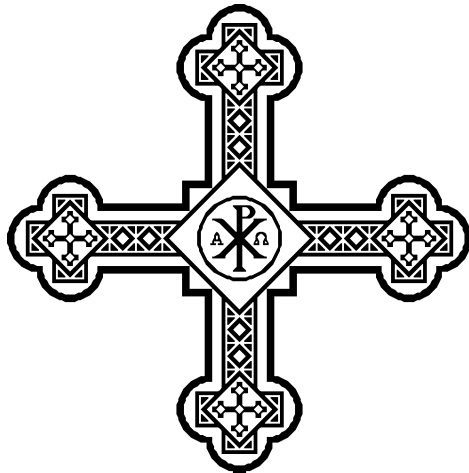


# The Pontifical



Being the Ceremonies  
for Solemn Mass  
in the Presence of a Bishop

## At the Blessing of Incense

*The Bishop is presented with the Thurible and asked:*

Bless, Most Reverend Father.

*He replies, making the sign of the Cross:*

Be thou ☩ blest by Him in whose honor thou shalt be burnt.

## The Preparation for Mass

*The Bishop leads the Prayers of Preparation at the Foot of the Altar.*

*V.* ☩ In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen. I will go unto the altar of God:

*R.* Even unto the God of my joy and gladness.

*V. Ps. 43.* Give sentence with me, O God, and defend my cause against the ungodly people: O deliver me from the deceitful and wicked man.

*R.* For thou art the God of my strength; why hast thou put me from thee: and why go I so heavily, while the enemy oppresseth me?

*V.* O send out thy light and thy truth, that they may lead me: and bring me unto thy holy hill, and to thy dwelling.

*R.* And that I may go unto the altar of God, even the God of my joy and gladness: and upon the harp will I give thanks unto thee, O God, my God.

*V.* Why art thou so heavy, O my soul: and why art thou so disquieted within me?

*R.* O put thy trust in God: for I will yet give him thanks, which is the help of my countenance, and my God.

*V.* Glory be to the Father, and to the Son: and to the Holy Ghost.

*R.* As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be: world without end. Amen.

*V.* I will go unto the altar of God:  
*R.* Even unto the God of my joy and gladness.  
*V.* ☩ Our help is in the Name of the Lord:  
*R.* Who hath made heaven and earth.

*Then he bows and makes the Confession.*

*V.* I confess to God Almighty, to Blessed Mary Ever-Virgin, to blessed Michael the Archangel, to blessed John the Baptist, to the holy Apostles Peter and Paul, to all the Saints, and you, brethren, that I have sinned exceedingly in thought, word and deed, (*He strikes his breast thrice, saying*) by my fault, by my own fault, by my own most grievous fault. Wherefore I beg blessed Mary Ever-Virgin, blessed Michael the Archangel, blessed John the Baptist, the holy Apostles Peter and Paul, all the Saints, and you, brethren, to pray for me to the Lord our God.  
*R.* God Almighty have mercy upon thee, forgive thee thy sins, and bring thee to everlasting life. *V.* Amen.

*He stands erect, and the ministers repeat the Confession saying “and thee, Most Reverend Father...” R.* I confess to God Almighty...

*V.* God Almighty have mercy upon you, forgive you your sins, and bring you to everlasting life. *R.* Amen.  
*V.* ☩ The Almighty and merciful Lord grant unto us pardon, absolution, and remission of our sins. *R.* Amen.  
*V.* Wilt thou not turn again and quicken us, O God?  
*R.* That thy people may rejoice in thee.  
*V.* O Lord, show thy mercy upon us.  
*R.* And grant us thy salvation.  
*V.* O Lord, hear my prayer. *R.* And let my cry come unto thee.  
*V.* The Lord be with you. *R.* And with thy spirit.  
*V.* Let us pray...

*The Bishop blesses the Priest who is to be the Celebrant of the Mass.*

*The Bishop removes his Kalimafki, if worn, for the collect.*

## At the Preparation for the Gospel

*The Deacon or Priest who is to sing the Gospel, approaches the Bishop for a blessing, first saying: Bid, sir, a blessing.*

*The Bishop answers:*

May the Lord be in thy ☩ heart and on thy lips, that thou mayest worthily attend to His Holy Gospel. Amen.

