

GOOD FRIDAY - THE LITURGY

SERVERS' NOTES

Requirements

Altar completely bare, without cross, candles or cloths. Tabernacle empty, open, unveiled - corporal within, and key in the lock. Three purple cushions in positions for the prostrations. Larger cushion and red cloth on which to rest the cross for veneration.

At the Credence Table (placed on the right side of the altar and covered with a linen cloth):

Altar cloth. Black burse with corporal. Chairs for Acolytes 3 and 4.
If Acolytes 3 and 4 are to act as canopy bearers, their candles (unlit) are to be placed on the table, rather than at the Altar of Repose).

At a second Credence Table (placed in a corresponding position on the left side of the altar):

Purifying bowl and purificator. Missal stand with altar book open at the Solemn Prayers. Chairs for Acolytes 1 and 2.

On the Table behind the Altar:

Black cope, chasuble, dalmatic and tunicle.

At the MC's stool:

The second copy of the service book. A shoehorn.

Chancel:

Three uncovered lecterns on the left side. The canopy beyond the chancel step (virtually in the Lady Chapel).

Sacristy:

Large crucifix veiled in violet.

Inside the West Door:

Two candlesticks with white candles. Matches and a taper.

At the Altar of Reservation:

A corporal spread. Tabernacle key. Two candlesticks with white candles, standing on the floor at either end of the altar (unless Acolytes 3 and 4 are required to assist with the canopy, in which case these candlesticks are placed on their credence table). Taper. White humeral veil.

The Sacred Ministers are vested in amice, alb and girdle. The Celebrant and Deacon wear black stoles. All servers wear black cassocks and cottas.

The two thurifers and the four canopy bearers make their entrance before the main sanctuary party. They make their way, without ceremony, via the pulpit door, to chairs set apart at the front of the nave on the left.

N.B.:

The notes assume that two thurifers have been rostered. If only one can be rostered, he assumes the role of **Thurifer 1** (and uses the the small thurible).

Ideally, four acolytes and four canopy bearers are rostered. If four canopy bearers are not available and an *ombrellino* is to hand, the MC will instruct a server (rostered as a single canopy bearer) to take charge of the *ombrellino*. If there is no server available, the MC will instruct the subdeacon to perform this function.

If there are two canopy bearers rostered, Acolytes 1 and 2 will assist with the canopy. They will form up on the pavement as if to join the procession to the Altar of Repose but will move instead to the canopy. After the procession, they will replace the canopy and return to their credence table via the sacristy door.

If there are no canopy bearers and no *ombrellino*, the four acolytes will take responsibility for the canopy, as follows -

Candles for Acolytes 3 and 4 will not be placed in the Handfield Chapel, but will be placed, unlit, on their credence table before Mass.

For part 4 of the liturgy, the acolytes will form up on the pavement as per the notes for the procession to the Altar of Repose. As the procession moves off, the acolytes will turn right to move to the canopy instead of proceeding with the rest of the procession to the Altar of Repose.

They will take up the canopy and move (after all others have entered the Handfield Chapel) to a position outside the chapel.

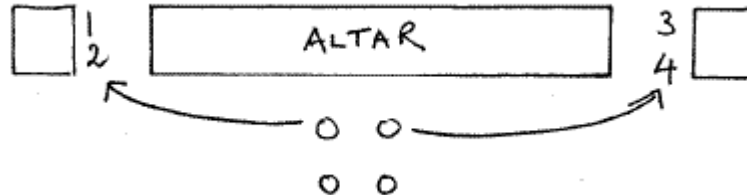
The acolytes will bear the canopy for the procession of the Blessed Sacrament. After the procession, they will return the canopy to its place and return to their credence table positions via the sacristy door.

Acolytes 3 and 4 will then light their candles and, from the rear of the altar, place them on the table of the altar (at the ends), making four candles in all.

The Communion proceeds as per the notes.

