**PRESENTATION OF THE CREED**

**OUTLINE OF THE RITE:**

**LITURGY OF THE WORD**

* Readings
* Homily
* Presentation of the Creed
* Prayer over the Elect
* Dismissal of the elect

**LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST**

**(Third Sunday of Lent)**

The presentation of the /creed, which takes place during the week after the first scrutiny, should preferably be celebrated in the presence of a community of the faithful, within Mass, after the homily.

**LITURGY OF THE WORD**

**READINGS:**

**In place of the readings assigned for the weekday Mass, the following readings are used, as indicated in the Lectionary for Mass, ritual Masses, “Christian Initiation: Presentation of the Creed.”**

**First Reading:**

**Deuteronomy 6:1-7 –**

**Listen, Israel: You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart.**

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM:**

**Psalm 19:8,9,10,11**

**R: (John 6:68c) Lord, you have the words of everlasting life.**

**Second Reading:**

**Romans 10:8-13 The confession of faith of the elect.**

**Or:**

**1 Corinthians 15:1-8a or 1-4**

**The Gospel will save you only if you keep believing what I preached to you.**

**Verse before the Gospel:**

**John 3:16**

**God loved the world so much, he gave us his only Son, that all who believe in him might have eternal life.**

**GOSPEL:**

**Matthew 16:13-18 – On this rock I will build my Church.**

**Or:**

**John 12:44-50**

**I, the light, have come into the world, so that whoever believes in me need not remain in the dark any more.**

**HOMILY**

**After the readings and guided by them, the celebrant explains in the homily the meaning and importance of the Creed in relation to the teaching that the Elect have already received and to the profession of faith that they must make at their baptism and uphold throughout their lives.**

**After the homily, a deacon or other assisting minister says:**

**Let the Elect now come forward to receive the Creed from the Church.**

**Before beginning the Apostles’ Creed (option A) or the Nicene Creed (Option B), the celebrant addresses the Elect in these or similar words:**

**My dear friends, listen carefully to the words of that faith by which you will be justified. The words are few, but the mysteries they contain are great. Receive them with a sincere heart and be faithful to them.**

**A: APOSTLES’ CREED**

**The celebrant alone begins:**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,**

**As the elect listen, he continues with the assembly of the faithful,**

**Creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.**

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit**

**And born of the Virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,**

**Was crucified, died, and was buried.**

**He descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again.**

**He ascended into heaven,**

**And is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,**

**The holy Catholic church,**

**The communion of saints,**

**The forgiveness of sins,**

**The resurrection of the body,**

**And the life everlasting. Amen.**

**B: NICENE CREED**

**The celebrant alone begins:**

**We believe in one God,**

**As the Elect listen, he continues with the assembly of the faithful.**

**The Father, the Almighty,**

**Maker of heaven and earth,**

**Of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,**

**The only Son of god,**

**Eternally begotten of the Father,**

**God from God, light from light,**

**True God from true God,**

**Begotten not made,**

**Of one Bering with the Father.**

**Through Him all things were made.**

**For us men and for our salvation**

**He came down from heaven:**

**By the power of the Holy Spirit**

**He became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,**

**And was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;**

**He suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again**

**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.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,**

**Who proceeds from the Father and the Son.**

**With the Father and the Son he is worshipped and glorified.**

**He has spoken through the Prophets.**

**We believe in one, holy catholic and apostolic church.**

**We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.**

**We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

**Using the following or similar words, the celebrant invites the faithful to pray.**

**Let us pray for these Elect, that God in his mercy may make them responsive to his love, so that through the waters of rebirth they may receive pardon for their sins and have life in Christ Jesus our Lord.**

**All pray in silence.**

**Then the celebrant, with hands outstretched over the elect, says:**

**Lord, eternal source of light, justice and truth,**

**Take under your tender care your servants N and N.**

**Purify them and make them holy;**

**Give them true knowledge, sure hope, and sound understanding,**

**And make them worthy to receive the grace of baptism.**

**We ask this through Christ our Lord.**

**R: Amen**

**DISMISSAL OF THE ELECT**

**If the Eucharist is to be celebrated, the Elect are normally dismissed at this point by use of Option A; if the Elect are to stay for the celebration of the Eucharist, option B is used; if the Eucharist is not to be celebrated, the entire assembly is dismissed by use of Option C.**

**A:**

**The celebrant dismisses the Elect in these or similar words.**

**Dear Elect, go in peace,**

**And may the Lord remain with you always.**

**Elect:**

**Amen.**

**B:**

**If for serious reasons the Elect cannot leave, and must remain with the baptised, they are to be instructed that though they are present at the Eucharist, they cannot take part in it as the baptised do. They may be reminded of this by the celebrant in these or similar words.**

**Although you cannot yet participate fully in the Lord’s Eucharist, stay with us as a sign of our hope that all God’s children will eat and drink with the Lord and work with his Spirit to re-create the face of the earth.**

**C: The celebrant dismisses those present, using these or similar words:**

**Go in peace,**

**And may the Lord remain with you always.**

**All: Thanks be to God.**

**An appropriate song may conclude the celebration.**

**LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST**

**After the Elect leave, the celebration of Mass continues in the usual way.**