

## **“Two Minute Teaching” on the Mass**

**12-20-2015 - Entrance Procession – Part 1**

**The Entrance Procession is filled with signs and symbols.**

- **Incense can lead the procession – Incense has been used in Temple worship to reverence sacred space. The cross, altar, gospel books, gifts of bread and wine, presider and people can be incensed at different times at Mass.**
- **Ordinarily, the cross/crucifix leads the procession. Before a marching legion of soldiers, a soldier would carry an eagle on a pole to symbolize the power and might of the Roman Empire. In contrast, we carry up the crucified Christ on a pole to symbolize the power and might of Jesus’ victory over death to risen life.**
- **The altar servers carry in lighted candles. Fire is an ancient symbol of the presence of God.**
- **A deacon or lector carries in the gospel book which symbolizes the presence and the power of Jesus’ words.**
- **Lastly, the presider in vestments, “in persona Christi” symbolizes the presence of Jesus who is our leader in the worship of the Father through the power of the Holy Spirit.**