



Blessing of the Bibles at Mass

Arrange a space and/or table(s) at the front of the church, preferably near the ambo. Either before or at the start of the Mass, such as after the greeting, invite everyone who has brought their Bible to be blessed to come forth and place it on the arranged table or space. Ushers may be helpful in placing the Bibles in the appropriate place. The presider may offer this blessing after the homily, after communion, or before the final blessing.

Presider: The Holy Bible is the inspired Word of God. It is the Living Word, made flesh in Jesus and alive now through the Spirit who lives, moves, and has being within each of us, as promised by Jesus and given to us at our Baptism. This is a holy book, the sacred stories of God's people—their experiences of faith in the one God who loves his people and wants a relationship with them. As Catholics, we are encouraged to read and reflect on the pages of the Bible so that we may be nourished, strengthened, and continually formed into faithful disciples who continue the mission of Jesus Christ.

We now ask the Holy Spirit, who inspired these writings, to stir our hearts and deepen our desire to reflect upon these holy Scriptures. May we seek a deeper relationship with the Lord through these texts and find our nourishment and strength to live in its message of love.

Presider: Please respond: **Holy Spirit, come, fill our lives.**



Presider: May you find us, Lord, giving greater honor to this Holy Bible, placing it with honor in our homes, and regularly engaging this Living Word in our lives.

All: **Holy Spirit, come, fill our lives.**

Presider: Instill in us, Lord, a deep desire to know you, through your Word, to encounter and become more like Jesus.

All: **Holy Spirit, come, fill our lives.**

Presider: Bring us together, Lord, united in love, service, and justice. Inspire and empower us by your Word to share the Good News through our witness, always reflecting your love in the world.

All: **Holy Spirit, come, fill our lives.**

Presider: Let us pray. Good and gracious God, you have revealed yourself through the lives of our ancestors of faith. From Abraham and Sarah, Moses and David, Isaiah and Jeremiah, to Mary and Joseph, and Peter and Paul, you have spoken your Word and called your people to the fullness of life. We honor your presence in these Scriptures and pray that the words of this sacred book will more deeply form our thoughts, desires, and actions. We ask your blessing upon these Holy Bibles in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

The presider may also choose to bless them by sprinkling holy water.

All: **Amen.**

**Find even more ideas
at smp.org/advent**