**Ritual Mass for the Dedication of a Church**

**Entrance**

**A. First Form: Solemn Procession**

**Greeting and Brief Address from the Bishop**

As the procession begins, until reaching the doors of the church, sung with Psalm 122:  
**Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.**

**Handing Over the Building**

As the doors are opened and the procession enters in, sung with Psalm 24:  
**Lift high the ancient portals. The King of glory enters.**

**B. Second Form: Solemn Entrance**

**Greeting and Brief Address from the Bishop**

**Handing Over the Building**

As the doors are opened and the procession enters in, sung with Psalm 24:  
**Lift high the ancient portals. The King of glory enters.**

**C. Third Form: Simple Entrance**

**Entrance Antiphon** Cf. Ps 68 (67): 6, 7, 36  
**God is in his holy place,  
God who unites those who dwell in his house;  
he himself gives might and strength to his people** (E.T. **alleluia**)**.**

Or, with Psalm 122: Cf. Ps 122 (121): 1  
**Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord** (E.T. **alleluia**)**.**

**Greeting and Brief Address from the Bishop**

**Handing Over the Building**

**Blessing and Sprinkling of Water**

**Invitation and Prayer of Blessing**

**Antiphon** Cf. Ez 47: 1-2, 9 **I saw water flowing from the Temple,  
from its right-hand side, alleluia:  
and all to whom this water came  
were saved and shall say: Alleluia, alleluia.**

**Concluding Prayer**

**Gloria**

**Collect**

**Liturgy of the Word**

**First Reading** Neh 8: 1-4a, 5-6, 8-10

**Responsorial Psalm** 19: 8-9, 10, 15

R/. (Cf. Jn 6:63c) Your words, Lord, are Spirit and life.

**The law of the Lord is perfect,  
refreshing the soul;**

**The decree of the Lord is trustworthy,  
giving wisdom to the simple.**

**The precepts of the Lord are right,  
rejoicing the heart;**

**The command of the Lord is clear,  
enlightening the eye.**

R/. Your words, Lord, are Spirit and life.

**The fear of the Lord is pure,  
enduring forever;**

**The ordinances of the Lord are true,  
all of them just.**

R/. Your words, Lord, are Spirit and life.

**Let the words of my mouth and the thought of my heart  
find favor before you,**

**O Lord, my rock and my redeemer.**

R/. Your words, Lord, are Spirit and life.

**Second Reading** TBD

**Alleluia Verse** Ez 37: 27  
**My dwelling shall be with them, says the Lord;  
I will be their God and they shall be my people.**

**Gospel** TBD

**Homily**

**Creed**

**Prayer of Dedication and the Anointings**

**Litany of the Saints**

**Invitation to Prayer**

**Chanting of the Litany**

**Concluding Prayer**

**Depositing of the Relics**

As the relics are placed and sealed within the altar, sung with Psalm 15:  
**Saints of God, you have been enthroned at the foot of God’s altar;   
pray for us to the Lord Jesus Christ.**

Or:  
**The bodies of the saints lie buried in peace,   
but their names will live on for ever** (E.T. **alleluia**)**.**

**Prayer of Dedication**

**Anointing of the Altar and the Walls of the Church**

**Brief Address**

As the bishop pours and rubs chrism onto the altar and anoints places on the walls, sung with Psalm 84:  
**See the place where God lives among his people;   
there the Spirit of God will make his home among you;   
the temple of God is holy and you are that temple** (E.T. **alleluia**)**.**

Or:  
**Holy is the temple of the Lord; it is God’s handiwork, his dwelling place.**

**Incensation of the Altar and the Church**

**Imposition of Incense into Brazier upon the Altar**

**Prayer**

As the bishop imposes incense into censers, incenses the altar, and then as ministers incense the bishop and the rest of the church, sung with Psalm 138:  
**An angel stood by the altar of the temple, holding a golden censer.**

Or:  
**From the hand of the angel,   
clouds of incense rose in the presence of the Lord.**

**Lighting of the Altar and the Church**

**Wiping, Vesting, and Setting the Altar**

**The bishop hands a lighted candle to a deacon and says a prayer**

**Lighting of the Candles upon the Altar**

Once the candles upon the altar are burning, as all other candles throughout the church are being lighted, sung with the canticle of Tobit:  
**Your light will come, Jerusalem; upon you the glory of the Lord   
will dawn and all nations will walk in your light, alleluia.**

**Canticle of Tobit** 13: 10; 13-15; 17

**Bless the Lord, all you saints of the Lord.  
Rejoice and give him thanks.**

(Repeat antiphon)

**Jerusalem, city of God,  
you will shine with the light of God’s splendor;  
all people on earth will pay you homage.**

**Nations will come from afar,  
bearing gifts for the King of heaven;  
in you they will worship the Lord.**

(Repeat antiphon)

**Nations will consider your land holy,  
for in you they will call upon the great name of the Lord.**

**You will exult and rejoice over the children of the righteous,  
for they will be gathered together to praise the Lord.**

(Repeat antiphon)

**Liturgy of the Eucharist**

**Offertory Antiphon**  
**Lord God, in the simplicity of my heart I have joyously offered   
all things to you; with great joy I have looked upon your chosen people, Lord God, I have obeyed your will** (E.T. **alleluia**)**.**

**Prayer over the Gifts**

**Eucharistic Prayer**

**The Communion Rite**

**Communion Antiphon** Cf. Mt 21: 13; Lk 11: 10  
**My house shall be a house of prayer, says the Lord:  
in that house, everyone who asks receives,  
and the one who seeks finds,  
and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened** (E.T. **alleluia**)**.**

Or: Cf. Ps 128 (127): 3  
**Like shoots of the olive,  
may the children of the Church be gathered  
around the table of the Lord** (E.T. **alleluia**)**.**

**Prayer after Communion**

**Solemn Blessing and Dismissal**