

## LITURGY: SIGN & SYMBOLS

The Mass is, in fact, a ritualized prayer. A ritual, by its very definition, is something structured, something formal. When we come to Mass, we enter into the ritual, we conform ourselves to it. We do not conform it to us, because the Mass is eternal. It is our foretaste of Heaven. So, we conform *our* lives to this heavenly liturgy. We are participants not spectators. We are not entertained, we do not watch the Mass.

### Mass

ALTAR	represents the Body of Christ & The Tomb
WHITE CLOTH	Christ's burial garment
KISS of ALTAR	Kiss to Christ; contradiction to kiss of Judas
CANDLES	represents Christ, The Light of the World
AMBO	place reserved for Sacred Scripture
CHAIR	symbol of authority-priest
ALB	latin for "white" symbol of Baptism
CHASUBLE	outer vestment symbolizes the priest's charity. which his authority exists and is present, it is always cloaked with charity.
BREAD	manna - becomes the Body of Christ
WINE	Blood of Christ: Our Mass vessel need to be <i>filled</i> to the brim: the fullness of the Symbol

*These signs and symbols remind us that ours is an incarnational religion. The Word became flesh so that we might experience God with all of our senses.*