Part 1: The Synaxis

No bell is rung for the commencement of the Liturgy. The procession to the altar, via the chancel, is in silence. The acolytes do not carry candles. Acolytes 1 and 3 lead, followed by Acolytes 2 and 4. The acolytes divide on arrival in the sanctuary to allow for the passage of the SM. When the SM have passed, the acolytes move together again, and all (SM and servers alike) make a reverence to the altar in the form of a bow. The acolytes move to their respective credence tables, as shown below, and the SM prostrate themselves at the foot of the altar. The MC and acolytes kneel, bowed, during the prostration.



At a signal from the MC, all stand. The SM bow to the altar and go to the sedilia, where they remain standing. Acolyte 2 removes the cushions from the altar step.

The MC, with the book, stands in front of the C at the sedilia, and indicates the three collects. At the conclusion of the three prayers, SM and acolytes sit.

A reader goes to the lectern (unaccompanied) for the first reading. After the reading, a psalm is sung.

Towards the end of the psalm, the MC presents the book to the SD. MC and SD bow to the altar, and proceed to the chancel step, where the second reading is chanted in the normal epistle tone. MC and SD bow to the altar and return to the sedilia, where the SD returns the book to the MC without seeking a blessing from the C. All sit while the choir sings the tract.

Towards the end of this tract, the Passion Lectors move to the centre of the chancel, bow to the altar, and go to the lecterns. When the choir has finished singing, all stand and turn towards the Lectors.

After the Passion, a short homily may be given.

A hymn is sung after the homily, during which the Canopy Bearers remove the lecterns from the chancel. This must be done in a seemly way.

Part 2: The Solemn Prayers

A brief pause should be observed before proceeding to the next part of the Liturgy.

The SM, led by the MC, move directly from the sedilia to the table behind the altar, where black vestments are assumed (cope, dalmatic and tunics). Meanwhile, Acolytes 3 and 4 spread a single cloth on the altar, and Acolyte 1 places the missal-stand with open book, in the centre of the altar in front of the empty tabernacle. Led by the SD, and moving by the right side of the altar, the SM go to the foot of the altar. They bow together and ascend. The C kisses the altar, and stands before the book, flanked by the D and SD, who hold the cope. The SD is responsible for turning the pages of the book as required. The C sings the intention for each prayer and "Let us kneel in silent prayer". After a brief interval (as judged by the MC) the D sings "Arise". All answer "Amen" at the end of each prayer. After the last prayer, the SM bow, and, led by the D, move via the right side of the altar to the table, where

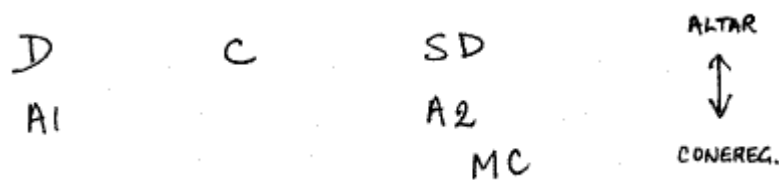
cope, dalmatic and tunicle are removed. Acolyte 1 removes the missal-stand to the credence table.

Part 3: The Veneration of the Cross

A brief pause should be observed before proceeding to the next part of the Liturgy.

While the C and SD remain standing at the sedilia, the D, preceded by the MC and four acolytes in pairs, bow to the altar and go to the sacristy to fetch the veiled crucifix. The MC needs to carry the book (from the sedilia) with him. The party returns via the west door led by the MC. Acolytes 3 and 4 follows, then the D carrying the cross, flanked by Acolytes 1 and 2 with lighted candles. As the party approaches, the C and SD move to the centre of the sanctuary, facing down the church. The SD stands on the C's left.

On arrival in the sanctuary, the MC moves aside to the right, and Acolytes 3 and 4 return directly to their credence table. The C bows to the cross and receives it from the D - the cross should lie on the C's left shoulder. The group should now be assembled as shown below –



Retaining this formation, the C and his attendants move to a position just beyond the right-hand corner of the altar. The SM face the people, and the Acolytes face the cross. The MC stands in front of the C with the book. When the C has unveiled the upper portion of the cross (assisted by the D if necessary), he holds up the cross (not too high) and sings:

“Behold the wood of the Cross, (*Deacon joins in*) on which was hung the Saviour of the world.”

