

Tridentine Community News

October 5, 2008

A Comparison of the Forms of Blessing of Holy Water

Extraordinary Form/Tridentine

[The priest blesses the water in the sacristy prior to Mass.]

V. Our help is in the name of the Lord. R. Who made heaven and earth.

EXORCISM OF THE SALT

O salt, creature of God, I exorcise you by the living † God, by the true † God, by the holy † God, by the God who ordered you to be poured into the water by Eliseus the Prophet so that its life-giving powers might be restored. I exorcise you so that you may become a means of salvation for believers, that you may bring health of soul and body to all who make use of you, arid that you may put to flight and drive away from the places where you are sprinkled every apparition, villainy, and turn of devilish deceit, and every unclean spirit, adjured by Him Who will come to judge the living and the dead and the world by fire. R. Amen.

Let us pray. Almighty and everlasting God, we humbly implore Thee, in Thy immeasurable kindness and love, to bless † and sanctify † this salt which Thou did create and give over to the use of mankind, so that it may become a source of health for the minds and bodies of all who make use of it, and may rid whatever it touches or sprinkles of all uncleanness and protect it from every assault of evil spirits. Through our Lord. R. Amen.

EXORCISM OF THE WATER

O water, creature of God, I exorcise you in the name of God the Father almighty, and in the name of Jesus Christ His Son, our Lord, and in the power of the Holy Ghost. I exorcise you so that you may put to flight all the power of the Enemy, and be able to root out and supplant that Enemy with his apostate angels: through the power of our Lord Jesus Christ, Who will come to judge the living and the dead and the world by fire. R. Amen.

Let us pray. O God, Who for the salvation of mankind has built Thy greatest mysteries on this substance, water, in Thy kindness hear our prayers and pour down the power of Thy blessing † into this element, made ready for many kinds of purifications. May this, Thy creature, become an agent of divine grace in the service of Thy mysteries, to drive away evil spirits and dispel sickness, so that everything in the homes and other buildings of the faithful that is sprinkled with this water may be rid of all uncleanness and freed from every harm. Let no breath of infection, no disease-bearing air, remain in these places. May the wiles of the lurking Enemy prove of no avail. Let whatever might menace the safety and peace of those who live here be put to flight by the sprinkling of this water, so that the healthfulness, obtained by calling upon Thy holy name, may be made secure against all attack. Through our Lord. R. Amen.

[Here the priest puts salt in the water thrice in the form of a cross, saying:]

May a mixture of salt and water now be made in the name of the Fa†ther, and of the † Son, and of the Holy † Ghost. R. Amen.

V. The Lord be with you. R. And with thy spirit.

Let us pray. O God, Creator unconquerable, invincible King, Victor ever-glorious, Who did hold in check the forces bent on dominating us, Who did overcome the cruelty of the raging enemy, Who did in Thy power beat down the wicked foe: Humbly and fearfully do we pray to Thee, O Lord, and we ask Thee to look with favor on this salt and water which Thou has created. Shine on it with the light of Thy kindness. Sanctify it by the dew of Thy love, so that, through the invocation of Thy holy Name, wherever this water and salt is sprinkled it may turn aside every attack of the unclean spirit and dispel the terror of the poisonous serpent. And wherever we may be, make the Holy Ghost present to us who now implore Thy mercy. Through our Lord. R. Amen.

Ordinary Form/Novus Ordo

[The priest says the following prayer during Mass, at the beginning of the Rite of Blessing and Sprinkling with Holy Water which may be used instead of the Penitential Rite and Kyrie.]

Dear friends, this water will be used to remind us of our baptism. Let us ask God to bless it, and to keep us faithful to the Spirit he has given us.

God our Father, your gift of water brings life and freshness to the earth; it washes away our sins and brings us eternal life.

We ask you now to bless † this water, and to give us your protection on this day which you have made your own. Renew the living spring of your life within us and protect us in spirit and body, that we may be free from sin and come into your presence to receive your gift of salvation.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

R. Amen.