For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours now and for ever.

The Priest says:
Lord Jesus Christ, who said to your Apostles:
Peace I leave you, my peace I give you, look not on our sins, but on the faith of your Church, and graciously grant her peace and unity in accordance with your will. Who live and reign for ever and ever. Amen.

The peace of the Lord be with you always. Amen.

Who live and reign for ever and ever.

in accordance with your will.

and graciously grant her peace and unity

look not on our sins,

have mercy on us.

and may our learning of heavenly wisdom

be with you all.

and the Holy Spirit,

in the joy of your heart.

but only say the word

may no earthly undertaking hinder those

who set out in haste to meet your Son, but may our learning of heavenly wisdom gain us admittance to his company. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit. God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Penitential Act
The Priest invites the faithful to repentance

and enrich you with his blessing.

sanctify you by the radiance of Christ's Advent

in the First Coming of his Only Begotten Son

by whose grace you have placed your faith

May the almighty and merciful God,

so that Israel can walk in safety under the glory of God.

THE CONCLUDING RITES
Announcements may be made. Then:

Solemn Blessing
Priest: The Lord be with you. All: And with your spirit.

The Deacon, or the Priest, says: Bow down for the blessing.

May the almighty and merciful God, by whose grace you have placed your faith in the First Coming of his Only Begotten Son and yearn for his coming again sanctify you by the radiance of Christ's Advent and enrich you with his blessing. Amen.

As you run the race of this present life, may he make you firm in faith, joyful in hope and active in charity. Amen.

So that, rejoicing now with devotion at the Redeemer’s coming in the flesh, you may be endowed with the rich reward of eternal life when he comes again in majesty. Amen.

And may the blessing of almighty God, the Father, and the Son, * and the Holy Spirit, come down on you and remain with you for ever. Amen.

Then the Deacon, or the Priest, says:

Go forth, the Mass is ended. Or: Go and announce the Gospel of the Lord. Or: Go in peace, glorifying the Lord by your life. Or: Go in peace.

Thanks be to God.

THE INTRODUCTORY RITES
Entrance Antiphon or a hymn. Stand Cfr. Is 30:19, 30

O people of Sion, behold, the Lord will come to save the nations, and the Lord will make the glory of his voice heard in the joy of your heart.

All make the Sign of the Cross as the Priest says: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Greeting
The Priest greets the people, saying:

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

Or:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Or:

The Lord be with you. The people reply: And with your spirit.

The Mass of the day may be introduced.

Penitential Act
The Priest invites the faithful to repentance followed, after a brief pause, by one of the Penitential Acts:

I confess to almighty God and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have greatly sinned, in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done and in what I have failed to do, and, striking their breast, they say:

through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault;

therefore 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.

Or:

Have mercy on us, O Lord. For we have sinned against you. Show us, O Lord, your mercy. And grant us your salvation. Or:

You were sent to heal the contrite of heart: Lord, have mercy. Or: Kyrie, eleison.

Lord, have mercy. Or: Kyrie, eleison.

You came to call sinners: Christ, have mercy. Or: Christe, eleison.

Christ, have mercy. Or: Christe, eleison.

You are seated at the right hand of the Father to intercede for us: Lord, have mercy. Or: Kyrie, eleison.

Lord, have mercy. Or: Kyrie, eleison.

The absolution by the Priest follows. The people reply: Amen.

If the ‘Kyrie, eleison’ has not been said or sung, it is said or sung now.

The Collect
Almighty and merciful God, may no earthly undertaking hinder those who set out in haste to meet your Son, but may our learning of heavenly wisdom gain us admittance to his company. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit. God, for ever and ever. Amen.

