

Corpus Christi

Fr. Gregory R. Barnes

May 29, 2024

CORPUS CHRISTI

PREPARATION

1. Two hosts are prepared, both on the Mass paten, to be consecrated together.
2. Monstrance for the procession on the Epistle credence, veiled.

BEGINNING OF THE CEREMONY

1. AP ensures that SD takes his place immediately after the consumption of the host.
2. At the consumption of the Precious Blood, MC1 gets the veiled monstrance and stands on the floor to the Epistle side. After the consumption of the Precious Blood, MC1 brings the monstrance to the altar, removes the veil and takes it to the credence table. MC should take care that he genuflects before the altar going to the altar.
3. SD covers the chalice with the pall and D & SD change places.¹ D moves the chalice to the left side of the corporal and places the monstrance in the center of the corporal, open, facing B.
4. B and ministers genuflect. B takes the host and places it in the lunette. B puts the lunette in the monstrance, and D closes the monstrance and turns it so that it faces the people, uncovered².
5. Mass continues, the ceremonies prescribed *coram Sanctissimo exposito* being observed.
6. TBs remain in their places after Communion. THs prepare coals at the Communion Verse.
7. B does not receive his zucchetto after Communion.³

8. After the Last Gospel, B, D & SD go to the center, genuflect and go to the faldstool *per breviorum*. B receives his zucchetto, miter and crosier once he has stepped off the predella. D & SD assist B in removing his chasuble and maniple and in putting on the cope. D & SD remove their maniples.

9. While the ministers are vesting, ACs and CB stand at the front of the sanctuary. THs enter with lit coals.

10. Once the ministers are ready, TH2 approaches and receives incense in his thurible.⁴ TH1 receives incense afterwards and TH2 leads the THs and ministers to the foot of the altar where they line up THs to the outside, and all make a double genuflection *in plano* and then the ministers kneel on the bottom step.

11. TH1 passes the thurible to D, who passes it to B, who incenses the Blessed Sacrament with three double swings, D & SD holding the cope, all bowing before and after. D returns the thurible to TH1.

PROCESSION

12. MC1 places the humeral veil on B's shoulders. Ministers rise together: B & SD stand on the step below the footpace, but D goes up to the altar. B & SD kneel on the top step when D genuflects in the usual manner, off to the Epistle side and facing the Cross. D takes the monstrance and hands it to B, who receives it kneeling on the top step. D genuflects.

13. B rises and faces the people, turning to his right. D & SD change places behind B and stand on the top step with him, facing the people, holding the ends of the cope.

¹ Since the Blessed Sacrament is on the mensa, both genuflect in place, switch sides immediately behind the celebrant, deacon taking the inside, and genuflect again.

² S.R.C. 2990.

³ It seems that B's hands would be washed on the floor as on Holy Thursday. This being the case, the zucchetto is used only for this hand washing and must be removed afterwards.

⁴ It appears that B does this sitting and with miter.

The chanters intone *Pange Lingua* while everyone is still kneeling. UB prepares his umbrella.

14. Immediately after the intonation, MC1 signals all to rise, turn and process out of the church. The choir may sing hymns found in the Roman Ritual (IX, V), but hymns in the vernacular are forbidden⁵.

15. Birettas are not worn in the procession. Bishops follow the canopy⁶

BENEDICTION

16. Upon entering the church, all genuflect to the cross, go to their places and kneel immediately.

17. When near the altar, D kneels before B. B hands the monstrance to D, genuflects with SD and rises as D rises. D ascends the altar and places the monstrance on the tabor,⁷ with the prescribed genuflections.

18. B & SD kneel on the lowest step, MC1 removes the humeral veil from B. *Tantum Ergo* is repeated.

19. The Blessed Sacrament is incensed and Benediction is given in the usual manner.

⁵S.R.C. 3975 ad 5

⁶I recall that prelates process behind the canopy even when another bishop is celebrating, but cannot find the reference.

⁷During the procession, the sacristan may put a tabor on the altar for use during Benediction. If tonsured, he may spread the corporal on the tabor.