

## **Lesson 25: Preface**

The Mass is never boring if you know what's going on.

Now, the great event of the Mass is about to take place: the miracle of the transubstantiation. As the Eucharistic Prayer begins, everyone is standing. The priest invites the people to pray with him by saying:

“The Lord be with you.”

And the people respond: “And with your spirit.”

If the people respond with energy and enthusiasm, it is a clear signal that they have faith and that they want to be there.

And now begins the Preface to the Eucharistic prayer. It is prayed by the priest alone, it is the second-longest prayer in the Mass after the Eucharistic Prayer, and it changes daily and by the season, depending on the theme of the Mass. For instance, there are several different prefaces for the Advent season, Christmas season, Lenten season, Easter season, saints, martyrs, virgins, pastors, and more.

I bet if you pay close attention, you'll hear something new in each Preface every week. What a great way to learn something new about what's going on in the Mass!