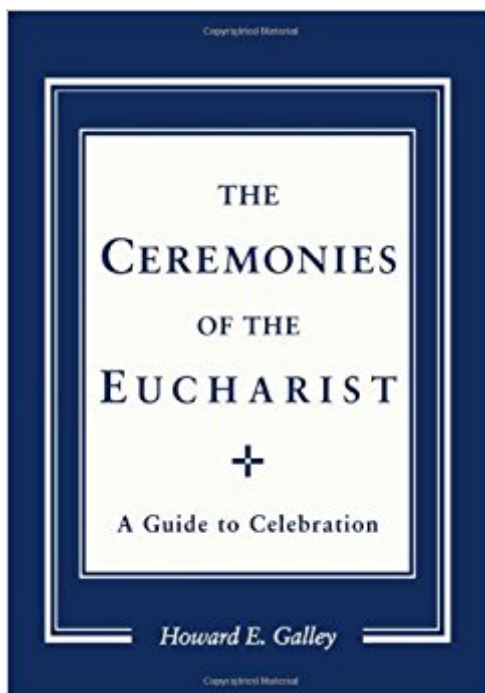


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# The Ceremonies Of The Eucharist: A Guide To Celebration



## Synopsis

“Unlike liturgical manuals of the past, which were intended specifically for the use of the clergy, this book is directed to a wider audience—to members of parish worship committees, priests, organists and directors of music, lectors, deacons, cantors and other singers, bishops, altar guild members, acolytes—in short, to all who bear responsibility for the planning and conduct of public worship.”—from the Preface

So begins Howard Galley’s classic guide to the Eucharistic liturgy, *The Ceremonies of the Eucharist*. Galley opens his formidable liturgical learning and veteran ecclesial experience for all worshippers to access. Throughout, he enhances his suggestions for practice with “the rationale and historical background” for his recommendations.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Out of his deep familiarity with both liturgical tradition and the 1979 Book of Common Prayer, Howard Galley has provided a guide to the use of the Prayer Book that is sensitive both to its liturgical and theological backgrounds and to the practical and pastoral issues surrounding public worship today. (Thomas J. Talley) This is more than a mere manual of ceremony. Based on a deep knowledge of the history of worship, Galley shows us that liturgy is living action, the work of an assembled people of God. Read, enjoy, and use this book. (Ormonde Plater) Howard Galley’s book is an important guide to the use of the Book of Common Prayer and provides historical and liturgical

perspectives on the actions of both officiants and congregation. An informative and practical treatment of the ceremonial tradition. (Lloyd Patterson)An absolutely superb book. I highly recommend it. (Richard F. Grien)

HOWARD E. GALLEY was the working editor of the Episcopal Church's 1979 revision of The Book of Common Prayer. His immense knowledge of liturgy, language, and church tradition permeates that revision, as well as The Occasional Services. Before his death in 1993, Galley also served as editor for The Prayer Book Office, Morning and Evening Prayer, The Altar Book, and Lesser Feasts and Fasts.

Great

Galley writes this book to all members of the worship community, especially to those who have leadership and service positions. It is for priests, deacons, singers, the altar guild, etc. The primary purpose of the book is to provide practical guidance for Episcopal churches in their Eucharist ceremonies. Additionally, Galley takes advantage of opportune times to introduce some of the heritage behind the liturgy of the 1979 BCP. The book is simple and easy to read, as such an instructional guide ought to be. He addresses the small items to the most significant items associated with Eucharist. These include the setting up of the space, the roles of participants, music, and each part of the liturgy in detail. This book is useful to give any reader a better understanding of how we worship in the Episcopal/Anglican tradition. It also gives the step-by-step instructions, so it serves as a handy resource to have. Galley takes advantage of being the instructor to push forward his own interpretations and preferences for the liturgy. He may exclude other options and disparage some traditions followed by parishes. Therefore, I think it would be good to have a secondary source such as Hatchett's Commentary on the American Prayerbook or Michno's A Priest's Handbook to offer a wider view of the liturgy. Both of these resources are also excellent. This is a book that will be a constant companion for me in the priesthood.

If you are looking for the proper way to do anything in church this is the place to look. It has solved many a dilemma for me. It is great to have an authority to whom one can turn instead of just relying on the good old Episcopal, "We've always done it this way." It doesn't mean you can't follow your own parochial traditions, but at least you'll know you're playing by house rules when you do! I am a bit of a nit-picker, so I found this book to be ever so helpful.

very concise and thorough

The best guide available.

This book walks Priest, Deacon, Acolyte and lay ministers through the liturgy in a parallel guide, so you can see what each person needs to be doing and what others are doing at the same time. The book also discusses why things are done the way they are and when there are different approaches which is preferable. Highly recommended.

Bought as part of my lay ministry and acolyte training. Great help.

Galley writes this ceremonial with broad applicability. It is useful to the layman/laywomen who assists as server, acolyte, thurifer, or lector (reader). His discussion is not so erudite as to be unintelligible to someone without seminary education. However he is so thorough and clear that a priest would be ill-advised to pass this book over. His synopsis (chapter 6) provides a complete walk through the entire eucharist from before the processional to the dismissal, and everything in between. It is presented in four columns, showing the concurrent liturgical actions of the celebrant, deacon, acolyte and other ministers. The ceremonial is written around the Book of Common Prayer (BCP) 1979, and assumes a parish that is not entirely low-church. Galley's real value is that this work is easily extended to other rites and forms, due in great part to his concise directions. Anyone of the Anglican persuasion should be interested in this, as it explains the action of the liturgy. Anyone from another denomination will find this a useful resource for comparison.

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