CHAPTER IV • THE ORDER OF THE DEDICATION OF AN ALTAR

THE ORDER OF DEDICATION

PART ONE

The Introductory Rites

The Entrance into the Church

31. When the people are gathered, the Bishop and the concelebrating Priests, the Deacons, and the ministers, each wearing his particular vestments, preceded by the crossbearer, go from the vesting room through the main body of the church to the sanctuary.

32. If relics of the Saints are to be deposited under the altar, these are brought in the entrance procession to the sanctuary from the vesting room or from the chapel where, since the beginning of the vigil, they have been exposed for the veneration of the faithful. For a good reason, however, before the beginning of the rite, the relics may be prepared and placed between lighted candles in a suitable part of the sanctuary.

33. As the procession moves forward, one of the following Entrance Antiphons is sung with Psalm 43 (42):

**Mode 4**

**Psalm 43 (42)**

1. Give me justice, O God, and plead my **cause** * against a nation that is **faithless**.
   From the deceitful and the **cunning** * rescue **me**, **O God**. R.

2. You, **O God**, are my **strength**; * why have you **rejected** me?
   Why do I go **mourning**, * oppressed by the **foe**? R.

3. **O send forth** your light and your **truth**; * they will **guide me** on.
   They will bring me to your holy **mountain**, * to the place **where you dwell**. R.

4. And I will come to the altar of **God**, *
   to God, my **joy and gladness**.
   To you will I give thanks on the **harp**, *  
   **O God, my God**. R.

5. Why are you cast down, my **soul**; * why **groan within** me?
   Hope in God; I will praise him yet again, *  
   my saving presence and **my God**. R.

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