

# THE ORDER OF MASS

*Featuring the Words of Christ in Red*

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# THE ORDER OF MASS

## *THE INTRODUCTORY RITES*

When he has arrived at the altar, after making a profound bow with the ministers, the Priest venerates the altar with a kiss and, if appropriate, incenses the cross and the altar. Then, with the ministers, he goes to the chair. When the Entrance Chant is concluded, the Priest and the faithful, standing, sign themselves with the Sign of the Cross, while the Priest, facing the people, says:

**Priest:** In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**People:** Amen.

Then the Priest, extending his hands, greets the people, saying:

**Priest:** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
and the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit  
be with you all.

**People:** And with your spirit.

Or:

**Priest:** Grace to you and peace from God our Father  
and the Lord Jesus Christ.

**People:** And with your spirit.

Or:

**Priest:** The Lord be with you.

In this first greeting a Bishop, instead of The Lord be with you, says:

**Bishop:** Peace be with you.

**People:** And with your spirit.

## **EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER IV**

It is not permitted to change the Preface of this Eucharistic Prayer because of the structure of the Prayer itself, which presents a summary of the history of salvation.

- V.**      The Lord be with you.  
**R.**      And with your spirit.  
**V.**      Lift up your hearts.  
**R.**      We lift them up to the Lord.  
**V.**      Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**R.**      It is right and just.

It is truly right to give you thanks,  
truly just to give you glory, Father most holy,  
for you are the one God living and true,  
existing before all ages and abiding for all eternity,  
dwelling in unapproachable light;  
yet you, who alone are good, the source of life,  
have made all that is,  
so that you might fill your creatures with blessings  
and bring joy to many of them by the glory of your light.

And so, in your presence are countless hosts of Angels,  
who serve you day and night  
and, gazing upon the glory of your face,  
glorify you without ceasing.

With them we, too, confess your name in exultation,  
giving voice to every creature under heaven,  
as we acclaim:



Carl H. Bloch (1834 – 1890). *The Road to Emmaus*,  
Copenhagen, Denmark

## PRAYERS BEFORE COMMUNION

### JESUS, THE BREAD OF LIFE

Father in heaven,  
you have made us for yourself;  
our hearts are restless  
until they rest in you.

Fulfill this longing through Jesus  
the bread of life,  
so that we may witness to Him  
who alone satisfies the hungers  
of the human family.

By the power of your spirit  
lead us to the heavenly table  
where we may feast  
on the vision of your glory  
for ever and ever.  
Amen.