

## MASTER OF CEREMONIES AT SOLEMN HIGH MASS

VESTING - The **MC** will help the C to vest, and he will make sure that the ACS help the D and **SD**.

PROCESSION - The **MC** signals all to bow to the cross, He then leads the Ministers to the altar, staying behind the Ministers on the right.

ASPERGES - When the Ministers arrive, he signals them to genuflect, and then to kneel. He then receives the Aspersory from the TH and gives it to the **D**. The **MC** and TH then kneel *behind the Ministers*. When the C has sprinkled the **SD**, the **MC** signals Ministers and TH to rise and genuflect, and then leads them first to the Gospel Side and then to the Epistle Side for the Aspersion. After the Gospel Side, the **MC** and TH genuflect in front of the Ministers, after the Epistle Side in back of them. When facing the choirs the **MC** should always be on the left. When genuflecting to the altar he is on the right. The **MC** makes sure that the Ministers are stationary and bowing for the Gloria Patri. The **MC** and TH then lead the Ministers to the back of the church, allowing them to pass. The **MC** then signals all to genuflect, and leads them back to the altar, where he stands *next to the D*. When the Ministers arrive, the **MC** signals a genuflection, takes the Asperges Book, and hands it to the D, who gives him the Aspersory. The **MC** then gives the Aspersory to **AC1**. After the prayer, the **MC** signals all to genuflect, and gives the book to **AC2**. He then takes the cope from the C at the sedilia.

PRAYERS - When Ministers are vested, the **MC** leads them to the altar, signals a genuflection, and signals the servers to kneel. The **MC** makes all the responses with the **D** and **SD**.

INCENSE ALTAR - He then signals the servers to rise, and goes to impose incense with the TH, giving the boat to the **D**. He then gives the boat to the TH and descends the Epistle side with the missal, facing the Gospel Side. He then replaces the missal, and stands on the 2nd step facing the nave while the C is incensed. (*At Requiem Mass this incensation is omitted.*)

INTROIT and KYRIE -When the **D** and **SD** have lined up behind the C, the **MC** turns toward the C and points out the introit and makes the Sign of the Cross with the C (*Omitted at Requiem*). He bows with the C for the Gloria Patri, and faces the **D** and **SD** for the Kyrie. He then signals the **D** and **SD** to line up behind the C.

GLORIA - At the end of the last sung Kyrie, the **MC** signals Ministers to go to centre, and brings the card to the C. **MC** then bows to tabernacle, and then to **D** and **SD** to ascend. He then goes to his place on the Epistle Side, always turning *towards the tabernacle* when descending the steps. The **MC** then genuflects (*no signal given here*) and accompanies them to the sedilia. He then makes all prescribed bows first to the Ministers and then to the tabernacle.

COLLECT(S) -After making the Sign of the Cross, he signals the Ministers to rise and go to the altar. He signals a genuflection, and goes directly to the missal. After *Oremus*, he points to the Collect(s), and during the last one he goes to receive the Epistolarium from **AC1**. (*At Requiem Mass he gets the Epistolarium from the Credence.*) The leaves should always be on his right. He presents it to the **SD**, bowing before and after, and then accompanies him to the altar, passing behind him on his left. If the Collect ends in *Per Eundem...* he stays at the foot of the altar and bows, otherwise he leads the **SD** to the Epistle Side. He waits for the C to sit, and then signals the **SD** to begin. Afterwards the **MC** answers *Deo Gratias*, and leads **SD** to centre, genuflecting with him. He then accompanies **SD** to the Epistle Side, and remains facing the Gospel Side. When the **SD** descends, the **MC** turns to him and receives the Epistolarium, which he returns to the Credence. He then goes to the missal. (*At a Requiem Mass after returning to the altar and genuflecting, the MC receives the Epistolarium before returning to the Epistle Side.*)

GRADUAL AND ALLELUIA -After the Gradual and Alleluia have been read, the **MC** bows to the tabernacle with the Ministers, and accompanies them to the sedilia. After the beginning of the Alleluia, the **MC** gets the Evangelarium from the credence and returns to the sedilia.

**GOSPEL** - When 4 lines of chant remain to be sung, the **MC** signals the Ministers to rise and return to the altar. He signals a genuflection, and gives the book to the **D**. After the **D** has placed the Evangelarium on the altar he then goes to impose incense with TH as usual. He then gives the boat to the TH and stands in front of **AC2**. When the TH joins him, he leads the procession to the centre. When the **D** descends he signals all to genuflect, and follows the ACS to the Gospel Side. He takes the thurible from the TH and holds it in his left hand. When the **D** signs himself he turns and signs himself, facing the C. He then turns back, switching the thurible into his right hand, and gives it to the **D**. He bows with the **D** before and after the incensation and then returns the thurible to the TH. When the Holy Name is sung, he bows to the C. After answering *Laus Tibi Christe*, the **MC** allows the **SD** to pass, then he joins the TH and goes to the Altar, leaving room for the **D** to pass through. When the **D** has passed through the **MC** signals all to genuflect. He then goes to the Epistle Side to get the book from the **SD**, and allows him to go to the left of the **D**. The **MC** then goes to his place behind the **SD**. When the TH returns from assisting the **D**, the **MC** signals the servers to genuflect. All then go to their places, and the **MC** returns the book to the credence. He then stands next to the **D** at the Sedilia.

