

## MISSA CANTATA SAID BY A BISHOP

### GENERAL NOTES

While it is not usual for a bishop (B) to celebrate a *Missa Cantata*<sup>1</sup>, it is allowed when the situation necessitates it<sup>2</sup>. In this case, High Mass is celebrated as *usual*<sup>3</sup> with the following additions that are outlined on these sheets.

### SACRISTY & SANCTUARY PREPARATIONS

#### On the vesting table

- The pectoral cross is laid out between the stole and cincture
- A silver tray for the B's skullcap<sup>4</sup> is placed to the right of the vestments<sup>5</sup>

#### On the Credence

- A silver ewer and basin set filled half way with *warm* water and a small, absorbent towel<sup>6</sup>

#### On the Altar

- A silver tray<sup>7</sup> on the Epistle side gradine (or *mensa*) for the skullcap<sup>8</sup>
- On the 1<sup>st</sup> Altar step on the Epistle side<sup>9</sup> where MC1 kneels for the *Preparatory Prayers*, the maniple is neatly laid.

### IF THE BISHOP USES THE MITRE AND CROZIER

If B uses the mitre and crozier during the High Mass, it will be for these purposes only:

- *Processional*
- *Sermon*
- For any extra rites<sup>10</sup> that require the use of the mitre and crozier
- *Last Blessing*
- *Recessional*

In this case two extra servers will be needed, a mitre bearer (Mb) and a crozier bearer (Cz). These two servers wear cassocks<sup>11</sup> and surplices (but not their Guild medals), and should wear white *vimpae* to hold the mitre and crozier. Their stools should be set up on the Gospel side of the Sanctuary.

### GENERAL PRINCIPLES

#### Reverences

-one reverences B in the same manner as a priest celebrating a High Mass with these three exceptions:

- ***Imposition of incense:*** MC1 and Th kneel while incense is being imposed

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<sup>1</sup> *I.e.*, usually referred to as a "*High Mass*".

<sup>2</sup> *I.e.*, there are not enough clerics to fill the various offices of Sacred Ministers. For a Pontifical Mass at the Throne, one would need the following: Deacon, Subdeacon, Assistant Priest, Assistant Deacon 1 and Assistant Deacon 2. For Pontifical Mass at the Faldstool: Deacon, Subdeacon, and Assistant Priest. In either case, this does not include the three to four servers who assist as mitre and crozier bearers (at the Faldstool however, the crozier is not used), and book and candle bearers.

<sup>3</sup> The bishop may sit at the Sedilla which is prepared on the Gospel side, though this is not usually practiced.

<sup>4</sup> Also called a *zuchetto*.

<sup>5</sup> B's purple biretta (if he does not wear the mitre) is also placed to the right of the vestments, but not on a tray.

<sup>6</sup> Though this is used to wash the bishop's hands just before he vests. If possible, a second ewer and basin set can be prepared for this purpose in the Sacristy, instead of using the set on the Credence.

<sup>7</sup> A small circular tray, no larger than a Paten is ideal for this function.

<sup>8</sup> This is placed on the tray from the *Secret* until the completion of the *Communion* act.

<sup>9</sup> If there is an MC2, then this should be prepared on the Gospel side of the center of the Foot.

<sup>10</sup> *E.g.*, the rite of Confirmation, or those ceremonies that make up the Rite of Matrimony.

▪ <sup>11</sup> They may wear red cassocks in contrast to the black ones worn by the other servers, to signify that they are B's assistants.

- **Lavabos:** Acolytes kneel when performing each of the three *Lavabos*<sup>12</sup>, and kiss B's ring after
  - being blessed by him.
- **Solita oscula:** Are given at the usual times, except one kisses B's ring, rather than his hand

## POSITIONS OF MB AND CZ DURING A HIGH MASS

Mb's position is on the right, and Cz's position is on the left. When servicing B, they are usually behind him.

