

LITURGY BYTES

GO FORTH!!!



It's an important time for us all! You might be asking, "When is that time?" It is during the concluding rites of the Mass when sometimes parish announcements are made, and then we are all blessed and dismissed by the Presider, or a Deacon will dismiss if present.

Another interesting fact is that the dismissal gives the liturgy its name. The word *Mass* comes from the Latin word *Missa*. At one time in our history, the people were dismissed with the words: "*Ite missa est.*" This literally means "*Go, you (the Church) have been sent.*" The word *Missa* is related to the word *mission*; it is the root of the English word *mission*. The liturgy does not simply come to an end. Those assembled are sent forth to bring the fruits of the Eucharist to the world. Simply put, we are being dismissed to carry on our mission, as missionaries, to take the Christ that we have received in Word and in Communion out with us into the world. We are being called to bring the Gospel message to our families, neighbors and beyond, which is done so beautifully in our parish.

Today, I ask you to consider mission as possibly being part of the team that assists with Parish Liturgy from planning, visioning, and decorating aspects. We would love some new faces on the Liturgy Team. We meet about six times during the year on Tuesday evenings. For more details, please contact me at the Parish Office or email me at: mhahn@holycrossrc.org.

So the next time you hear the dismissal words, remember the emphasis is on the words "SPREAD THE GOOD NEWS!"

Have a blessed, healthy, and safe week ahead! ~~*Michele Hahn*