

1 **Revelations Week 4: Session 3: Chapters 4 – 5: Creation and Redemption (55 mins)**

2 To the THRONE ROOM: Pope Benedict XVI refers to Revelation as **the Spirit of the Liturgy**. Every time
3 Mass is said, it is based on the Book of Revelation.

4 **Sacro Sanctum Concilium** (8) *“In the earthly liturgy, we partake in a foretaste of that heavenly liturgy,
5 which is celebrated in the holy city of Jerusalem toward which we journey as pilgrims. Where Christ is
6 sitting at the right hand of God, a minister of the holies of the true tabernacle and we sing a hymn to the
7 LORD's glory with all the warriors of the heavenly army venerating the memory of the saints. We hope
8 for some part and in fellowship with them, we eagerly await the Savior, our Lord Jesus Christ until He,
9 our life, shall appear, and we too will appear with Him in glory.”*

10 **Rev 4: Open Door: (Rev 3:20)** *“Behold, I stand at the door and knock. (Rev 3:22) If anyone hears my
11 voice and opens the door, I will come into him and meet with him, and he with me. He who has an ear,
12 let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches **Rev 4:1-2) Come up here and I will show you what must
13 take place after this. At once I was in this spirit and behold, a throne stood in heaven; an OPEN DOOR”.***

14 Other side of door? **On the other side of that door is the fullness of the kingdom of God. (CCC 1026)**

MASS on Earth: Sursum corda=Priest: Lift up your hearts. People: We lift them up to the Lord – Now we go UP TO HEAVEN (in a *mystical way*-not symbolic) and participate in Mass with the saints (accessible ONLY because of Christ's death and resurrection)

15 **Heavenly Liturgies: CCC 1026:** *“Liturgy is an action of the whole Christ. (See SG Pg 8); throne mentioned
16 60+ times; throne at center of our worship; Liturgy brings back the order that is missing in our lives;
17 calibrates our lives with a heavenly reality. Presbyters (elders) on 24 thrones, clothed in white
18 (righteousness with GOD) (1 Chron 24-25)³; Jesus promised Apostles **“You yourselves will sit on 12
19 thrones to judge the 12 tribes of Israel.”** (Matt 19:28); **Church on Earth:** 24 Hour devotion*

20 **Rev 4:4 Golden Crowns:** Early bishops celebrated Mass with golden crowns as sign of what is happening
21 in Heaven.

22 **Rev 4:5 Seven torches of Fire:** Symbolized *transforming energy of the Holy Spirit's action*

23 **Rev 4:6 Sea of Glass:** The Throne in Heaven; floor of Solomon's temple (Bronze Laver placed before the
24 Holy of Holies); Ezekiel, Isaiah: sees throne room but John sees from below

25 **Rev 4:7:** Four living creatures **1) Like a lion (Leo), 2) Like an ox (Taurus), 3) Like a face of a man (Aquarius).**

26 **4) Like a flying Eagle (Scorpio).** Represents four Gospels? Or spiritual meaning -ZODIAC? (means *The Path
27 of the sun*; different from horoscope) **ZODIAC:** Israel sees ZODIAC/constellations fixed, have purpose

28 **MESSAGE:** Psalm 19:1, *The heavens are telling the glory of God*; all creation is from GOD; men attribute
29 deity, honor, wisdom to the stars rather than the stars as signs of heavenly realities.

30 **HEAVEN:** *“Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord God Almighty, who was, and is, and is to come”.* X3-to make a point

31 **MASS:** *“And so we joined the angels and the saints in proclaiming Your glory as we sing, Holy, holy, holy
32 Lord God of power and might heaven and earth are full of your glory Hosanna in the highest blessing is he
33 who comes in the name of the Lord Hosanna in the highest “ **then we KNEEL!** We imitate the heavenly
34 literature in Book of Revelation; this is our pattern of worship! (CCC 1138, 39, 2642); with intercession of
35 the witnesses, the martyrs, the prophets, the saints, all slain witnesses to Jesus; God draws back the veil
36 and let's John see what's happening in heaven.*

37 Old Testament worship: not individual thing; Hebrews says, *“Don't forsake the assembling together which
38 is the practice of some.”*; **MESSAGE:** Worship changes the world

39 **Rev 5: Covenant Document:** Written on 2 tablets, front and back; required 7 witnesses who placed
40 seals; ensured *integrity*; seals in Rev represents **God's covenant promises throughout salvation history.**
41 Opening scrolls same as fulfilling the covenant; only Christ can do this (only He can make sense of our
42 difficulties, misunderstandings, and hostilities faced by Church today

43 The Lamb: A slain lamb *stands* among elders; called to *open* the scroll

44 **TAV OFFERING** (standing”); Perpetual offering of unblemished, male yearlings lambs; God provided for
45 Abraham's offering; now **God is shouting. I have kept my word. I have provided the lamb”;** *“Behold the
46 Lamb of God.”*

47 **Rev 5:8, CCC 956:** *Perpetual intercession of the saints, being more closely united to Christ, those who*
48 *dwell in heaven, fix the whole church more firmly in holiness; saints in heaven strengthen us in our*
49 *Weakness; whole drama of history comes together in Holy Sacrifice of the Mass.*
50 *Rev 5:14, CCC 1062: AMEN-expresses both God's faithfulness towards us and our trust in Him;*
51 **MESSAGE:** To say *AMEN* means to verbalize an oath (think about this when responding at MASS)
52 *We are overcomers by the blood of the Lamb and the battle is a heavenly battle. It is a cosmic battle.*
53 **MESSAGE:** As we enter into prayer and worship, God's hand (*spirit*) begins to move on the earth.
54 We enter into battle when we begin Mass saying, *In the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the*
55 *Holy Spirit; we come together Heaven and Earth around a fixed throne*

56
57 **Seven Spirits:** Including the **Spirit of the Lord**, and the **Spirits** of wisdom, of understanding, of counsel,
58 of might, of knowledge and of fear of **the LORD**, here are represented the **seven Spirits**, which are
59 before the throne of **God**.

60 **Sursum Corda** (Latin: "Lift up your hearts" or literally, "Lift hearts") is the opening dialogue to the
61 Preface of the Eucharistic Prayer or Anaphora in the liturgies of the Christian Church, dating back at least
62 to the third century and the Anaphora of the Apostolic Tradition.

63 ³**Remez** – Hint: only need to say a few words to bring images/memories of an event (ex: Remember
64 911? No need for further explanation...everyone remembers what happened on that day.) OT: King
65 established 24 divisions of priests to serve and continually sing/worship in temple as he **saw the**
66 **tabernacle/temple as a model of the true tabernacle and temple in heaven**

67 **Bronze Laver** - Purpose. The ten lavers are described by the bible as being placed around
68 the **Temple** building itself, five on the north side and the other five on the south. They were used for
69 washing the hands and feet of the priests before doing ritual service (Exodus 30:18-21).

70

Rev 4: Liturgy of Creation

Glory of the Lord (Rev 4:2b-8a)

Worship of god (Rev 4:8b-11)

Opening Hymn (Rev 4:8b)

Narration (Rev 4:9-10)

Second Hymn (Rev 4:11)

Rev 5: Liturgy of Redemption

Glory of the Lord (Rev 5:5-7)

Worship of god (Rev 5:8-12)

Opening Hymn (Rev 5:9-10)

Narration (Rev 5:11-12a)

Second Hymn (Rev 5:12B)