

# IN SPIRIT AND TRUTH: THE MASS



## Doxology

This is article 14 of 21 of the Mass series

At the conclusion of every Eucharistic prayer is the Doxology and the Great Amen. In this solemn yet stark moment, the presider lifts up Jesus himself, truly present in the Eucharistic species, and proclaims:

**Through him, and with him, and in him, O God, almighty Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, for ever and ever.**

At that very moment in every Mass we, as the Church, are offering ourselves to God the Father. The words of the Doxology and the gesture of the priest reveals the truth of this offering:

- We are offering ourselves to the Father, through Jesus and united with the Holy Spirit.
- As Christ in the Eucharist is lifted up by the priest, we too are lifted up in Christ.
- We are offering all glory, honor, and every moment in time to God
- Glory, honor, and time are often things that we feel belong to us, but we can only fully offer ourselves to God when these belong to God.

After this prayer and gesture of the presider, the appropriate response is to acclaim an Amen together. The Doxology only becomes true in our lives when we acclaim it with an Amen for ourselves. This Amen is the moment that requires our full dignity and attention as participants. This Amen is the biggest and most important Amen of the Mass. It ultimately imbues the full beauty and dignity of Christ's offering in our hearts just before we receive him in the Eucharist.

Many might think this underwhelming compared to what Christ has offered. However, at Mass we are not simply making our offerings about God, we are making our offerings directly to God. At the face of great love — a love that has never stopped being offered to you — there is no more perfect of a response than to give our whole lives back to Him in all glory and honor, forever and ever.

# AMEN

This week's *In Spirit and Truth* is written by Joe Nufable