

Blessing the New Missal and the Advent Wreath

1. The new Roman Missal is carried in the Entrance Procession by a server.
2. After the reverence to the Altar, the Priest goes to the Advent Wreath or another convenient place, while the server stands nearby holding the new Roman Missal.
3. After the Opening hymn, the Priest pauses for a moment of silence and then reminds the faithful of the importance of the Roman Missal in the life of the Church:

Dear Friends in Christ: As we begin a new liturgical year on this First Sunday of Advent, we bless our Advent Wreath and at the same time receive and put into service a new book to be used at our altar. There has been a book called the *Roman Missal* since the year 1570, and many of the prayers contained in this book have been used since at least the fourth century. But while it is a book of tradition, it is a book for our future, for celebrations that will be held in our Church for years to come. It is right to pause for a moment to mark these beginnings: the beginning of this season and year of grace, and the first use of this book.

All pray silently for a time. Then the Priest, with hands outstretched says:

Father of light and wisdom,
we praise you for sending your Son
to save us from our sins
and to be light in our darkness.
Bless us + as we gather in his name,
bless this wreath as a sign of his light among us, and

bless + this *Roman Missal*;
grant that all who use it or hear its words
may grow in wisdom and grace
before you and all your people.

Father,
we praise you through Jesus Christ your Son
in the love of your Holy Spirit,
now and always and for ever.

All: Amen.

4. The first candle of the Advent Wreath is lighted.
5. The Priest then opens the book to the opening rites and the Mass continues in the usual way with the Sign of the Cross

