

Pontifical Low Mass – Comprehensive Instruction Sheet
(in the solemn form with two chaplains and two acolytes)

Abbreviations:

B:	Bishop
CP1:	1 st Chaplain
CP2:	2 nd Chaplain
AC1:	Acolyte 1
AC2:	Acolyte 2

General Principles

- For more solemn feasts four lit candles are fitting; in less solemn feasts and ferias, two lit candles suffice
- Two chaplains vested in cassock and surplice should assist the Bishop throughout Mass.
- CP2 should at least be a Deacon.
- The chaplains, when they are standing next to the Bishop, genuflect when the Bishop does.
- The vestments for the Bishop should be laid out on the altar in advance
- On the credence, in addition to all that is normally used at Mass, there should also be a ewer and basin and towel for washing the bishop's hands, a silver plate to hold the bishop's zucchetto, a silver plate to hold the pectoral cross, a ring dish, Leonine prayers, and two processional candles unlit.
- A prie-dieu is placed at the foot of the altar in the center before Mass
- The Missal open at the Introit in usual place
- Gospel side credence to hold the Missal

Vesting of Bishop (at altar)

- B processes in house cassock, rochet, mozzetta, pectoral cross, violet skullcap, and violet biretta flanked by chaplains on either side, CP1 on right, CP2 on left.
- AC's precede (AC1 holding bugia, AC2 holding Canon)
- All arrive before the altar and CP1 takes B's biretta (w/kisses)
- AC1 signals genuflection
- AC2 gives Canon to CP2 who places on prie-dieu
- AC1 signals all to kneel
 - B kneels at prie-dieu
 - CP's kneel on either side of B
 - AC's kneel on either side of CP's
 - CP1 sets down B's biretta and AC1 gives bugia to CP1
- CP1 indicates preparatory prayers which B reads at his discretion
- B reads all the vesting prayers if he does not have them memorized
- When finished all rise
 - CP1 gives bugia to AC1
 - CP2 gives Canon to AC2
- CP's help B to take off pectoral cross, mozzetta, and rochet
 - Mozetta and rochet are draped over prie-dieu
 - CP1 holds pectoral cross
- B then receives biretta from CP1
- AC2 goes the long way, ascends the steps on the Gospel side, and puts Canon on the altar in front of the Tabernacle.
- AC1 puts bugia behind Missal on Epistle side, then picks up dish for pectoral cross from credence

- AC1 then retrieves pectoral cross from CP1 and places it on credence
- AC2 descends via the Epistle side steps and removes prie-dieu to Epistle side (with mozzetta and rochet draped on it)
- AC2 then retrieves towel and ring dish from credence
- AC1 retrieves ewer and basin
- AC's then come, genuflect, and kneel before B (if he is the Ordinary; otherwise they bow and remain standing) and B washes hands.
 - CP1 removes/replaces the ring (w/kisses) and ministers the towel.
 - CP1 gives biretta to AC2
- AC's rise, reverence B, and depart back to credence.
- AC1 (w/pectoral cross) and AC2 then ascend the Gospel side steps and genuflect
- AC1 sets down pectoral cross, takes the first vestment, and gives it to AC2
- AC2 descends *per breviorum* to the left of CP1 and hands him the first vestment.
- Then AC2 genuflects (bows if he is not the Ordinary) and ascends *per breviorum* to the footpace
- Order of Vestments: amice, alb, cincture, pectoral cross, stole, chasuble, maniple
- After B has vested in chasuble:
 - AC2 returns to footpace
 - AC1 gives maniple directly to CP2
 - CP2 takes B's maniple and holds it for Prayers at the Foot
 - AC1 takes pectoral cross dish
- AC's genuflect, descend Epistle side steps, (AC1 returns pectoral cross dish to credence), go to seats, and kneel

Prayers at the Foot

- B says the Prayers at the Foot
 - CP's kneel on either side and make responses. CP2 is holding B's maniple
- After the *Indulgentiam*, CP2 rises, presents the maniple to B to kiss, and then puts it on B. CP2 then kneels and Prayers at the Foot continue
- After the Prayers at the Foot conclude:
 - CP's rise and assist B to ascend the altar, ascending with him on each side. CP1 on right, CP2 on left
 - When B kisses the altar CP's make no reverence.
 - CP's accompany B to the altar missal. CP1 on right, CP2 on left.

Introit / Kyrie / Gloria / Collect / Epistle / Gradual / Tract / Alleluia

- CP1 stands on the top step and indicates the Introit as the MC would at Solemn Mass. CP1 stands holding Bugia while B reads
- CP2 stands at B's left and turns the pages of the Missal with the left hand
- After the Introit the CP's accompany the B to the center of the altar for the Kyrie
 - CP1 on right holding Bugia, CP2 on left.
 - At the Kyrie CP's make the responses with B
- If there is a Gloria:
 - B alone recites the Gloria at the center of the altar
 - B then kisses altar, turns around and says "Pax Vobis" (CP's make response) and goes back to Missal accompanied by CP's who take up their usual place again.
- If there is not a Gloria:
 - B kisses altar, turns around and says "Dominus Vobiscum." CP's make response.
 - B then returns to Missal accompanied by CP's
- CP1 indicates Collect / Epistle / Gradual / Tract/ Alleluia
- CP's make responses as necessary

Gospel

- When B goes to center to recite the Munda Cor:
 - CP2 steps back to allow B to pass then takes altar Missal and goes *per breviorum* to the Foot of the Altar
 - Meanwhile CP1 goes the long way around to stand next to CP2 at the Foot.

