

Understanding the Mass

Preparation of the Gifts

*Each week, we are explaining a different part of the Mass - the items that are used, the parts of the church, and the roles of the people who help us celebrate Mass. This week, our topic is the **Preparation of the Gifts**.*

The **Preparation of the Gifts** is the part of the Mass when we bring our offerings to God. Some of these are used during the Mass itself, and others are used to do God's work in our parish community.

In the old days, people who went to Mass would bring all kinds of gifts with them. They would give loaves of bread, chickens, and other types of food, fruit and vegetables.

Today the gifts we bring to the Lord are our bread, wine, and the money that has been given by the community.



This part of the Mass has several elements:

THE COLLECTION - when we give money to support the upkeep of our parishes.

THE OFFERTORY - when the gifts of bread and wine, and the collection, are brought to the priest by the gift bearers.

THE PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS - when the priest prepares the gifts of bread and wine.

THE WASHING OF HANDS - when the priest washes his hands in preparation for the bread and wine becoming the Body and Blood of Jesus.

In the coming weeks, we will learn more about each of these in more detail.

Find these words: collection, gifts, hands, money, offertory, prepare, priest, wash

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B	C	M	D	E	F	G	H	G	I	A
J	C	O	L	L	E	C	T	I	O	N
K	L	N	M	O	P	Q	R	F	S	D
P	R	E	P	A	R	E	U	T	V	S
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