**CREDO** - After the Sermon, the **MC** accompanies the Ministers back to the altar and signals them to genuflect. He then gets the card and brings it to the C. When the C intones, he bows first to the altar, and then to the **D** and **SD** to ascend. He then returns the card and turning to his left, descends the altar. He then stands in his usual place. The **MC** makes all the bows with the Ministers and genuflects with them during the recited *Et Incarnatus Est*. He then meets the Ministers at the foot of the altar for the sung *Et Incarnatus Est*, signaling all to kneel. He then leads the Ministers to the Sedilia as usual. When the C has sat, he leads the **D** to the credence and gives him the Burse, with the opening towards the **D**. He then accompanies the **D** to the altar on his right, genuflects with him, and holds his alb as he ascends the steps. He then genuflects with the **D** and returns to the Sedilia. He makes all the prescribed bows to the Ministers and Tabernacle.

**OFFERTORY** - After making the Sign of the Cross at the end of the Credo, the **MC** bows to the Ministers and leads them back to the altar. He then signals a genuflection and stands at his usual place. After *Oremus* is sung, the **MC** meets the **SD**, genuflects with him, and leads him to the Credence. The **MC** first removes the humeral veil from the chalice and stands behind the **SD**. He then gives it to the **SD**, helping him to cover the chalice if necessary. If there is a Ciborium or Luna the **MC** brings it to the Altar immediately following the **SD**. He then stands in his usual place.

**INCENSATION** - After the C has offered the Chalice, the **MC** goes to impose incense with the TH as usual. After returning the boat to the TH, the **MC** goes directly to the left of the C to assist with the incensation. He makes sure that **AC1** is ready to move the Missal. He then assists the C, supporting his left elbow with his right hand whenever a genuflection is made. After the Gospel Side has been incensed, the **MC** remains at the Missal. After the *Orate Fratres*, the **MC** signals the **D** or **SD** to say the *Suscipiat*, else he says it himself. After the *Suscipiat*, he points to the Secret with his left hand. The **MC** is incensed after the **D**. Towards the end of the preface he signals the **D** and **SD** to ascend, making room for the **SD**. He recites the *Sanctus* with the Ministers. He then makes sure that the **SD** turns the page of the Missal.

**CANON** - The **MC** then turns to his right and descends the steps on the Gospel side without genuflecting. He then goes to his usual place on the Epistle Side, genuflecting as he passes the centre. If the TH has returned some time before the *Hanc Igitur*, he may add more incense to the thurible, if it is needed. After the *Hanc Igitur*, he makes sure that the TH approaches the steps on the Epistle Side. (*At Requiem Mass the TH brings the thurible to the SD in the centre.*) If there is a ciborium to be consecrated, he waits for the **D** to uncover it, otherwise he gives the signal to kneel as soon as the **D** goes to the Epistle Side. After the C has adored the Precious Blood the second time, the **MC** gives the signal for all to rise. When the C says the *Nobis Quoque Peccatoribus*, the **MC** goes to the Gospel Side, genuflecting as he passes the centre. At the *Per Quem Haec Omnia*, he genuflects with the **D** and ascends to the left of the C. He then assists the C as usual when genuflecting.

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PATER NOSTER - He makes sure the **D** stands behind the **C** at *Audemus Dicere*. At *Et Dimitte Nobis*, he signals the **D** and **SD** to ascend.

PAX DOMINI - At *Pax Domini*, the **MC** signals the **SD** to genuflect and ascend, and steps to the left to make room for him. The **MC** then genuflects with the Ministers and recites the Agnus Dei with them. He then genuflects with the **SD**, descends the steps on the gospel side, and stands to the left of the **SD** at the foot of the altar. After the **SD** has received the Pax, he signals the **D** and **SD** to genuflect with him, and leads the **SD** to the Choir. He then leads the **SD** to the altar, where he signals a genuflection, receives the Pax, signals another genuflection, and goes to give **AC1** the Pax. He then goes to the Gospel Side, genuflecting in the middle, and gives the Pax to the **CB**.

COMMUNION - The Servers and Ministers bow whenever the **C** consumes the Sacred Species. After the consumption of the Precious Blood, when the **SD** puts the pall on the chalice, the **MC** signals the servers to approach the first step. He then signals all to genuflect and kneel. After the **SD** has received Holy Communion, he signals the servers to rise and kneel on the predella. After he has himself received, he signals all to descend and genuflect. He then goes to the Epistle Side and faces the **C** during the distribution of Communion. When the Ministers return, the **MC** kneels when they genuflect on the predella. When the tabernacle is closed, the **MC** signals all to rise.

ABLUTIONS - The **MC** remains at his place on the Epistle Side. When the **D** returns the Missal, the **MC** turns the page to the Communion prayer, and remains next to the Missal. He then points out the Communion to the **C** with his right hand, and remaining at the Missal points out the Postcommunion as well.

ITE MISSA EST - After the Postcommunion, the **MC** closes the Missal, and brings the intonation card to the **D**. He then returns the card, turns to his left and goes to his spot on the Epistle Side. After the sung *Deo Gratias*, he signals all to kneel for the blessing, then signals all to rise. He then faces towards the Gospel Side for the Last Gospel. When the Ministers descend, he signals all to genuflect, and processes out behind the torchbearers. Upon arriving in the Sacristy he signals all to bow to the Processional Cross, to the **C**, and then to kneel for the blessing of the **C**. He then helps the **C** to divest.

LAUS DEO SEMPER