All sing in reply

“O come let us worship.”

When these words have been sung, and not before, all except the C and Acolytes 1 and 2 genuflect. The C and attendants then move to the corner of the altar. The C unveils the right arm of the figure, raises the cross a little higher, and sings “Behold the wood ...” in a higher pitch. The response and genuflection are made as before. Finally, the C and attendants move to the middle of the footpace. The C unveils the cross completely, raises it higher, and sings “Behold the wood ...” in a still higher pitch. The response and genuflection are again made.

All remain standing in their places except Acolytes 3 and 4, who come from their credence table to the foot of the altar. They genuflect, rise and step forward to receive the cross from the C. Meanwhile, the MC obtains the cushion, and places it centrally on the bottom step. Acolytes 3 and 4 place the cross on the cushion, rise, genuflect, and return to their credence table. Acolytes 1 and 2 kneel, with their candles before them, below the bottom step, one on

either side of the cross, and facing inwards. The SM genuflect and led by the MC, return to the sedilia.

The MC assists the C to remove his shoes and accompanies him as he venerates the cross. The D and SD remove their own shoes and proceed separately (not as a pair) in the footsteps of the C.

The approach to the cross is made from the chancel step, where a simple genuflexion is made. A second simple genuflection is made opposite the sedilia, and a third at the foot of the cross. The person rises from the genuflection, then kneels and venerates. There is no genuflexion after venerating.

After the C has venerated, and while the D and SD are venerating, the MC assists the C to resume his shoes. After the SM have venerated, the Passion Lectors do so (unless they have returned to the choir), followed by the MC, Acolytes 3 and 4, Acolytes 1 and 2, the two thurifers and the canopy bearers (in pairs). After venerating the cross, Acolytes 3 and 4 do not return to their credence table but move directly to the benches normally used by the torchbearers.

When all servers have venerated, the MC and Acolytes 3 and 4 approach the cross. They genuflect and take up the cross (acolytes) and the cushion (MC). Acolytes 1 and 2 take up their candles, rise with the others, and accompany them to the platform, where the cross is placed on the cushion on the step near the communion rail. As the cross passes the sedilia, the SM genuflect. The MC returns to the sedilia, and Acolytes 3 and 4 return to the credence table. Acolytes 1 and 2 kneel, with their candles beside them, one on either side of the platform.

The veneration by the people now proceeds, during which Acolytes 1 and 2 are ready to assist any elderly or infirm members of the congregation. They may assist people in their kneeling and rising or may lift up the crucifix if necessary.

During this time, the MC leaves the sanctuary to attend to the unveiling of all crucifixes, including that behind the pulpit. The thurifers also use this time to make their preparations.

When the veneration by the people is finished, the MC and Acolytes 3 and 4 move to take up the cross. On genuflecting, Acolytes 3 and 4 take up the cross, and Acolytes 1 and 2 take up their candles. The cross, flanked by lighted candles, is carried behind the altar via the left side. The SM genuflect at the altar as the cross passes. The MC places the high altar crucifix, now unveiled, upon the tabernacle, and Acolytes 1 and 2 place their candles on the table of the altar on either side of the crucifix. Acolytes 1 and 2 return to their credence table while the MC and Acolytes 3 and 4 dismantle the platform. When this has been done, they return to their places. When reverencing the altar, the MC and Acolytes make genuflexions.

Part 4: The Communion

A brief pause should be observed before proceeding to the next part of the Liturgy.

The MC leads the SM from the sedilia to the table behind the altar, where black vestments (chasuble, dalmatic and tunicle) are assumed. Led by the SD, the SM return to the sedilia. As he passes the credence table, the MC picks up the burse. On returning to the sedilia, the C may sit, but D and SD remain standing. The MC gives the burse to the D, who bows to the C, then genuflects at the foot of the altar. He ascends, spreads the corporal, and returns to the sedilia. Acolyte 1 places the purifying bowl and purificator to the right of the corporal, and

Acolyte 2 places the missal stand at an angle to the left of the corporal, ensuring that the book is open at "The Communion".

At a signal from the MC, the thurifers enter, and, with the acolytes, form up in the middle of the sanctuary. The SM take their places in front of the servers, all genuflect, and proceed without ceremony to the place of reservation.

Note the variation, detailed on page 2, which will apply if the acolytes are to act as canopy bearers.

On arrival at the chapel, all make a double genuflexion and the SM kneel on the altar step. Others kneel on the chapel floor - MC and thurifers on the right (near the doorway), and acolytes in the body of the chapel. The D ascends to the altar, opens the tabernacle and places the ciborium on the corporal (which was spread before the Liturgy). He returns to his place beside the C. Incense is placed in both thuribles without blessing - Thurifer 2, with the large thurible, first, then Thurifer 1 with the small thurible. The small thurible is passed to the C, who censes the Blessed Sacrament in the usual way. When the thurible has been returned to Thurifer 1, the MC places the humeral veil over the C's shoulders. C and D stand (SD remains kneeling) and the C takes up the ciborium. The D assists to arrange the humeral veil. C and D turn to face the servers, who stand (SD as well) and make a double genuflexion.

Meanwhile, the canopy bearers have brought the canopy to the chapel entrance. (see page 2 if there are not four canopy bearers).

The procession now leaves the chapel, and the hymn commences.

THERE NEEDS TO BE A SPECIFIC NOTE IN THE PEW-SHEET REQUESTING THE CONGREGATION TO KNEEL FOR THIS PROCESSION.

The order of the procession is MC with Crotalus, Acolytes 1 and 2, Acolytes 3 and 4 (with lighted candles), the Thurifers, C (under the canopy), D and SD. The procession moves via the south and centre aisles, and the D and SD flank the C in the centre aisle.

On the arrival of the procession in the sanctuary, Acolytes 1 and 2 go directly to the credence table, where they kneel. The two thurifers kneel in the middle of the sanctuary (having organized themselves during the procession so that Thurifer 1 is on the right). The SD kneels on the bottom step, while the C and D, flanked by Acolytes 3 and 4 with their candles, ascend to the footpace. The C, assisted by the D, places the ciborium on the corporal, while Acolytes 3 and 4 place their candles on the altar at either end, so that there are now four candles there. The C and D return to kneel with the SD on the bottom step, and Acolytes 3 and 4 return to their credence table, where they kneel. Incense is put on without a blessing (Thurifer 1, from the right, via the D), the Blessed Sacrament is censed in the usual way, and the MC removes the humeral veil. The thurifers genuflect and leave the sanctuary, returning via the side door to the position normally occupied by the torchbearers.

All stand: The SM make a double genuflection and ascend to the altar. The Liturgy continues with the Deacon reading the Invitation to Confession (according to the altar book).

Communion (in one kind) is administered to the servers and people in the usual places. The Deacon and Subdeacon remain at the altar during the administration of communion.

After the administration, the C washes his hands in silence and places the ciborium in the tabernacle. The D folds the corporal and returns it to the burse, while the SD moves the book to the centre. The C will need to stand back a little to facilitate these movements.

The C, standing at the centre of the altar, and flanked by the D and SD, reads the Sentence and says the final prayers. The SM descend from the altar to the centre of the sanctuary, where the acolytes and thurifers are already assembled. A genuflection is made, and the

thurifers lead acolytes, MC and SM to the sacristy via the chancel. The canopy bearers return to the sacristy independently.

At a suitable time, the ciborium is removed from the altar tabernacle to a place outside the church.

Servers are requested to remain in the sacristy until dismissed – there may be some tasks to be done.