- Both CP's genuflect
- CP2 goes *per brevior* to Gospel corner and places Missal on altar then steps back to allow B to pass in front of him, then steps forward on B's right
- CP1 goes long way and ascends to top step on Gospel side and holds Bugia for reading of the Gospel
- B reads the Gospel
 - AC's stand for Gospel
- When finished:
 - CP's respond "Laus tibi, Christe."
 - CP1 places Bugia on the altar and lifts the book for B to kiss
 - B moves to center
 - CP2 moves to the center with B standing at his right
 - CP1 moves the Missal into the Canon position, places the Bugia on the altar behind the Missal and stands at B's left turning the pages of the Missal with the left hand.

Creed / Offertory / Preface / Sanctus

- If it is to be said, B alone recites the Creed
- After the Creed (or immediately if there is no Creed):
 - AC1 brings up the chalice (covered with veil and burse) from the credence table and sets in front of CP2
 - AC2 brings up any ciboria with AC1
 - If neither acolyte is a tonsured cleric, CP2 steps down to the credence and brings the chalice up himself.
- CP2 prepares for the offertory:
 - CP2 takes the burse and removes the corporal, then sets the burse on the Gospel side as usual and lays out the corporal. Then he removes the chalice veil and gives to AC1 who folds it and lays it on the Epistle side. CP2 then places the pall on the corporal.
 - AC1 descends after folding the veil and retrieves cruets with water and wine which he places on the mensa at the Epistle corner within reach of CP2
- CP2 ministers the paten and prepares the chalice
 - CP2 hands the paten to B (w/kisses) who offers the host.
 - If there are any ciboria on the altar CP2 uncovers and covers them at the appropriate times.
 - CP2 wipes out the inside of the chalice with the purificator then takes the wine cruet and pours wine into the chalice at the direction of B
 - CP2 then takes the water cruet and petitions the blessing "Benedicite Pater Reverendissime" and pours in a drop of water.
 - After CP2 replaces water cruet, AC1 takes cruets from the altar and puts them back on the credence table. AC's then prepare to do lavabo.
 - CP2 then wipes any excess drops from the inside of the chalice with the purificator and then hands the chalice to B (w/kisses)
- After B offers the chalice alone, CP2 covers it with the pall and B and CP2 move to Epistle corner where B receives a lavabo from AC's.
 - AC's kneel on the top step when giving B lavabo (unless B is not the Ordinary in which case they stand).
 - CP2 removes and replaces ring (w/ kisses) during lavabo and ministers towel
 - CP1 remains at the Missal, but he may bring the Canon, if the B does not have the Lavabo psalm memorized
 - After Lavabo, both AC's wait standing at the credence table until the Sanctus
- B and CP2 return to the center and B continues the Offertory prayers.
 - CP's make the response at the "Suscipiat..."
 - After the B says the "Orate Fratres", AC2 crosses over to the Gospel side
- CP1 indicates the Secret prayers after which he switches the Missal out for the Canon, placing the Canon on the Missal stand and setting the Missal on the mensa of the altar at the Gospel corner.
 - AC2 removes Missal from the altar and sets down on Gospel side credence
- CP2 removes B's zucchetto when B finishes the Secret and places it on a tray presented by AC1 who places it

on the credence

Canon

- At the Sanctus, AC1 rings the bells and then places the bells on the step on the Epistle side.
 - AC2 then lights candles on the credence and then AC's carry them (walking shoulder to shoulder) to the Foot, genuflect, and then go to each side (like acolytes at sung mass) and kneel, placing their candles on the top step.
- At the "Memento" for the living, CP's turn and step back as the Deacon and Subdeacon do at Solemn Mass
- At the "Qui pridie" both CP's kneel on either side of the Bishop on the predella
 - CP2 removes lids from ciboria first
- At the Consecration:
 - AC1 rings the bells
 - CP2 covers and uncovers the ciboria as well as the chalice as the Deacon does at Solemn Mass
 - CP's lift hem of the chasuble at the elevations
- After the Consecration of the Precious Blood
 - CP's rise and stand on either side of B
- From this point forward until the Communion, CP2 covers and uncovers the chalice as necessary.
- After the "Pater Noster," CP2 wipes the paten with the purificator and hands to B (w/kisses) in the same manner as the Deacon at Solemn Mass

