

Master of Ceremonies at a Missa Cantata

VESTING - PROCESSION The **MC** will open the Missal, help the **Celebrant** to vest, and he will make sure that the other servers are all present. The **MC** signals all to bow to the image in the sacristy. He then leads the **Celebrant** to the altar, staying on his right.

PRAYERS - When the **Celebrant** reaches the altar, the **MC** signals a genuflection, and signals the **ACS** to kneel (If they are in place). The **MC** makes all the responses. He holds the alb of the **Celebrant** in front when he ascends the steps.

INCENSEATION - He then signals the servers to rise, and goes to impose incense with the **Th**, holding the boat. He kisses first the spoon, and then the hand of the celebrant. He then says “**Benedícite Pater Reverénde.**” He makes sure that the **ACS** are waiting on the Epistle Side. He then kisses the hand of the **Celebrant** and then the spoon. He then gives the boat to **AC2** and receives the thurible from the **Th**. He holds the top of the chain in his right hand. He then kisses the disk of the thurible and then the hand of the **Celebrant**. He then places the bottom part of the chain in the right hand of the **Celebrant**, and then the top part in his left hand. When the incensation is finished, he goes down one step, receives the thurible from the **Celebrant** with the usual kisses, and incenses the **Celebrant** with three double swings, bowing deeply before and after with the **Th**, who is always on his right.

INTROIT and KYRIE - The **MC** then goes to the Missal and points out the introit, making the Sign of the Cross with the **Celebrant**. He bows with the **Celebrant** for the *Glória Patri*. He then recites the *Kýrie* with the **Celebrant**.

GLORIA - At the end of the last sung *Kýrie*, the **MC** signals the **Celebrant** to go to centre, and brings the card to the him. After the intonation, the **MC** bows to tabernacle, returns the card, and then goes to his place on the Epistle Side, turning towards the **Celebrant**. The **MC** then genuflects (*no signal given here*) and accompanies the **Celebrant** to the sedilia. He then makes all prescribed bows first to the **Celebrant** and then to the crucifix.

COLLECT(S) -After making the Sign of the Cross, he signals the **Celebrant** to rise and go to the altar. He signals a genuflection, holds the **Celebrant**'s alb, and goes directly to the missal. After *Oremus*, he points to the Collect(s). After the last Collect he bows to the crucifix with the **Celebrant** and accompanies him to the sedilia. As soon as the Epistle is finished he goes with the **Celebrant** to the Missal *Per Breviores*.

GRADUAL AND ALLELUIA -After the *Gradual* and *Allelúia* have been read, the **MC** bows to the crucifix with the **Celebrant**, and accompanies him to the sedilia.

GOSPEL - When 4 lines of chant remain to be sung, the **MC** signals the **Celebrant** to rise and return to the altar. He signals a genuflection, and holds the alb as usual. He then goes to impose incense with **Th** as usual. He then gives the boat to the **Th**, takes the Missal, and descends the steps in front of the altar, staying a little to the left. When the **Th** & **ACS** join him, they all genuflect after the repetition of the *Allelúia* has begun. The **MC** then ascends the steps and places the Missal on the Gospel Side. If the Choir is still chanting, he remains facing the wall on the Gospel Side. He then takes the thurible from the **Th** and holds it in his left hand. When the **Celebrant** signs himself he does likewise. He then switches the thurible into his right hand, and gives it to the **Celebrant** with the usual kisses. He bows with the **Celebrant** before and after the incensation and then goes to his place on the left of the **Th**. When the Holy Name is sung, he and the **Th** bow. After answering *Laus tibi Christe*, the **MC** incenses the **Celebrant** as usual. He then returns to the centre and signals the servers to genuflect. All then turn inwards and go to their places.

