

EASTER TIME INTRODUCTORY RITES

When the people are gathered, the Priest approaches the altar with the ministers while the Entrance Chant is sung.

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:

**In the name of the Father and of the Son
and of the Holy Spirit.**

The people reply:

Amen.

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

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

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

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

The people reply:

And with your spirit.

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

Peace be with you.

The Priest, or a Deacon, or another minister, may very briefly introduce the faithful to the Mass of the day (in these or similar words):

**My brothers and sisters in Christ, this is the day the Lord has made, let us
rejoice and be glad. We rejoice because Jesus Christ is risen from the dead
and we have been set free from sin and death.**

RITE OF BLESSING AND SPRINKLING HOLY WATER

From time to time on Sundays, especially in Easter Time, instead of the customary Penitential Act, the blessing and sprinkling of water may take place as a reminder of Baptism. (OM, 4, footnote) If the water to be used has already been blessed, one of the following options, D or E, may be used (RCIA, 222):

D EASTER TIME THANKSGIVING OVER WATER ALREADY BLESSED:
Facing the font (or vessel) containing the blessed water, the celebrant says the following.

Dear friends, this water will be used to remind us of our baptism. Let us give thanks to God for this blessed water and let us ask to be kept faithful to the Spirit God has given us.

After a brief silence, he continues:

**Praise to you, almighty God and Father,
for you have created water to give life.**

All sing or say the following or some other suitable acclamation.
Blessed be God.

Celebrant:

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, the Father's only Son,
for you offered yourself on the cross,
that in the blood and water flowing from your side
and through your death and resurrection
the Church might be born.**

All: Blessed be God.

Celebrant:

**Praise to you, God the Holy Spirit,
for you anointed Christ at his baptism in the waters
of the Jordan,
that we might all be baptized in you.**

All: Blessed be God.

The celebrant concludes with the following prayer.

**You have called your children to this cleansing water,
that they may share in the faith of your Church
and have eternal life.
By the mystery of this consecrated water
lead them to a new and spiritual birth.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.**

All: Amen.

Afterward, taking the aspergillum, the Priest sprinkles himself and the ministers, then the clergy and people, moving through the church if appropriate. Meanwhile, an appropriate song is sung.

When he returns to his chair and the singing is over, the Priest stands facing the people and, with hands joined, says:

**May almighty God cleanse us of our sins,
and through the celebration of this Eucharist
make us worthy to share at the table
of his kingdom.**

R: Amen.

GLORIA

Then, when it is prescribed, the hymn Gloria in excelsis (Glory to God in the highest) is sung or said.

Glory to God in the highest
and on earth peace to people of good will.
We praise you, we bless you,
we adore you, we glorify you,
we give you thanks for your great glory,
Lord God, heavenly King,
O God, almighty Father.
Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
Son of the Father,
you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us;
you take away the sins of the world,
receive our prayer;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father,
have mercy on us.
For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

COLLECT

RITE OF BLESSING AND SPRINKLING HOLY WATER

When this rite is celebrated, it takes the place of the Penitential Act at the beginning of Mass.

If the water to be used has already been blessed, one of the following options, D or E, may be used (RCIA, 222):

E EASTER TIME THANKSGIVING OVER WATER ALREADY BLESSED:

Facing the font (or vessel) containing the blessed water, the celebrant says the following.

Dear friends, this water will be used to remind us of our baptism. Let us give thanks to God for this blessed water and let us ask to be kept faithful to the Spirit God has given us.

After a brief silence, he continues:

**Father, God of mercy, through these waters of baptism
you have filled us with new life as your very own children.**

All sing or say a suitable acclamation or the following.

Blessed be God.

Celebrant:

**From all who are baptized in water and the Holy Spirit,
you have formed one people,
united in your Son, Jesus Christ.**

All: Blessed be God.

Celebrant:

**You have set us free and filled our hearts with
the Spirit of your love,
that we may live in your peace.**

All: Blessed be God.

Celebrant:

**You call those who have been baptized
to announce the Good News of Jesus Christ
to people everywhere.**

All: Blessed be God.

The celebrant concludes with the following prayer.

**You have called your children to this cleansing water,
that they may share in the faith of your Church
and have eternal life.**

**By the mystery of this consecrated water
lead them to a new and spiritual birth.**

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

Afterward, taking the aspergillum, the Priest sprinkles himself and the ministers, then the clergy and people, moving through the church if appropriate. Meanwhile, an appropriate song is sung.

When he returns to his chair and the singing is over, the Priest stands facing the people and, with hands joined, says:

**May almighty God cleanse us of our sins,
and through the celebration of this Eucharist
make us worthy to share at the table
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R: Amen.

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we give you thanks for your great glory,
Lord God, heavenly King,
O God, almighty Father.
Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
Son of the Father,
you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us;
you take away the sins of the world,
receive our prayer;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father,
have mercy on us.
For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

COLLECT

RITE OF BLESSING AND SPRINKLING HOLY WATER

If the water is not already blessed, the following blessing is used during the Easter season.

If this rite is celebrated during Mass, it takes the place of the usual Penitential Act at the beginning of Mass.

After the greeting, the priest stands at his chair and faces the people. With a vessel containing the water to be blessed before him, he calls upon the people to pray in these or similar words:

**Dear brethren (brothers and sisters),
let us humbly beseech the Lord our God
to bless this water he has created,
which will be sprinkled on us
as a memorial of our Baptism.
May he help us by his grace
to remain faithful to the Spirit we have received.**

And after a brief pause for silence, he continues with hands joined:

C. (during the Easter season)

**Lord our God,
in your mercy be present to your people's prayers,
and, for us who recall the wondrous works of our creation
and the still greater work of our redemption,
graciously ✠ bless this water.
For you created water to make the fields fruitful
and to refresh and cleanse our bodies.
You also made water the instrument of your mercy:
for through water you freed your people from slavery
and quenched their thirst in the desert;
through water the Prophets proclaimed the new covenant
you were to enter upon with the human race;
and last of all,
through water, which Christ made holy in the Jordan,
you have renewed our corrupted nature
in the bath of regeneration.
Therefore, may this water be for us
a memorial of the Baptism we have received,
and grant that we may share
in the gladness of our brothers and sisters
who at Easter have received their baptism.
Through Christ our Lord.**

R: Amen.

Afterward, taking the aspergillum, the Priest sprinkles himself and the ministers, then the clergy and people, moving through the church if appropriate. Meanwhile, an appropriate chant is sung.

When he returns to his chair and the singing is over, the Priest stands facing the people and, with hands joined, says:

**May almighty God cleanse us of our sins,
and through the celebration of this Eucharist
make us worthy to share at the table
of his kingdom.**

R: Amen.

GLORIA

Then, when it is prescribed, the hymn Gloria in excelsis (Glory to God in the highest) is sung or said.

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receive our prayer;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father,
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For you alone are the Holy One,
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you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

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