Communion

- At the B's communion, CP2 covers and uncovers the chalice as usual.
- If B is to distribute Communion:
 - CP2 puts on a stole (the color of the day) handed to him by AC1.
 - AC1 gets up a before the B has consumed the Precious Blood, returns bells to credence, and brings up stole to CP2 from the credence
 - AC1 gets paten from credence, if CP2 will be the second distributor
 - AC1 and AC2 then genuflect at the foot, ascend the steps and kneel on the footpace
 - If CP's are going to receive communion, then AC's kneel in plano at the foot of the altar
 - CP2 opens the Tabernacle and removes the ciborium and uncovers it
 - If the Second Confiteor is to be said:
 - B, CP1, and CP2 genuflect, then CP2 goes to the Epistle side and CP1 to the Gospel side and both kneel on the edge of the predella bowed.
 - CP2 recites the Confiteor. B says the Misereatur and Indulgentiam to which CP's respond "Amen."
 - CP's rise and go to stand on either side of B
 - All three genuflect
 - CP1 takes the paten and B with CP's turn to face down the nave.
 - B says the "Ecce Agnus Dei..." and triple "Domine non sum dignus..."
 - AC's receive communion and then kneel on the first altar step on the side
 - If CP2 is the second distributor, AC1 helps him with the paten
 - B gives communion to clergy on the footpace
 - B then descends, flanked by CP's, and gives Communion to laity
 - AC1 places Missal on altar next to Canon
 - Then both AC's kneel in front of their candles
 - Returning from Communion, CP1 is on B's left and CP2 on B's right. Genuflect when B places ciborium on the altar.
 - CP1 places paten on the corporal. CP2 covers and veils the ciborium and replaces in the Tabernacle and then closes the door.

Ablutions / Last Gospel

- As soon as the Tabernacle door closes, AC's rise with candles, genuflect at center, return candles to the credence (walking shoulder to shoulder) and blow them out.

- AC1 gives zucchetto to CP2 who puts on B's head and takes CP2's stole down to the credence
- AC2 immediately puts the cruets on the altar at the Epistle Side
- Meanwhile B purifies paten over chalice. CP1 places Canon in front of Tabernacle and then takes the Missal and places it on the Missal stand
- AC1 crosses over to Gospel side, takes bugia from the altar, and waits in plano on the Gospel side
- CP2 pours in wine and water for B's ablutions and lays purificator over B's fingers
- AC2 removes cruets
 - AC's then immediately prepare for lavabo
- CP1 takes Missal and Missal stand, CP2 takes chalice veil and both cross by going *per breviorum* to Foot, genuflecting, and then ascending *per breviorum*. AC1 with bugia crosses sides with CP's
 - CP2 ascends to Gospel side where he purifies and rebuilds the chalice as the Subdeacon does at Solemn Mass.
 - When CP2 is finished he takes the chalice to the credence table and then goes to stand at B's left at the Missal.
 - CP2 ascends to Epistle side where he places the Missal on the altar
 - AC1 places bugia on the altar behind Missal
- B meanwhile goes to Epistle side and receives lavabo from AC's
 - AC's do lavabo (kneeling if B is the Ordinary)
 - CP1 removes/replaces ring (w/kisses) and ministers towel, after which he goes to stand at the top step at the Epistle corner and indicates the Communion to B
 - CP1 holds the bugia
 - After Lavabo, both AC's return to seats and kneel
- B reads the Communion and then goes to center and says "Dominus Vobiscum" and then returns to Missal for the Postcommunion.
 - CP1 remains at the Missal
 - CP2 should have finished by this point and turns pages in Missal as necessary at B's left.
 - When the Postcommunion is finished CP1 closes the Missal
- B then goes to center of the altar with CP's on either side (CP2 on left, CP1 with bugia on right)
- After "Ite Missa est" CP1 sets bugia on altar
- CP's kneel on either side of B on the footpace for the final blessing after which they rise and accompany B to the Gospel side where B reads the Last Gospel which is held by CP2 (CP1 stands on B's right with bugia).
 - AC's stand for Last Gospel

Leonine Prayers / Unvesting

- After the Last Gospel is read B goes to center, flanked by CP's. All three bow and descend to Foot.
 - CP can leave bugia on altar
- AC2 brings the Prie-Dieu for B with Leonine Prayers
 - AC2 sets mozetta and rochet aside
- B kneels on Prie-Dieu. CP's kneel on either side of B and all recite the Leonine Prayers.
- B then rises and CP's assist B to divest.
 - AC2 removes prie-dieu
 - CP1 takes vestments from B and hands to AC's who place them on the altar.
 - AC1 bring pectoral cross dish and chasuble to altar *per breviorum*
 - AC2 next takes stole and maniple to AC1 ascending to the footpace *per breviorum*
 - AC2 brings pectoral cross dish down to CP1 and takes pectoral cross to AC1
 - AC2 then takes alb, and amice to AC1
 - AC2 retrieves rochet and mozetta, and lines up next to CP2
 - AC1 then brings pectoral cross
 - AC1 lays aside pectoral cross dish at credence and brings B's biretta and gives to CP1
- All line up for final genuflection (B genuflects if Blessed Sacrament is in Tabernacle) and return to Sacristy

