Mass Moments
Fall Series: Intro Rites
Key Points - September 22

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- **The Entrance Chant (Antiphon):** "Song expresses the unity of faith of the assembly in its various parts ... This is the voice of the Church" (*What Happens at Mass*, pg. 17). "Christ is coming and standing in the midst of his people. Of course the people rise (and) sing a joyful song with one voice" (pg. 18). "Human song is an image of the mystery of the Incarnation ... of divinity joined to humanity" (pg. 20).
- **The Sign of the Cross ... Amen:** "The sign (of the cross) expresses in one summary gesture the central event of Christian faith" (pg. 20). It reminds us of our baptism, of the Lord's presence within us, and of the reality of Christ's dying and rising. When we close by saying "Amen", "I put my life on the line in what I say Amen to. I agree to it. I ratify it" (pg. 22).
- **Greeting the Assembled People:** In the priest's greeting, he greets us not just as an individual or as a friendly welcome but in his sacramental role as another Christ, in his priestly role as "the head of Christ's body (the Church) in the assembly" (pg. 23).

Reflection Questions

- Reflect upon and discuss the quote often attributed to St. Augustine: "to sing is to pray twice". How does the gift and grace of song open our minds and hearts and bodies to the transcendent beauty we encounter at Mass?
- Be it privately or publicly, amidst believers or non-believers, are you afraid to make the sign of the cross or is it only a mindless habit?
- Reflect and discuss with family how you greet one another when someone enters your house, your presence. Now reflect upon how our Lord personally reaches out and greets us (greets you and me) at the beginning of Mass.

Resources for the Whole Family

Recommended resources this week - scan the QR code to view resources for this series on our website:

- *What Happens at Mass* - Chapter 2, pgs.17-24: Introductory Rites
- Talk from Dr. Edward Sri at the Eucharistic Congress
- Book For Children: *Jesus Speaks to Me About Mass* - by Angela M. Burrin & Word Among Us Press