

Understanding the Mass The Sanctuary

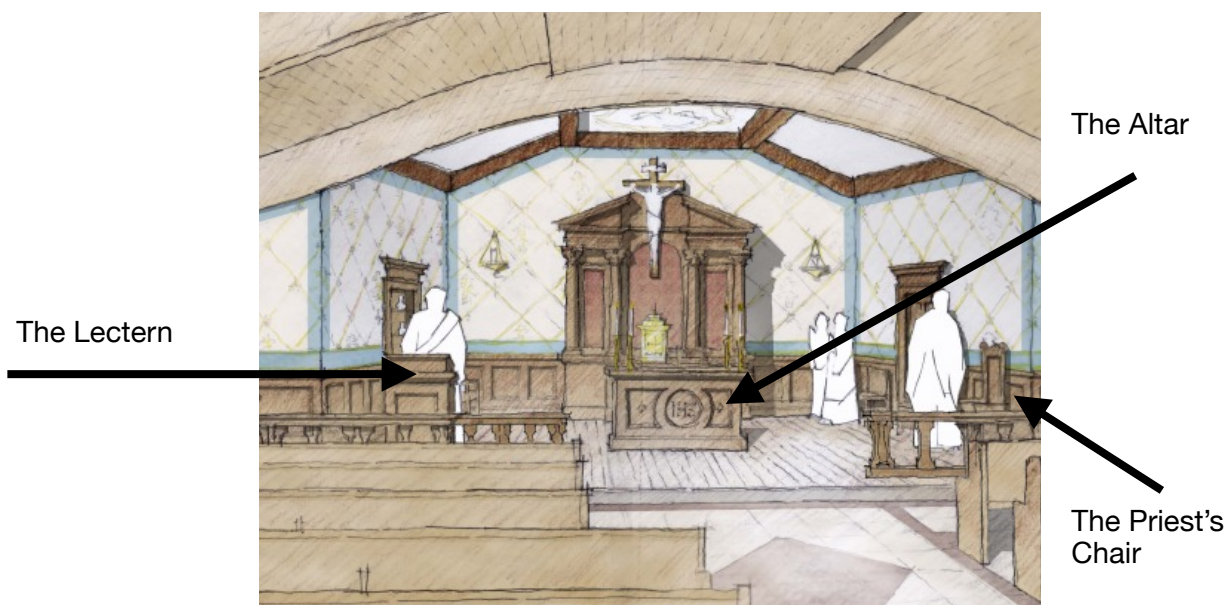
Each week, we are explaining the different parts of the Mass - what is in the church, what we use in the Mass, and why (and how) we celebrate Mass the way we do.

*Today our topic is the **Sanctuary**.*

The **Sanctuary** is the most sacred part of the Church and is where the Mass takes place; it's name comes from the Latin word *sanctus*, which means "holy".

The sanctuary is the front part of the church from where the Priest stands during Mass. It is normally a little bit higher than the rest of the church, so that everyone can see what is taking place there.

Every Catholic church is a little bit different, but all of them have three parts of the sanctuary - which we will explore in more detail in future weeks - that are used in every Mass, and are very important parts of the church. These are:



Draw a picture of what the sanctuary in your church looks like here: