

We Come Together to Celebrate

Keep these ideas in mind as you study **Chapter 7**.

❖ The word *eucharist* means “thanksgiving.” At our celebration of the Eucharist, we thank God for his greatest gift, sending his Son, Jesus Christ.

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❖ The Paschal Mystery of Jesus saved us from sin and death and obtained eternal life for us. We enter the Paschal Mystery when we celebrate the Eucharist.

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❖ The Church year is divided into seasons and Ordinary Time. Advent, Lent, and Easter are seasons.

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❖ The liturgical year is divided into seasons with feast days. These events recall over the year the entire story of Jesus’ time on earth.

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❖ The Introductory Rites are the first part of the Mass. They prepare us for the Liturgy of the Word and the Liturgy of the Eucharist. This part of the Mass focuses us and reminds us why we have gathered to celebrate.

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❖ During the Entrance Chant, everyone sings while some members of the community join the priest in walking to the altar.

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❖ After the Entrance Chant, we make the Sign of the Cross. The Sign of the Cross reminds us why we have gathered to celebrate the Eucharist. We have come to thank God for sending Jesus to die for us.

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❖ During the Penitential Act, we ask for and receive forgiveness. Most sins are forgiven by the Penitential Act.

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❖ The *Gloria* is a powerful hymn praising almighty God. We pray it on most Sundays and on special feast days.

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❖ The word *amen* means “yes.” When you say “Amen,” you say that you agree with a prayer. We respond to the Collect by saying, “Amen.”

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