### General Principles of giving and receiving of the mitre and crozier

- The **mitre** is always the **first** item that B receives, and the **last** that B gives away. When not in use, Mb holds the mitre with the *vimpa* and with the *fanons*<sup>13</sup> draped over the back. The mitre is taken and given back by MC1.
- The **crozier** is always the **last** item that B receives, and it is **first** that B gives away. When not in use, Cz holds the crozier with the *vimpa* and with the head pointing inwards<sup>14</sup>. The crozier is given to and received from B by Cz kneeling directly in front of B, and performing the *solita oscula* in the usual order to the staff and then to B's ring. Just before presenting the crozier, Cz should turn the head to point outwards, so that the crozier already faces inwards when B receives it. Likewise the opposite should be performed after receiving the crozier back from B.

### When holding or not holding their objects

- **Holding:** When Mb and Cz are holding their objects, they ought to ensure that the outside fabric of the *vimpa* is showing and not the lining.
- **Not holding:** When Mb and Cz are not holding their objects, they simply fold their hands and allow the sides of the *vimape* to hang straight down in front.

## THE DUTIES OF MB AND CZ DURING MASS

### *Processional*

-when B has finished vesting and imposing incense, both Mb and Cz position themselves directly in front B. MC1 takes the mitre from the sides (holding the *fanons* in place), pushes the sides slightly together and carefully places the mitre on B's head<sup>15</sup>, without displacing the skullcap. Then MC1 releases the *fanons* ensuring that they are hanging straight down and moves out of the way.

-Cz then immediately comes forward, kneels and presents the crozier to B *cum solita oscula*.

-Mb and Cz then take their *Processional* position, which is *behind* B by a distance of 4 pews.

-upon reaching the Foot, Cz immediately goes to B and receives the crozier kneeling and *cum solita oscula*.

-afterwards, MC1 removes the mitre by lifting the *fanons* so that they are draped against the back of the mitre, and then by slightly pushing the sides of the mitre together. Again, MC1 must be careful not to dislodge the skullcap. MC1 then returns the mitre to Mb.

-Mb and Cz then gf, turn inwards and go to their normal position, which are the stools prepared for them on the Gospel side of the Sanctuary.

### **During Mass**

-during Mass, Mb and Cz perform all of the general actions that the other servers do (*i.e.*, sit, turn and bow, kneel, gf). When sitting, both drape their *vimpa* over their knees at angles, while Mb holds the mitre slightly against his chest and Cz holds the crozier between his knees (but not his legs).

### **Sermon**

-if B preaches a *Sermon*, immediately after the *Gospel*, both proceed to the Foot (leaving room for B in front), and then present the mitre and crozier with MC1 assisting with the mitre as in the Sacristy for the *Processional*.

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<sup>12</sup> Which are: 1. Before C vests 2. At the usual *Lavabo* 3. After the *Ablutions*.

<sup>13</sup> The two vertical embroidered strips of fabric that hang from the back bottom edge of the mitre.

<sup>14</sup> This symbolizes that the bishop does not have jurisdiction in the diocese, which is the case for SSPX bishops.

<sup>15</sup> Every bishop has his preference of how far down the mitre should go. Usually, the bishop will make this known the first time MC1 places the mitre on B's head.

Then both gf, turn inwards and return to their stools.

-at the end of the *Sermon*, both proceed again to the Foot, receive their items with the assistance of MC1 as before, gf, turn inwards and then return to their positions.

### **Last Blessing**

-while B is reading the *Post Communion*, Mb and Cz proceed to the Foot.

-immediately after MC1 has closed the Missal, he proceeds *per longiorum* to the Foot, takes the mitre from Mb, and immediately ascends to the Epistle side of the Predella (between the Missal and B). When B has finished saying the *Placeat tibi*, MC1 places the mitre on B as usual. MC1 then kneels on the Predella directly in front of the Missal at angle facing B.

-meanwhile, Cz ascends to and kneels where Ac1 would to receive Communion at Low Mass.

-B will then sing, "*Sit nomen Domini benedictum*" and all reply, "*Ex hoc nunc et usque in saeculum*". B then sings, "*Adjutorium nostrum in nomine Domini*" and all reply, "*Qui fecit caelum et terram*". Then B says the formula of blessing, and just before "...*Pater*"; he turns towards the people and almost simultaneously, Cz presents the crozier *cum solita oscula*, and then blesses himself *once* while B gives the triple blessing. Then Cz receives the crozier *cum solita oscula* and returns to the Foot.

