gospel reading enjoys a pre-eminent place among the scripture readings. (*GIRM*)

The Gospel Acclamation serves as our greeting to the Lord, as an expression of our faith through song. During the Gospel Acclamation, the deacon or priest carries the Book of Gospels from the Altar to the Ambo in procession. He is usually accompanied by altar servers with candles and a thurifer if incense is being used. When incense is used, the Book of Gospels is incensed before the Gospel is proclaimed, again to show the importance of what we are experiencing, and what we are receiving through the proclaiming of the Gospel reading. The Gospel procession is also an important ritual action in the Liturgy of the Word, as it gives the gathered community an opportunity to stand and welcome the presence of Jesus who is among us in the Gospel.

The Gospel is the highpoint of the Liturgy of the Word. The Word Gospel means 'Good News'. It is the true account of the words, actions and ministry of Jesus, and therefore very Sacred. The Gospel not only speaks to us of Jesus' ministry when He was here on earth with us, the Gospel speaks to all men and woman, through all time, to help us in making Jesus' message still so very relevant in the lives that we lead here and now. As the priest or deacon greets us, we all make a small sign of the Cross on the forehead, mouth and over our heart to express that our mind is open to the Word, that we will speak and praise the Word, and that we will hold it in our hearts and love the Word of God. When we, as a community respond together to the proclamation of the Gospel with the response, "**Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ**", let our minds, lips and heart proclaim this beautiful and powerful response.

*Love & Blessings,
Deacon Ryan*

