

## Catechism on the Liturgy II, 11

### **ProceSSIONAL Cross**

A crucifix mounted on an ornate pole to be carried above the heads of the celebrant and ministers while in procession. It can also be a plain cross to emphasize the Resurrection, but it should be jeweled in that case.

### **Pyx**

A small, round, metal case in which the Blessed Sacrament is placed, in order to bring Communion to the sick or those who cannot come to Mass. The word is from the Latin *pyxsis* which means “box.”

### **Real Presence**

This refers to the presence of Christ, the Second Person of the Holy Trinity – body, blood, soul and divinity – in the Blessed Sacrament.

### **Reliquary**

Refers to a simple or ornate vessel in which is placed a 1<sup>st</sup> class relic of a saint. A 1<sup>st</sup> class relic is some part of the saint’s body, a 2<sup>nd</sup> class relic is something which belonged to the saint, and a 3<sup>rd</sup> class relic is some blessed object like a rosary, which has been touched to the tomb of the saint, or touched to a 1<sup>st</sup> class relic.

### **Reform of the Reform**

A phrase which refers to a liturgical movement which sees the Novus Ordo Missae as the ideal Mass for our times, but which is in need of becoming more traditional (e.g., such that Gregorian Chant is regularly used in the Mass). The FSSP is not interested in pursuing this, since it presupposes that we fully understand what it is we are reforming, or reforming all over again. We would be forced to judge what is in fact not ours to measure.

### **Reverence**

From a Latin word meaning “fear.” It is a deponent verb, meaning that it is a respectful fear that comes over one when confronted with the holy, but is also desired at the same time. When a priest reverences the altar, he kisses it with a loving fear, i.e., a fear of harming the One whom he worships.

### **Ring**

A ring is worn only by a bishop and helps represent his preeminent dignity among the clergy, but also signifies that he acts as the spouse of the Church, ready to lay down his life for her.

### **Roman Martyrology**

Divided by days of the year to be read at the end of the Office of Prime, it provides a list of saints who are celebrated or commemorated that day and in many cases a short hagiography or life of them.

### **Roman Pontifical**

One of the four liturgical books used for the Gregorian Rite (Missal, Breviary and Ritual are the other three), it has additional texts and forms to be used by a bishop at Mass, and for sacraments and sacramentals reserved to the bishop, such as confirmations, ordinations, etc.

### **Roman Ritual**

This is a book which has all the sacraments and blessings and liturgical functions that a priest does outside of Mass.

### **Rubrics**

From the Latin meaning “red.” The instructions on how to say the Mass which are in the altar missal, or in the breviary, are written in red. The words to be prayed are written in black.

**Sacrarium**

A special sink which does not go into the sewer system, but is a pipe which goes straight into the soil. All blessed water, or water used to purify the sacred linens, is poured into the sacrarium. If there is no sacrarium, then blessed water (such as what is left over from Mass) is poured onto the ground where people don't walk.

**Sacred Linens**

This is a collective term for the following furnishings used at Mass: the altar cloth, corporal, pall, and purificator. They are washed three times in the sacristy, with the water poured in the sacrarium before they can be put in a regular washer machine.

**Sacristy**

Adjacent to the Sanctuary, it is the place where the priest and servers store the sacred things needed to celebrate the liturgy, an prepare for it, and return afterwards to put the sacred things away.

**Sanctuary Lamp**

A burning candle is placed in a special lamp either hanging or on a stand on the floor, to signify the reservation of the Blessed Sacrament. It should be in close proximity to the tabernacle. Custom has it that the glass case in which the candle is kept is red.

**Signification**

A theological term used to describe the value of signs and symbols used in the liturgy, and to whether or not they truly signify the mystery they symbolize.

**Solemnity**

Refers neither to an overtly happy or sad demeanor or expression for the Mass, but a serious expression, as befits being in the presence of Christ, Who is present to us as crucified and resurrected in the Mass.