

German Latin for the Mass

Symbols in [brackets] are IPA. Examples in this section are not exhaustive.

Consonants

These are different in German Latin:

c = ts before e, i, ae, oe: *excelsis, pacem, coeli*

g is hard even before e, i or n: *unigenite, magnam*

h is pronounced, not silent: *hominibus, homo*

qu = kv: *quem, qui, quoniam*

s = z before vowels: *excelsis, sunt, sancto*

Same as in Ecclesiastical Latin, but unlike English:

r is flipped

th = t: *catholicam, Sabaoth*

ti = tsi before another vowel*: *gratias, Pontio*

j = consonantal y [j]: *Jesu, judicare, cujus*

Vowels

y = German ü [y]: *Kyrie*

oe = German ö [ø]: *coeli, coelestis*

e, i, o, u depend on context. In Ecclesiastical Latin, vowels have one pronunciation: **e** and **o** are always open [ɛ, ɔ], while **i** and **u** are always closed [i, u]. In German, the vowels can be either open or closed. Roughly speaking, vowels are closed when they end a syllable, open otherwise (similar to English phonics for “long” and “short” vowels). Here are some examples of words that differ in German Latin:

e is closed [ɛ] in *eleison, te, Deus*. Be careful not to turn it into a diphthong [ɛi] like English *bay*.

i is open [ɪ] (like English *sin*) in *Christe, in, excelsis, tollis*

o is closed [ɔ] in *Gloria, Deo*. Be careful not to turn it into a diphthong [oʊ]

u is open [ʊ] (like English *put*) in *hominibus, mundi, sanctus* (and many, many more!)

The digraph **ae** is generally pronounced open [ɛ] in any syllable.

** The full rule says you don't do this when the ti is preceded by s, but there are no such words in the Mass.*

Below is the complete Mass text alongside the pronunciation rendered in IPA. Note that IPA [y] and [j] represent the sounds shown above, not the English sounds. IPA [r] means the flipped/rolled r, not the American r [ɹ]. Letters and letter combinations most likely to be sung in error from Ecclesiastical Latin habits are called out in boldface. Of course, some of these words are sung only by the soloists.

Kyrie eleison. Christe ...

kyrie eleizɔn. kɾɪste...

Gloria **in excelsis** Deo, et **in** terra pax **hominibus** bonae voluntatis. Laudamus te, benedicimus te, adoramus te, glorificamus te. Gratias agimus tibi propter magnam gloriam tuam. Domine Deus, Rex **coelestis**, Deus Pater omnipotens, Domine Fili unigenite Jesu Christe, Domine Deus, **Agnus Dei**, Filius Patris, **qui** tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis, ... **suscipe** deprecationem nostram, **qui** sedes ad dexteram Patris, miserere nobis. **Quoniam** tu **solus sanctus**, tu **solus Dominus**, tu **solus altissimus**, Jesu Christe, cum **sancto Spiritu in gloria Dei Patris**. Amen.

gloria ɪn ɛkstsɛlzɪs deo, ɛt ɪn tɛrə paks hominibus bonɛ volɔntatɪs. laudamʊs te, benedɪtsɪmʊs te, adoramʊs te, glorɪfɪkamʊs te. gratsɪas agɪmʊs tɪbɪ proptɛr magnam glorɪam tuam. domɪne deʊs, rɛks tsølestɪs, deʊs patɛr ɔmnpotɛns, domɪne fɪlɪ unɪgenɪte jɛzʊ kɾɪste, domɪne deʊs, agnʊs dei, fɪlɪʊs patɪs, kvi tɔlɪs pekata mʊndɪ, mizerere nobɪs, ... zʊstɪpɛ deprekatsɪonɛm nɔstram, kvi zedɛs ad dɛkstɛram patɪs, mizerere nobɪs. kvonɪam tu zolʊs zanjktʊs, tu zolʊs dominʊs, tu zolʊs altɪsɪmʊs, jɛzʊ kɾɪste, cʊm zanjktʊ spɪrɪtu ɪn glɔrɪa dei patɪs. amɛn.

Credo in unum Deum, Patrem omnipotentem, factorem **coeli** et terrae, **visibilium omnium** et **invisibilium**.

Et in unum Dominum **Jesum Christum**, Filium Dei unigenitum, et ex Patre natum ante omnia **saecula**. Deum de Deo, lumen de lumine, Deum verum de Deo vero.

Genitum, non factum, consubstantialem Patri, per **quem** omnia facta **sunt**.

Qui propter nos **homines**, et propter nostram salutem descendit de **coelis**.

Et incarnatus est de Spiritu **santo** ex Maria **virgine**, et **homo factus** est.

Crucifixus etiam pro nobis, **sub** Pontio Pilato passus et **sepultus** est.

Et **resurrexit** tertia die **secundum scripturas**, et **ascendit in coelum**, **sedet** ad dexteram Patris.

Et iterum venturus est **cum** gloria iudicare vivos et mortuos, **cujus regni non erit finis**.

Et in Spiritum **Sanctum** Dominum, et vivificantem, **qui** ex Patre **Filioque** procedit, **qui** cum Patre et Filio **simul** adoratur et conglorificatur, **qui** locutus est per prophetas.

Et unam **sanctam** catholicam et apostolicam **Ecclesiam**. Confiteor unum **baptisma in remissionem peccatorum**.

Et **exspecto resurrectionem mortuorum**.

Et vitam venturi **saeculi**. Amen.

Sanctus ... Dominus Deus Sabaoth, pleni **sunt coeli** et terra gloria tua. **Osanna in excelsis**.

Benedictus qui venit in nomine Domini.

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis ...
dona nobis **pacem**.

kredo in unum deum, patrem omnipotentem, factorem tsøli et tere, vizibiliom omniom et invizibiliom.

et in unum dominum jesum kristom, filiom dei unigenitom, et eks patre natom ante omnia zekula. deom de deo, lumen de lumine, deom verom de deo vero.

genitom, non faktom, konzsubstansialem patri, per kvem omnia fakta zont.

kvi propter nos homines, et propter nostram salutem destdendit de tsølis.

et inkarnatus est de spiritu zankto eks maria virgine, et homo faktos est.

krutsifiksøs etsiam pro nobis, zøb pøntsio pilato pasøs et zepøltøs est.

et rezureksit tertsia die zekøndom skripturas, et astsendit in tsølom, zedet ad deksteram patris.

et iterom venturos est kom gloria iudikare vivos et mortuos, kujøs regni non erit finis.

et in spiritom zanktom dominom, et vivifikantem, kvi eks patre filioque protsedit, kvi kom patre et filio zimøl adorator et konglorifikator, kvi lokutos est per profetas.

et unam zanktam katolikam et apøstolikam ekleziam. konfiteor unom baptisma in remisionem pekatorom.

et ekspekto rezureksionem mortuorum.

et vitam venturi zekuli. amen.

zanktos ... dominos deos zabaot, pleni zont tsøli et tera gloria tua. ozana in ekstselsis.

benediktos kvi venit in nomine domini.

agnos dei, kvi tolis pekata møndi, miserere nobis ...
dona nobis patsem.