

BIBLE BASICS



The Bible at Mass

When Catholics celebrate Mass (the Eucharist), we hear God's Word from the Bible.



The First major part of the Mass is called the Liturgy of the Word.

On Sundays, the Liturgy of the Word has 3 Scripture readings.

The First Reading is usually taken from the Old Testament.



**The Second Reading is taken
from the Letters of the New
Testament.**



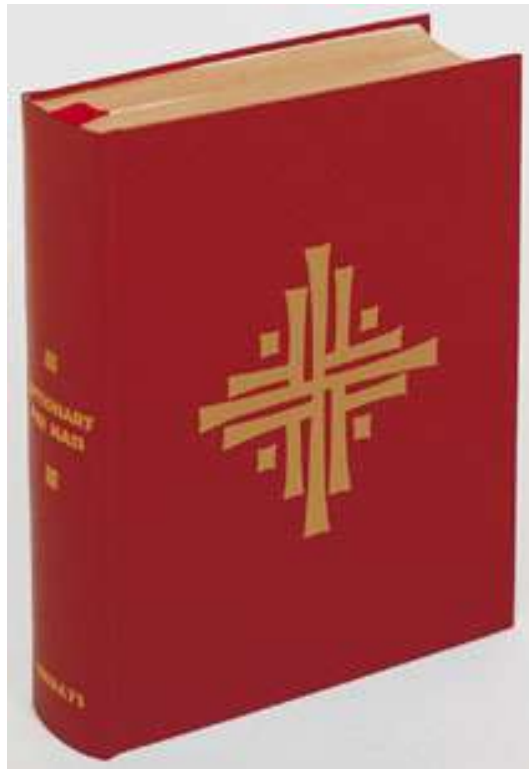
In between the first and second readings, we respond with one of the Psalms.



The third reading is from the Gospels.



The Scripture readings for the Mass are arranged in a book called the Lectionary.



Over the course of a 3-year cycle, we hear many stories from the Bible. Each year of the cycle draws from one of the Gospels:

- **Cycle A – The Gospel of Matthew**
- **Cycle B – The Gospel of Mark**
- **Cycle C – the Gospel of Luke**

**We hear John's Gospel during cycle B
(because Mark's Gospel is so short) and
during the Easter season of each year.**

**Here is a chart of which cycle we are
reading from:**

- **2012 – Cycle B**
- **2013 – Cycle C**
- **2014 – Cycle A**
- **2015 – Cycle B**
- **2016 – Cycle C**
- **2017 – Cycle A**

We also hear Scripture verses throughout the Mass:

- “The Lord be with you” (Ruth 2:4)
- “I confess...that I have sinned greatly” (1Chr 21:8)
- “Glory to God in the highest” (Lk 2:14)



- **“Holy, holy, holy, Lord...” (Is 6:3)**
- **“We proclaim your death O Lord” (1Cor 11:26)**
- **“Lord, I am not worthy...” (Mt 8:8)**
- **“Thanks be to God” (2Cor 9:15)**

