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RITE OF DISTRIBUTING HOLY COMMUNION OUTSIDE MASS

WITH THE CELEBRATION OF THE WORD

26. This rite is to be used chiefly when Mass is not celebrated or when communion is not distributed at scheduled times. The purpose is that the people should be nourished by the word of God. By hearing it they learn that the marvels it proclaims reach their climax in the paschal mystery of which the Mass is a sacramental memorial and in which they share by communion. Nourished by God's word, they are led on to grateful and fruitful participation in the saving mysteries.

INTRODUCTORY RITES

27. After the people have assembled and preparations for the service (see nos. 19-20) are complete, all stand for the greeting of the minister.

GREETING

If he is a priest or deacon, he says:

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

The people answer: And also with you.

OR:

The Lord be with you.

The people answer: And also with you.

OR:

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The grace and peace of God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

The people answer:

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

OR:

And also with you.

Any other customary forms of greeting from scripture may be used.

If the minister is not a priest or deacon, he greets those present with these or similar words:

**Brothers and sisters,
the Lord invites us (you) to his table
to share in the body of Christ:
bless him for his goodness.**

The people answer:

Blessed be God for ever.

PENITENTIAL RITE

28. *The penitential rite follows, and the minister invites the people to recall their sins and to repent of them in these words:*

**My brothers and sisters,
to prepare ourselves for this celebration,
let us call to mind our sins.**

A pause for silent reflection follows.

All say:

I confess to almighty God,
and to you, my brothers and sisters,
that I have sinned through my own fault

They strike their breast:

in my thoughts and in my words,
in what I have done,
and in what I have failed to do;
and I ask blessed Mary, ever virgin,
all the angels and saints,
and you, my brothers and sisters,
to pray for me to the Lord our God.

The minister concludes:

**May almighty God have mercy on us,
forgive us our sins,
and bring us to everlasting life.**

The people answer:

Amen.