

# Mass Moments

## Fall Series: Liturgy of the Word



### Key Points - October 27

- **The Homily:** Like the Gospel, preaching the Homily is also reserved for the ordained (Bishop-Priest-Deacon). “This is not to say that lay people may not be just as insightful about the meaning of Sacred Scripture and just as effective in publicly speaking about them... That one of the ordained is preaching is meant to be a guarantee in the assembly that what is heard is the Church’s Apostolic faith and not merely the private thoughts of an individual” (*What Happens at Mass*, pg. 50).
- “This use of the scriptural text in reference to the Lord’s Paschal Mystery (Christ is Died; Christ is Risen; Christ will come again) becomes the basis of all preaching. Explaining the text in this way becomes the preachers task” (pg. 52).
- The ordained have a “responsibility of representing the faith in a public, verifiable way” and “propos(ing) to the assembly ways of ensuring that God’s word finds its home in our hearts and that we respond to it as we ought” (pg. 51). “The preacher’s task (is thus) to enable the whole community and each individual believer to say with one’s whole being ‘Jesus is Lord,’ and to cry out ‘Abba, Father!’ to God” (pg. 53).
- Finally, the preacher “must signal and to some extent explain the link between the Liturgy of the Word and the Liturgy of the Eucharist... in some mysterious sense the Eucharistic liturgy echoes the pattern of the Word becoming flesh in the mystery of the Incarnation. The scriptural words proclaimed in liturgy become sacrament” (pg. 53).

## Reflection Questions

- How do homilies fulfill the instruction given to Timothy: “I charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus: proclaim the word; be persistent whether it is convenient or inconvenient; convince, reprimand, encourage through all patience and teaching” (2 Timothy 4:1-2).
- Reflect on significant homilies in your life history. Are there any memorable occasions when the message of a homily affected you? Give thanks to God for the impact of this preaching.
- Help yourself and your family engage with the homily at Mass by approaching this portion of the Liturgy as a treasure hunt. What message has the Lord Jesus hidden for you in the homily?



# 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 3, pg. 50-53
- Bishop Barron on How to Preach Like an Apostle - on YouTube
- Proclaiming the Kerygma with Dr. Mary Healy - on FORMED
- **For Children:** All Saints Day and All Souls Day | Brother Francis - on FORMED



## Events at St. Mary's & around the Archdiocese

- Eucharistic Adoration at St. Mary's – Wednesdays from 8:30 AM – 8 PM in the Notre Dame chapel. Signup on our [website!](#)
- “In Defense of Leisure: Reclaiming the Lord’s Day” - Tuesday, October 29, 6-9 PM, St. John the Evangelist, Little Canada - presentation by Pam Patnode - [Link](#)
- Seven Times a Day I Praise You at St. John Neumann in Eagan (7-9 PM) Thursdays, Nov. 7 & Nov. 21 [Online Registration](#) – \$50
- Episcopal Ordination of the Most Reverend Kevin Thomas Kenney on Monday, October 28 at 1 PM. This ordination will take place at the Cathedral of St. Paul, as well as livestreamed on the Archdiocese’s Facebook page.

