

The Holy Week Manual

Volume 3



Good Friday

Preparation

On the High Altar are six candles of unbleached wax, not lighted; a large cross covered with a black veil is on the side altar, and a cushion with a gold square stands by the Epistle angel to be placed in the middle of the bottom altar step for the priest to prostrate on. The table by the angel holds an altar cloth of the size of the top of the altar, the missal on its stand, and a black burse with a corporal, pall and purificator inside. The acolyte candles stand on the credence table, unlit. Near the Gospel side angel is the purple carpet and the pillow with the white center for the worship of the cross.

The white humeral veil is in the choir loft, and the umbella is in the vestibule. In the sacristy an amice, alb, girdle, black maniple, stole and chasuble are prepared for the celebrant.

The Lessons and Collects

A sign is given with the rattle, and the servers process in. The crossbearer is the only one who carries anything, and all the servers disperse like for High Mass. Before the altar the celebrant takes off his biretta, bows, and then prostrates on the cushion supplied by the thurifer.

Mc 1 and Mc 2 spread the one altar cloth on the altar, but fold it lengthwise in half as to leave the front of the mensa uncovered. Thurifer 1 puts the missal on its stand at the Epistle corner. The celebrant rises, and Thurifer 1 takes away the cushion. The celebrant goes up to the altar and kisses it in the middle. He goes to the missal and there reads the first lesson, with the tract. He says *Oremus*; then genuflects while singing *Flectamus genua*, and all kneel with him. After the choir answers *Levate*, all rise.

The celebrant says the first collect. Then he reads the second lesson and tract. Mc 1 changes the book to the Gospel side, and the Passion is read. All stand. The priest comes to the center of the altar and says the *Munda cor meum* while Mc 1 changes out the book for the last part of the Passion, which is sung from the book for the *Christus* deacon. The acolytes accompany Mc 1 in the Gospel movement, but they do not carry candles.

After the Passion Mc 1 changes out the book again and moves the Missal back to the Epistle side, where the Collects are read. After each the priest sings *Oremus*; all kneel for *Flectamus genua*; the choir answers *Levate*, and all rise. There is no genuflection at the collect for the Jews.

At the collect for the heretics and schismatics, the two thurifers spread the purple carpet in the sanctuary before the middle of the altar; on it they lay the cushion with the white center. The thurifers only unroll the carpet just past the sanctuary steps, and they leave the rest rolled up on the floor of the church, right up against the bottom step.

The Worship of the Cross

The celebrant goes to the sedilia, where he takes off the chasuble, and then he goes to the floor on the Epistle side. Thurifer 1 brings the veiled cross to the celebrant. He carries it from the base, with the veiled corpus facing him, so it is facing outward when he gives it to the celebrant. Mc 2 takes the missal and holds it open for the celebrant to sing out of. Thurifers 1 and 2 stand on the celebrant's right and left sides respectively. Mc 1 stands facing the celebrant to the right of Mc 2. The celebrant unveils

the upper part of the cross with his right hand, holds it up, and sings the words *Ecce lignum crucis in quo salus mundi pependit*.

The choir sings *Venite adoremus*, and all kneel except the celebrant and Mc 2. All rise, and the celebrant goes to stand on the foot-pace at the Epistle corner where he uncovers the right arm of the cross and the head of the figure of our Lord, lifts the cross higher, and sings the same words as before except in a higher voice.

The choir answers as before. The third time he stands on the foot-pace in the middle, uncovers the whole cross, hands the veil to Th 1, lifts it higher still, and says the words as before, even higher. However, no one rises after *Venite adoremus* except the celebrant, Mc 1, and the two thurifers. Mc 2 closes the book and goes to the floor on the Epistle side, with the missal, and the celebrant goes around on the Gospel side to place the cross on the cushion. The veil is taken away to the sacristy by Th 1. When the priest puts the cross on the cushion and genuflects to it before going to the sedilia, everyone in the church rises and Mc 2 replaces the Missal on its stand.

While the priest takes off his shoes and maniple assisted by Mc 1, Mc 2 and any other available servers remove the veils from the rest of the crosses in the sanctuary. When all the crosses have been uncovered, Mc 1 accompanies the priest to worship the cross, but he does not do it himself. All the other servers take off their shoes at this point. Mc 1 and the celebrant make a prostration at the entrance to the sanctuary, rise, come forward, prostrate again in the middle of the sanctuary, then a third time immediately in front of the cross. As they do so the third time the celebrant kisses the feet of the crucifix. They rise, genuflect to the cross, and go to the sedilia where Mc 1 puts on the celebrant's shoes and maniple.

Mc 1 brings him the small book containing the *Reproaches*, and the priest reads these with his biretta on while the rest of the servers worship the cross. Mc 1 then takes off his shoes and goes to worship the cross, going last with Mc 2, who has been coordinating the other servers. All the servers then put their shoes back on, and then Mc 1, with a small towel, goes with the celebrant to present the cross to the people at the communion rail.

The thurifers light charcoal at this time, and if there are torchbearers they now receive their torches by going around outside the church to the vestibule. Mc 2 lights the altar and acolyte candles and takes the purple carpet to the sacristy. He also unfolds the altar cloth, and places the Missal on the Gospel side, turned towards the middle as for the Canon. He then brings the burse to the altar and also brings the ablution vessel and its towel. The pillow and carpet for the worship of the cross are put by the Gospel angel. When the worship of the cross is finished, the cross is put back on the side altar and the priest finishes the *Reproaches* if he did not have enough time before.

