as we await the blessed hope and the coming of our Saviour, Jesus Christ. 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.

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

Drop down the dew from above, you heavens, and let the clouds rain down the Just One; let the earth be opened and bring forth a Saviour.

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. Amen.

Penitential Act
The Priest invites the faithful to repentance. 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. Amen.

The Mass of the day may be introduced.

The Liturgy of the Word

First Reading
A reading from the prophet Micah 5:1-4

The Lord says this: You, Bethlehem Ephrathah, the least of the clans of Judah, out of you will be born for me the one who is to rule over Israel; his origin goes back to the distant past, to the days of old. The Lord is therefore going to abandon them till the time when she who is to give birth gives birth. Then the remnant of his brothers will come back to the sons of Israel. He will stand and feed his flock with the power of the Lord, with the majesty of the name of his God. They will live secure, for from then on he will extend his power to the ends of the land. He himself will be peace. The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.
Psalm Ps. 79:2-3,15-16,18-19.Rv4
R) God of hosts, bring us back; let your face shine on us and we shall be saved.
O shepherd of Israel, hear us, shine forth from your cherubim throne.
O Lord, rouse up your might;
O Lord, come to our help. (R)
God of hosts, turn again, we implore,
look down from heaven and see.
Visit this vine and protect it,
the vine your right hand has planted. (R)
May your hand be on the man you have chosen,
give us life that we may call upon your name.
Noticing that he says first: You did not want what
the Law lays down as the things to be offered,
and then he says:
that is: the sacrifices, the oblations, the
give us life that we may call upon your name.
And we shall never forsake you again:
May your hand be on the man you have chosen,
shine forth from your cherubim throne.
Visit this vine and protect it,
the vine your right hand has planted. (R)
M) God of hosts, turn again, we implore,
look down from heaven and see.
Visit this vine and protect it,
the vine your right hand has planted. (R)
M) May your hand be on the man you have chosen,
give us life that we may call upon your name. (R)

Second Reading
A reading from the letter to the Hebrews
10:5-10
This is what Christ said, on coming into the world:
You who wanted no sacrifice or oblation,
preparing a body for me.
You took no pleasure in holocausts or sacrifices for
sin; then I said,
just as I was commanded in the scroll of the book,
‘God, here I am! I am coming to obey your will.’
Notice that he says first: You did not want what
the Law lays down as the things to be offered,
that is: the sacrifices, the oblations, the
holocausts and the sacrifices for sin, and you
took no pleasure in them; and then he says:
Here am I! I am coming to obey your will. He is abolishing the first sort to replace it with the second.
And this will was for us to be made holy
by the offering of his body made once and for all
by Jesus Christ.
The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! Lk 1:38
I am the handmaid of the Lord:
let what you have said be done to me. Alleluia!

Gospel
Lk 1:39-44
The Lord be with you.
And with your spirit.
A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.
Glory to you, O Lord.
Mary set out and went as quickly as she could to
a town in the hill country of Judah. She went into
Zechariah’s house and greeted Elizabeth. Now as soon as Elizabeth heard Mary’s greeting, the
child leapt in her womb and Elizabeth was filled
with the Holy Spirit. She gave a loud cry and said, ‘Of all women you are the most blessed,
and blessed is the fruit of your womb. Why should I be honoured with a visit from the mother of
my Lord? For the moment your greeting reached my ears, the child in my womb leapt for
joy. Yes, blessed is she who believed that the promise made by her the Lord would be fulfilled.’

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

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,
born of the Virgin Mary,
and by the Holy Spirit
was incarnate of the Virgin Mary,
and became man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate,
had suffered death and was buried;
and is seated at the right hand of God
the Father almighty;
from there he will come 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 life everlasting. Amen.

The Prayer of the Faithful
Response example: Lord, in your mercy.
Hear our prayer.
After the concluding prayer all say: Amen. Sit

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.
W e proclaim the Death, O Lord, until you come again.
W e proclaim the Death, O Lord, until you come again.
The people acclaim: Amen.

The Communion Rite
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;
lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.

The Eucharistic Prayer
Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every evil,
graciously grant peace in our days,
that, by the help of your mercy,
we may be always free from sin
and safe from all distress,