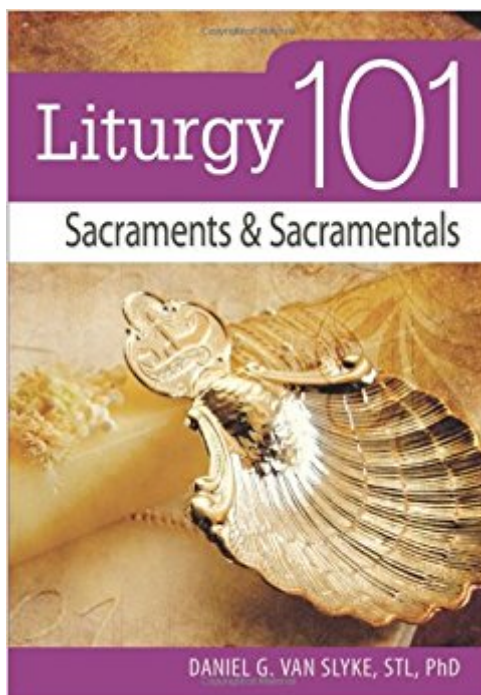


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Liturgy 101: Sacraments And Sacramentals



Synopsis

The sacraments are a precious, seven-faceted jewel embedded in the heart of the Catholic faith. Yet, while believers readily acknowledge the centrality of these rites to the faith, they may be a bit fuzzy when it comes to explaining them. That's where this book comes to the rescue! *Liturgy 101: Sacraments and Sacramentals* provides a concise and easy-to-follow overview of the liturgy that will immerse you into the Church's teaching and practice of the seven sacraments. The author, respected Catholic scholar and educator Daniel G. Van Slyke, grounds the book in Sacred Scripture, the teachings of the Church, and the rites with which the Church celebrates the sacraments. Following a helpful introductory chapter that explains the vocabulary used to discuss worship, *Liturgy 101* explores the seven sacraments one by one. Each chapter explains, in an accessible manner, the sacrament's origins, how and by whom it is celebrated, and what it accomplishes. Van Slyke also addresses frequently asked pastoral, practical, and canonical questions concerning the celebration of the sacraments. *Liturgy 101* will empower you to more fruitfully participate in sacred liturgy by helping you to understand, appreciate, love, and celebrate the sacraments that Christ has entrusted to the Church.

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Customer Reviews

Daniel G. Van Slyke is associate professor of church history at Kenrick-Glennon Seminary, in the Archdiocese of St. Louis, Missouri. *Liturgy 101* is an up-to-date discussion of the sacraments, aimed at the average reader, that is in complete agreement with what one will find on the sacraments in the

Catechism of the Catholic Church. In the author's own words, his purpose in most of the book is to present the readers with the official Catholic understanding of the sacraments. In his introductory chapter, the author explains the current official church acceptance of both the post-Vatican II Mass in the vernacular ("the ordinary form") and the pre-Vatican II Latin Mass ("the extraordinary form"). Responding to those who object to acceptance of the old Latin Mass, Van Slyke includes the observation that "the Church has always known and allowed a variety of Rites and uses, and has never enforced absolute liturgical uniformity." Each of the seven remaining chapters is dedicated to one of the sacraments and each gets its title from the name of the sacrament. The only exception is the chapter on the Eucharist, which is titled "The Most Holy Sacrament"-a devotional attribution from the Catechism and some other traditional sources. Van Slyke quotes the teaching of the 16th-century Council of Trent on the meaning of the "Real Presence" of Christ "under the appearances of bread and wine." He then explains each part of the council's statement. This explanation is enlightening. Indeed, to his credit and unlike more than a few other writers on topics related to the Eucharist-he explains that in the Mass and in holy Communion, the assembly receives "the risen, living Lord."

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