-MC1 then stands and removes the mitre as usual, descends to the Foot and returns it to Mb.

-Mb and Cz then take position so that they will be behind B when he descends from the Predella.

### **Recessional**

-B imposes and blesses incense for the *Recessional*.

-then MC1 puts the mitre on B as usual, and Cz presents the crozier as usual.

-both then take position behind B, but leave enough room between them so B may pass through them (about 5 feet)<sup>16</sup>.

-they gf on MC1's signal, and recess out about 4 pews behind B.

-upon arriving in the Sacristy and after bowing to the Processional Cross and B, Cz receives the crozier as usual, then Mb and Cz kneel with the rest of the servers and receive the general blessing from B. Then Mb receives the mitre as usual with MC1 assisting with the mitre.

## **HIGH MASS WITH A BISHOP**

### **IN THE SACRISTY**

-just before B begins to vest, the Acolytes come forward to him to perform the first *Lavabo*. Ac1 holds the towel and Ac2 holds the ewer and basin. Both kneel in front of B, and without bowing<sup>17</sup>, perform the *Lavabo* as usual. When done, B presents his ring to Ac1 and then to Ac2 to kiss, and then blesses them.

-the Acolytes then prepare for the *Processional*.

-MC1 and Th then come forward and kneel to have incense imposed. MC1 uses the episcopal formula, "*Benedicite, Pater Reverendissime*" instead of the usual formula<sup>18</sup>.

### **PREPARATORY PRAYERS**

-these are as usual, except after B has said the *Indulgentiam*, MC1<sup>19</sup> puts the maniple on B's left fore arm, having kissed the maniple first, allowing B to kiss the maniple and then kissing B's ring.

-the *Preparatory Prayers* are then concluded as usual.

### **FIRST INCENSATION OF THE ALTAR**

-MC and Th ascend to the Predella and kneel in their positions to have incense imposed as in the Sacristy, with

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<sup>16</sup> If there is a lack of space at the Foot to accomplish this, Mb and Cz may be positioned shoulder to shoulder on the Gospel side of the Foot.

<sup>17</sup> In this case, kneeling is the reverence given instead of the usual bows.

<sup>18</sup> For a cardinal it is, "*Benedicite, Pater Eminentissime*".

<sup>19</sup> If there is an MC2, then he performs this task instead.

MC1 using the episcopal formula. All other times during Mass when incense is imposed (*i.e.*, *Gospel*, *Offertory*, *Recessional*), it is done in this fashion.

-after the Altar has been incensed as usual, MC1 incenses B as he would a priest celebrating a High Mass.

### **COLLECT**

-if there was a *Gloria*, B will turn to the people and sing, "*Pax vobis*". If there was not a *Gloria*, B will simply sing, "*Dominus vobiscum*" as usual.

### **LAVABO**

-the Acolytes perform the *Lavabo* with the ewer, basin and towel as they did in the Sacristy, kneeling down on the Epistle edge of the Predella, kissing B's ring and then receiving his blessing.

### **SECRET**

-after B has read the *Secret*, B will remove his skullcap and place it on the silver tray on the Epistle side of the Altar (gradine).

### **ABLUTIONS**

-after closing the Tabernacle, B puts the skullcap back on.

-after the Acolytes have performed the *Ablutions*, they switch the Missal and the Chalice Veil as usual, and then proceed immediately to the Credence and pick up the ewer, basin and towel. Then both proceed to the Epistle edge of the Predella and perform the *Lavabo* as before.

-the Acolytes then return their items to the Credence and turn over the Communion Rail cloth.

### **LAST BLESSING**

-(if mitre and crozier are not used) after saying the *Placeat tibi*, B will then intone, "*Sit nomen Domini benedictum*", and the servers with choir respond, "*Ex hoc nunc et usque in saeculum*". Then B sings, "*Adjutorium nostrum in nomine Domini*" to which the response is the same and proceeds to bless everyone with a triple sign of the Cross. However, the servers sign themselves only once, and it is best if they do so when B makes the middle Cross.

### **RECESSIONAL**

-when B is *in plano* at the Foot, MC1 and Th kneel in front of B and have incense imposed as before.

-Th then takes position at the head of the formation, and swinging the thurible gently during the *Recessional*.