Procession from the Altar of Repose

The thurifers bring the thuribles with burning charcoal from the sacristy and go to the entrance of the sanctuary. The crossbearer and acolytes line up, the acolytes with lighted candles and the crossbearer with cross. The celebrant puts on the chasuble at the sedilia and comes to the altar bare-headed. Then celebrant genuflects with both Mc's and then goes up and unfolds the corporal on the altar. He comes back down, all genuflect and process to the Altar of Repose with the thurifers leading.

In the choir loft all part like on Holy Thursday to allow the celebrant to pass. All make a double genuflection and then stay kneeling. The celebrant rises, takes the cover off the urn, genuflects, and comes down. He makes a prostration with the Mc's and then they rise, incense is put into both thuribles but not blessed, and the priest incenses the Sanctissimum kneeling and with Th 1's thurible.

He gives the thurible back, goes up, takes the chalice out of the urn and places it on the corporal, genuflects, shuts the urn, genuflects again, and then comes down. Mc 1 brings the humeral veil, and the priest returns to the altar and genuflects. He takes the chalice in his left hand, holding it through the veil, lays his right hand on it and covers all with the end of the veil. He turns around and the choir starts the hymn *Vexilla Regis*. All rise, the acolytes pick up their candles, everyone makes a double genuflection, and the servers form themselves for the procession to the High Altar. It goes in the same manner as Holy Thursday. The umbellina bearer joins the procession in the vestibule, and puts the canopy back on the side altar.

When the procession arrives before the High Altar, the acolytes and crossbearer go to their spots by the credence table where they put their things away and kneel. The thurifers kneel when they reach their benediction spot. The celebrant goes straight up to the altar and places the chalice on the corporal, unties the ribbon, and then he genuflects and comes down the steps. Mc 1 takes off the humeral veil. Incense is put in thurible 1, not blessed, and the thurifer kneels behind Mc 1 while the priest and Mc's incense the Sanctissimum. When the thurifer gets the thurible back, he goes right to the Epistle angel, where he stands. When the priest stands, Th 2 gets up also, makes a prostration, and takes his thurible to the sacristy. He comes out and is not needed again.

Mass of the Presanctified

The celebrant goes up to the altar, genuflects, takes the veil off the chalice, and gives it to Mc 1. He slips the consecrated Host from the chalice onto the paten, not touching it with his fingers, and then he lets the Host slip from the paten onto the corporal. He then lays the paten on the Epistle side of the corporal.

Ac 1 brings both cruets to the altar, genuflecting before going up. The celebrant genuflects and takes wine and water at the middle, pouring them into the chalice himself. He does not wipe the chalice nor bless the water; nor does he say the prayer *Deus qui humanae substantiae*. Ac 1 takes the cruets back and genuflects before returning to the credence table.

He sets the chalice on the altar, not making the sign of the cross with it. He covers it with the pall. He genuflects and puts incense in the thurible, without blessing. The thurifer and Mc 1 genuflect before coming up. The altar is incensed as usual. Ac 1 holds the missal, as usual.

The priest gives the thurible back, but he is not incensed. No one else is incensed either, and the thurifer takes the thurible out, making a double genuflection. It is not needed again. The celebrant comes down the steps, not turning his back to the Sanctissimum, and washes his hands facing the people. He goes back to the middle, genuflects, and says the prayer *In spiritu humilitatis*. He kisses the altar, genuflects, turns to the people on the Gospel side, and says *Orate fratres*.

No answer is made. He turns back by the same way, not completing the circle, and again genuflects. He says the Lord's Prayer, and Mc 1 answers *Sed libera nos a*

malo. The priest says the prayer *Libera nos quaesumus Domine*, genuflects, uncovers the chalice, and slips the paten under the Host. He holds the paten in his left and elevates the Host with his right. The Host is **not** incensed, the end of the chasuble is **not** held, and the rattle is **not** sounded. All the servers kneel during the elevation, and rise shortly afterwards.

The priest breaks the Host, saying nothing. The fraction is put into the chalice, and the priest says the prayers before his Communion. He makes his Communion as at a regular Mass, and the rattle is sounded thrice. The acolyte candles are now extinguished.

The priest drinks the chalice, the acolytes bring the cruets to the altar and pour wine and water over the celebrant's fingers, and if there are torchbearers they are now taken out. The acolytes do not switch the book and chalice veil.

The celebrant drinks the chalice and wipes it with the purificator, and covers it with the purificator, paten, pall and veil. Mc 1 takes it to the credence table. The celebrant, bowing with hands joined, says the prayer *Quod ore sumpsimus* silently. He comes down to the ground before the altar and genuflects with the Mc's. They escort the priest to the sedilia, then take off the Missal and altar cloth.

Vespers are then sung. When Vespers is finished, all the servers line up as they did on the way in, the acolytes do not carry candles, and only the cross bearer holds something. The Mc's extinguish all the candles. Everyone genuflects, the priest puts on his biretta, and Th 1 leads the way to the sacristy.

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