SIT

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD
First Reading
A reading from the prophet Baruch 5:1-9

Jerusalem, take off your dress of sorrow and distress, put on the beauty of the glory of God for ever, wrap the cloak of the integrity of God around you, put the diadem of the glory of the Eternal on your head:

since God means to show your splendour to every nation under heaven, since the name God gives you for ever will be, ‘Peace through integrity, and honour through devotedness’. Arise, Jerusalem, stand on the heights and turn your eyes to the east: see your sons reassembled from west and east at the command of the Holy One, jubilant that God has remembered them.

Though they left you on foot, with enemies for an escort, now God brings them back to you like royal princes carried back in glory. For God has decreed the flattening of each high mountain, of the everlasting hills, the filling of the valleys to make the ground level so that Israel can walk in safety under the glory of God. And the forests and every fragrant tree will provide shade.
Ps. 125. R. V. 3

R) What marvels the Lord worked for us! Indeed we were glad.

When the Lord delivered Zion from bondage it seemed like a dream. Then our mouth filled with laughter, on our lips there were songs. (R)

Or:
The heathens themselves said: ‘What marvels the Lord worked for them!’ What marvels the Lord worked for us! Indeed we were glad. (R)

Deliver us, O Lord, from our bondage.Thanks be to God.

Second Reading
A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippian Or: 1:3-6, 8-11

Every time I pray for all of you, I pray with joy, remembering how you have helped to spread the Good News from the day you first heard it right up to the present. I am quite certain that the One who began this good work in you will see that it is finished when the Day of Christ Jesus comes. God knows how much I miss you all, loving you as Christ Jesus loves you. My prayer is that your love for each other may increase more and more and never stop improving your knowledge and deepening your perception so that you can always recognise what is best. This will help you to become pure and blameless, and prepare you for the Day of Christ when you will reach the perfect goodness which Jesus Christ produces in us for the glory and praise of God.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation
Stand
Alleluia, alleluia! Lk 3:4-6

Prepared a way for the Lord, make his paths straight, and all mankind shall see the salvation of God. Alleluia!

Gospel
The Lord be with you. And with your spirit.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

In the fifteenth year of Tiberius Caesar’s reign, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, Herod tetrarch of Galilee, his brother Philip tetrarch of the lands of Ituraea and Trachonitis, Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene, during the pontificate of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah, in the wilderness. He went through the whole Jordan district proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the sayings of the prophet Isaiah: A voice cries in the wilderness; Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight. Every valley will be filled in, every mountain and hill be laid low, winding ways will be straightened and rough roads made smooth. And all mankind shall see the salvation of God.

The Gospel of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

The Homily
The Nicene 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 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 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 Apostles’ Creed
I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; he descended into hell; on the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty; from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

The Prayer of the Faithful

Response example: Lord, in your mercy. Hear our prayer.

After the concluding prayer all say: Amen.

The Liturgy of the Eucharist

The offerings are brought to the altar. A hymn may be sung.

If the Priest says the two prayers of offering aloud the response both times is: Blessed be God for ever.

The people reply: May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church.

Prayer over the Offerings

Be pleased, O Lord, with our humble prayers and offerings, and, since we have no merits to plead our cause, come, pray to our rescue with the protection of your mercy. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you. And with your spirit.

Lift up your hearts, We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right and just.

The Priest continues with the Preface and concludes with the people, singing or saying aloud:

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

The mystery of faith. And the people continue, acclaiming one of the following:

We proclaim your Death, O Lord, and profess your Resurrection until you come again.

Or:

When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we proclaim your Death, O Lord, until you come again.

Or:

Save us, Saviour of the world, for your Cross and Resurrection you have set us free.

The Priest concludes the Eucharistic Prayer saying alone:

Through him, and with him, and in him, O God, almighty Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honour is yours, for ever and ever. The people acclaim: Amen.

The Communion Rite

Stand

The Priest invites all to join in the Lord’s Prayer:

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

The Priest continues alone:

Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every evil, graciously grant peace in our days, that, for the help of your mercy, we may be always free from sin and safe from all distress, as we await the blessed hope and the coming of our Saviour, Jesus Christ.