*The Bishop removes his Kalimafki, if worn, and takes up his pastoral staff as the Gospel is sung.*

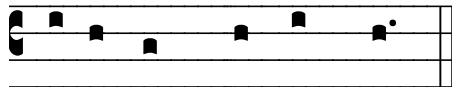
*At the end of the gospel, the Subdeacon brings the open book to the Bishop to kiss and the Bishop says:*

By these gospel words may our sins be blotted out.

*The Thurifer censes the Bishop and the Bishop gives his staff to the Chaplain and puts on his Kalimafki (if desired). The Pastor welcomes the Bishop and the Bishop gives the homily.*

## The Nicene Creed

*The Bishop may intone the Creed.*



I be-lieve in one God...

## At the Offertory

*At the Offertory the Thurifer brings the thurible to the Bishop for a blessing and the Bishop says:*

Through the intercession of Blessed Michael the Archangel standing at the right hand of the altar of incense, and of all His elect, may the Lord vouchsafe to ☩ bless this incense, and to receive it for a sweet smelling savour. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

*When the water cruet is to be blessed, the Acolyte holds the cruet up and says “Bless Most Reverend father” and the Bishop makes the sign of the cross saying:*

In the Name of the ☩ Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.  
Amen.

*The Bishop removes his Kalimafki, if worn, at the Sanctus until after the post-communion prayer.*

## After The Agnus Dei

*After the Priest has said the Agnus Dei and first communion prayer, he turns to the Deacon and gives him the Peace. The Deacon goes to the Subdeacon and gives him the peace. The Deacon then goes to the Bishop and gives him the Peace, while the Subdeacon goes to the Master of Ceremonies in the usual manner.*

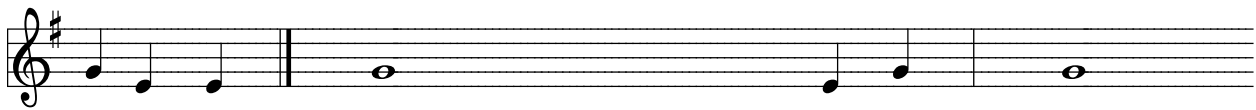
*After “I believe and I confess...” the Bishop makes his communion at the altar, if desired (the Subdeacon will assist the Bishop in washing his hands before and after he receives communion).*

# The Pontifical Blessing

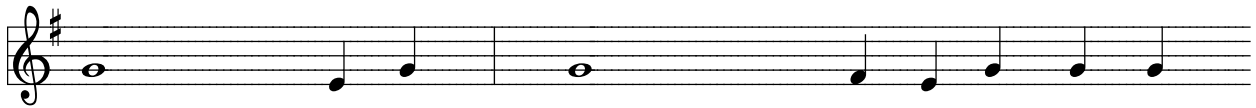
*After the dismissal the Chaplain holds the Book for the Bishop to sing the blessing*



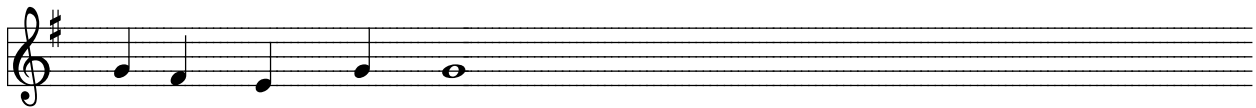
*V.* Blessed be the Name of the Lord. *R.* From this time forth for



ev-er-more. *V.* Our help is in the Name of the Lord. *R.* Who hath



made heaven and earth. *V.* The blessing of God Al-migh-ty, the



✠ Fa-ther, the ✠ Son, and the Holy ✠ Spirit, be amongst you and



remain with you al-ways. *R.* A-men.

*All kneel for the bishop's blessing. The Priest reads the Last Gospel. The final hymn is sung. The Chaplain gives the hand cross to the Bishop for people to come forward and venerate.*