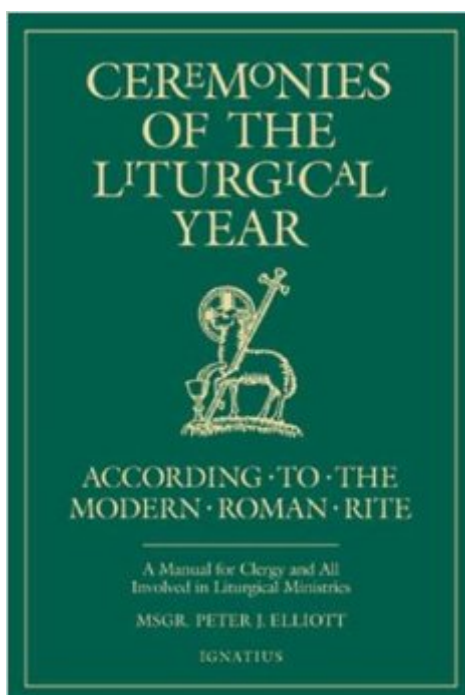


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Ceremonies Of The Liturgical Year: A Manual For Clergy And All Involved In Liturgical Ministries



Synopsis

Msgr. Peter Elliott The liturgy of the Catholic Church is the action by which Jesus Christ unites the members of the Church in glorifying God. It makes people holy through words, music, action and signs. The Eucharist is intended to be the most powerful means of union with our God, with the saints in heaven and with each other, and is to be a foretaste of the praise of God given in joy by the saints in heaven. As we move through the whole of the year, the Church is united with the mysteries of Christ's earthly life so as to come closer to her Lord and Saviour. Monsignor Peter Elliott provides scholarship and many years' experience and love of the liturgy. His previous work *Ceremonies of the Modern Roman Rite* has helped many people to celebrate our liturgy with attention and devotion. This present work is a guide to the most important moments of the Church year from Advent and Christmas to Holy Week, Corpus Christi and to the Solemnity of Christ the King. His book has been a long-awaited guide to those who wish to celebrate the events of the Church year with dignity, devotion, and deep faith. • Monsignor Elliot is one of the most insightful and reliable liturgists writing today. The rubrics of the Roman Rite are not self-explaining, but with Elliot's work safely in reach, a generation of liturgists raised without a rich training in tradition can confidently approach the Ritual and be more respectful of the faithful's fundamental right to sound worship. •

• Dr. Edward Peters, Institute for Pastoral Theology, Ave Maria University

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Customer Reviews

Few priests, deacons or others responsible for preparing the celebration of the Liturgy have time to

study in detail the rubrics and instructions found in the liturgical books and interpretative documents issued by the Holy See. This, the second book of ceremonial from the pen of Msgr Peter Elliott (his first, *Ceremonies of the Modern Roman Rite: The Eucharist and the Liturgy of the Hours* appeared in 1995), seeks to bring together such directives for the feasts and seasons of the Liturgical Year in one handy volume. In doing so, Msgr Elliott has performed a great service. What cleric will not reach for this book with gratitude as Holy Week approaches? What liturgical preparation group will not fail to find in it treasures of the Church's liturgical tradition, both old and new, that cannot but enrich the celebration of the Church's feasts and seasons throughout the year? Homilists, too, will find helpful suggestions for the exercise of their ministry. Helpful tables are given, covering the precedence of liturgical days, movable feasts and cycles of readings, and appendices give suggestions for further enrichment of the liturgical year. The paragraphs of the book are numbered throughout. This undoubtedly makes referencing easier, but can also confuse. The bibliography is somewhat sparse, lacking some of the official sources of the Modern Roman Rite. A small but useful glossary is included. Of course, writing a ceremonial manual is a precarious task, as there are so many sources to synthesise and practical judgements that need to be made. The Holy See's *Directory on Popular Piety and the Liturgy* was published too late to be incorporated in the present volume.

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