



THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

“ It is not the ambo that interprets the altar; it is the altar that interprets the ambo.” – Fr. Michael Heinz

A Biblical Walk Through the Mass

TWO TABLES

We are fed from both
tables:

Table 1: The Liturgy
of the Word

Table 2: The Liturgy
of the Eucharist

Both are important



Introduction: What you will learn

- What Liturgy is
- What we do at Mass during the liturgy of the word and why
- How the liturgy is a living tradition
- Ways to live liturgically and what that looks like

LITURGY?

In the Catholic Church, a liturgy is a **public, communal**
worship that includes

**rites,
reading of
scripture,**

**ceremonies,
prayers,
and**

**the
sacraments
of the
church**

Liturgy of the Word: God's Word Spoken to Us

**It's not words about God,
but rather God's own words
spoken to us**

JEWISH ROOTS

The Law and the prophets were read regularly in Synagogue worship

- There's evidence for a 3 year cycle
- The order of these readings is important



THE LITURGICAL CALENDAR

- Homily usually follows the readings but doesn't have to
- There is beauty in rhythm
- Not chosen by the pastor
- Living Liturgically



THE FIRST READING



“[T]he writings of
the prophets are
read.”

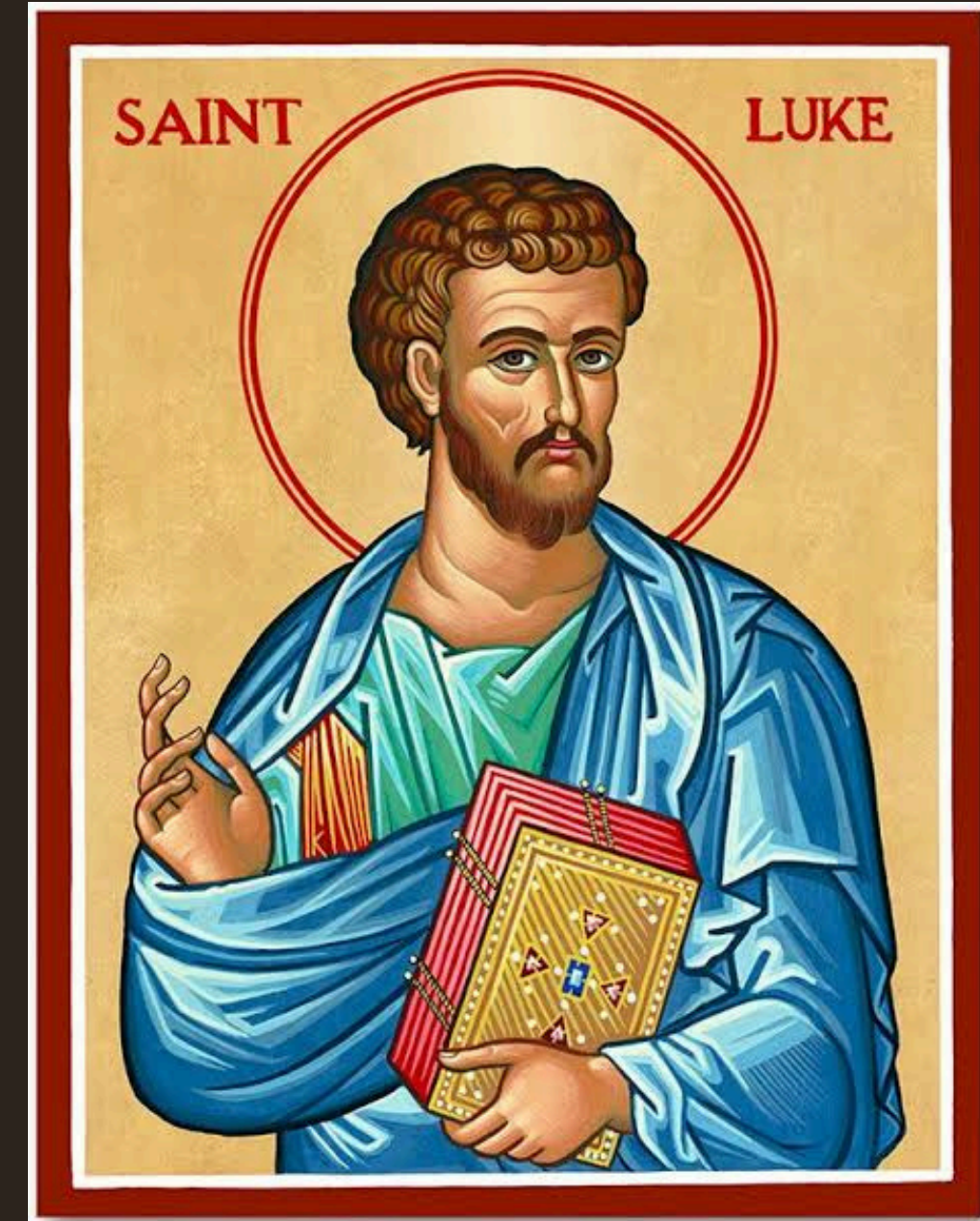
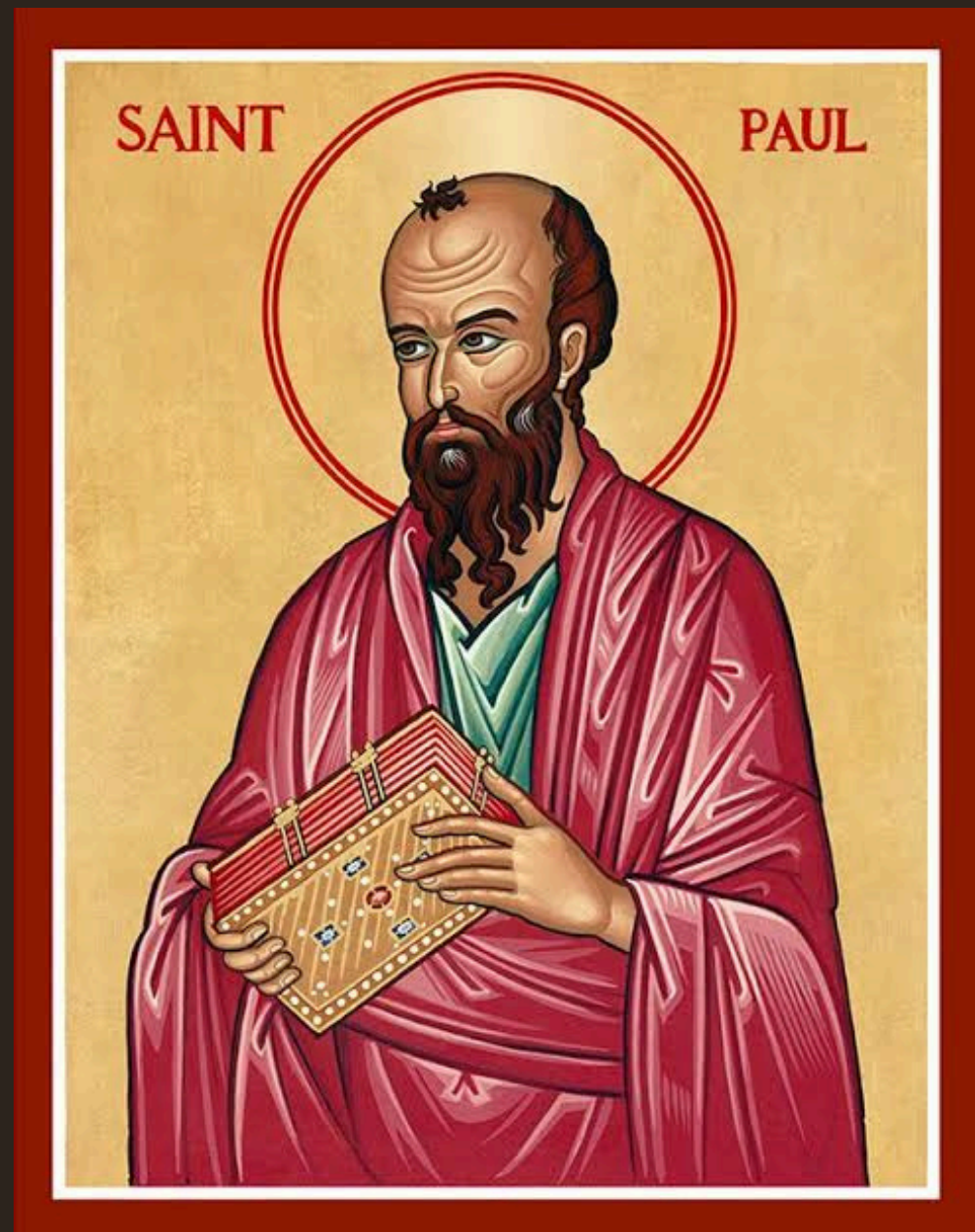
– St. Justin Martyr

THE RESPONSORIAL PSALM

- Our response back to God
- We don't just use our human words but God's own inspired words!
- There is a back and forth that happens
- This is called "antiphonal"
- This happens throughout the Mass.
Can you think of some examples?



THE SECOND READING



THE GOSPEL READING

“When the Sacred Scriptures are read in the Church, God himself speaks to his people, and Christ, present in his word, proclaims the gospel.”



THE HOMILY

“If the homily does not flow from a prayerful encounter with God’s Word, it will end up being more about the preacher – his insight, his ‘public speaking skills,’ his personality.”

THE CREED

I believe in one God,
the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.
I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the Only Begotten Son of God,
born of the Father before all ages.
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made, consubstantial with the
Father;
through him all things were made.
For us men and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the
Virgin Mary,
and became man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate,
he suffered death and was buried,
and rose again on the third day
in accordance with the Scriptures.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead
and his kingdom will have no end.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of
life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is adored and
glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic
Church.
I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins
and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

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Then we all rise together and offer prayers for ourselves... and for all others, wherever they may be, so that we may be found righteous by our life and actions, and faithful to the commandments, so as to obtain eternal salvation. //

-St. Justin Martyr AD 155