CREDO - The **MC** then gets the card and brings it to the **Celebrant**. When the **Celebrant** intones, he bows to the altar, returns the card, and goes to his place, turning toward the **Celebrant**. The **MC**

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makes all the bows with the **Celebrant** and genuflects with him during the recited *Et Incarnatus Est*. If the celebrant does not reach the sedilia in time then he meets the **Celebrant** at the foot of the altar for the sung *Et Incarnatus Est*, signaling all to kneel. He then signals a genuflection and leads the **Celebrant** to the Sedilia as usual. When the **Celebrant** has sat, he takes the Chalice and Burse from the credence in his left hand, with his right hand on top. He then genuflects in the centre and ascends the altar. He places the Chalice on the Gospel Side. He takes the burse and removes the corporal. He then places the Burse on the Gospel Side with his right hand. He then unfolds the Corporal. He then moves the Missal to the centre, bows to the Cross, descends, genuflects, and returns to the Sedilia. He makes all the prescribed bows to the **Celebrant** and crucifix.

OFFERTORY - After making the Sign of the Cross at the end of the *Credo*, the **MC** bows to the **Celebrant** and leads him back to the altar. He then signals a genuflection and stands at his usual place. After *Orémus* is sung, the **MC** ascends the steps and receives the Chalice Veil, which he folds and places on the Epistle Side. He then descends the steps and stands in his usual place.

INCENSATION - After the **Celebrant** has offered the Chalice, the **MC** goes to impose incense with the **Th** as usual. He makes sure that **ACI** is ready to move the Missal on the Gospel Side.. He then assists the **Celebrant**, supporting his left elbow with his right hand whenever a genuflection is made. After incensing the **Celebrant**, the **MC** gives the thurible to the **Th** and goes with him to the centre, where they genuflect. He then goes up the steps on the Gospel Side and stands by the Missal. After *Oráte fratres*, the **MC** says the *Suscipiat*. After the *Suscipiat*, he points to the Secret with his left hand. The **MC** is incensed after the Choir. He then turns to the Preface, and makes the Sign of the Cross with the **Celebrant** after the Sanctus.

CANON - The **MC** then turns to the Canon. After the *Hanc igitur*, he makes sure that the **Th** approaches the steps on the Epistle Side. When the **Celebrant** begins the *Qui Prídie*, he signals all to kneel. After the **Celebrant** has adored the Precious Blood the second time, the **MC** gives the signal for all to rise. He then assists the **Celebrant** as usual when genuflecting.

PAX DOMINI - The **MC** then genuflects with the **Celebrant** and strikes his breast while the **Celebrant** recites the *Agnus Dei*. After the **Celebrant** consumes the Host he genuflects with him, descends the steps on the gospel side, and stands in his usual place.

COMMUNION - When the **Celebrant** removes the pall from the Chalice the **MC** signals the servers to approach for Holy Communion. He then signals all to genuflect and kneel. When the **Celebrant** has consumed the Precious Blood he recites the Confiteor. After the absolution he signals all to rise and kneel on the Predella. He then holds the Paten for the distribution of Holy Communion. When the tabernacle is closed, the **MC** signals all to rise.

ABLUTIONS - The **MC** then goes to the Gospel Side next to the Missal. He moves to the corner of the Predella so that the Acolytes may switch the Missal and Chalice Veil. He then stands next to the **Celebrant** by the Missal on the Epistle Side.

ITE MISSA EST - After the last Postcommunion, the **MC** closes the Missal, and brings the intonation card to the **Celebrant**. He then returns the card, turns to his left and goes to his spot on the Gospel Side. After the sung *Deo grátias*, he signals all to kneel for the blessing, then signals all to rise. He then holds the Altar Card for the **Celebrant** during the Last Gospel. He then descends on the Gospel Side and goes directly to the right of the **Celebrant**. He signals all to genuflect, and processes out behind the Acolytes. Upon arriving in the Sacristy he signals all to bow to the image in sacristy, to the **Celebrant**, and then to kneel for the blessing of the **Celebrant**. He then helps the **Celebrant** to divest.

LAUS DEO SEMPER