

## *Some Interesting Things About the Mass*

Think about who is at Mass with you.

People you see:

- Your family
- Your church family

Who you may not see:

- Jesus, God the Father and the Holy Spirit, of course
- Any of your family members who have died and are in Heaven
- All the saints
- All the Angels

The Mass is the most important way we worship God. We give our time, our attention and ourselves to God when we attend Mass.

## *Things to Watch For In the Mass*

What does the sanctuary (the section in the front of the church where the priest is) look like? It tells you things about what will be unique about this Mass. What colors do you see? What decorations?

Notice the entrance procession at the beginning of Mass. Who is in it? What are they wearing? What are they carrying?

Listen to the readings and the Psalm while we are sitting. What stories are they telling? Can you tell how they are connected? The reader will start by telling you the name of the book in the Bible where the readings came from. Can you remember them?

When we stand up, what happens at the altar? Where do you think the next story (the Gospel) will be about? Listen to what book it came from. What is it about? Have you heard this story before? What does it mean? The homily after we sit down may help.

Look at the songs that we are singing. Do you know them? Can you sing with everyone? Did you know you don't have to be a great singer to sing in church? Even bad singing is welcome! Can you see a connection between any of the songs and the Gospel? What are the songs about today?

Watch for the offertory. Who is bringing up the gifts? Maybe you could do that next Sunday! Ask the usher after Mass how to be chosen to do that.

What happens to those gifts once they are taken to the altar? What is the priest doing?

Once we kneel, what is happening on the altar? What do you hear? What do you see? What do you think is going on?

Do you go up to communion with your arms folded? What are other people doing? How do they receive the Eucharist? Which way looks more interesting to you?

What does the priest say that tells you Mass is over? What is the last thing he does before leaving the sanctuary?