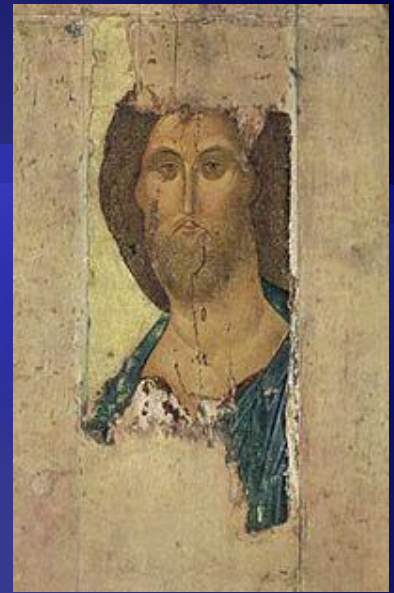


# THE LORD BE WITH YOU



- ◆ A Jewish greeting that is found many times in the Bible.
- ◆ A promise that God shall be with someone
- ◆ A prayer that God will protect or help
- ◆ Used to say hello or goodbye



- ◆ In Latin
- ◆ A prayer that God should be with others
- ◆ Or a confident statement that he is present among them.

**'Dominus vobiscum'**

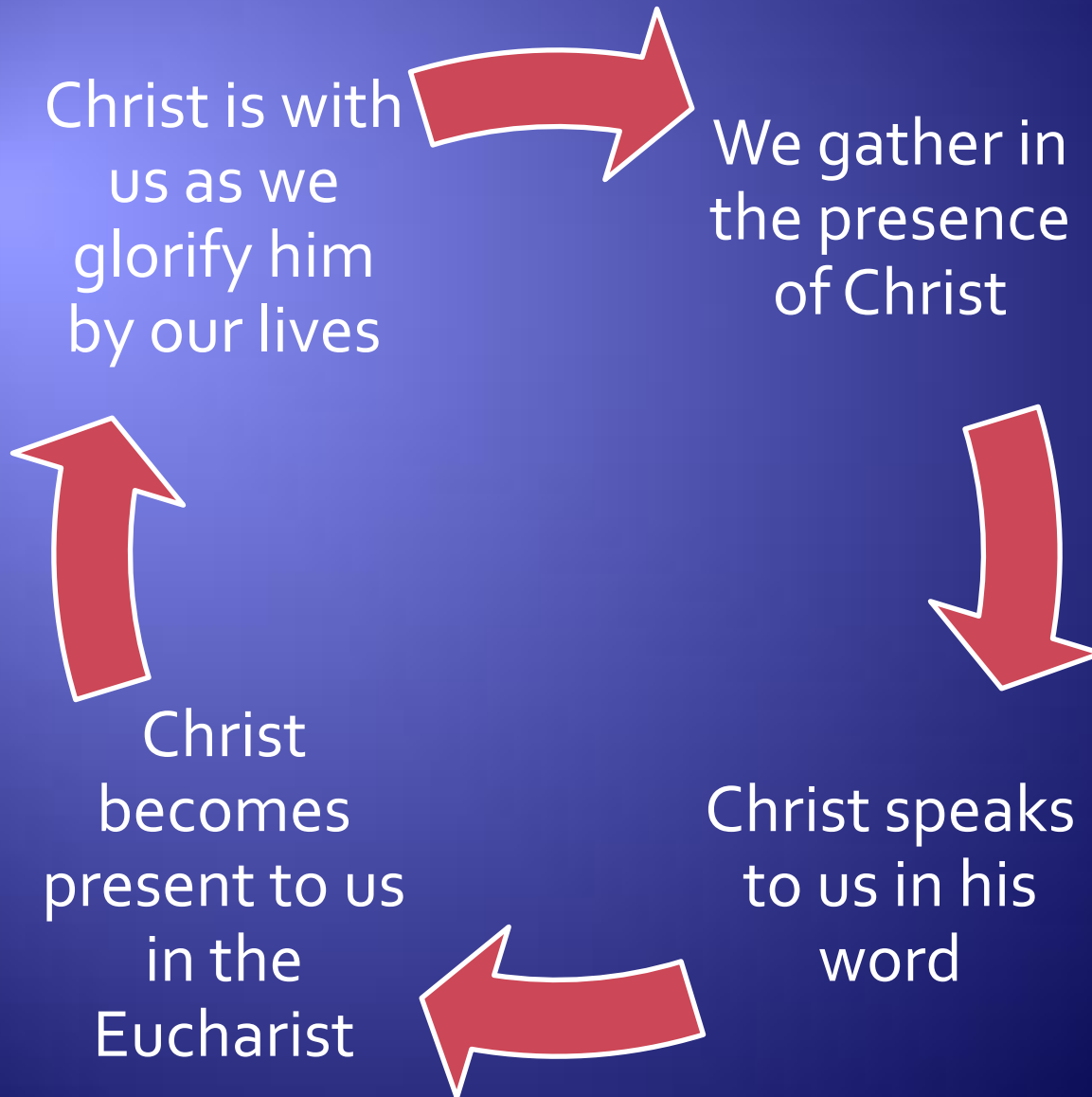
# 'The Lord be with you'

- ◆ At Mass - important moments when prayer, a reading or an action is about to happen.
- ◆ Reminds us of the presence of the Lord.
- ◆ Helps us think about the presence of Christ in four important moments of encounter

# The Presence of Christ

- ◆ At the beginning of Mass, we remember that we gather in the presence of Christ
- ◆ At the proclamation of the Readings, we remember Christ speaks to us in the Word.
- ◆ At the beginning of the Eucharistic Prayer, when Christ becomes present among us
- ◆ At the end of Mass, Christ is with us as we glorify him by our lives and witness.

# Four key moments of encounter



# And with your spirit



- Is part of a Jewish greeting used in the Bible and in the Mass from earliest times.
- **spirit** here means the whole of us.
- It sums up all that makes us truly human.
- Made in the God's image, we are creatures with a body who have a spiritual destiny.
- When we use this word 'spirit' we should also think about what each of us shall be eventually.
- A simple physical body is laid to rest when we die but we believe that a spiritual, life-filled body will be raised.

# And with your spirit

- ◆ In our reply we say that the Lord is with the priest who has greeted us .
- ◆ The priest is really saying this about us as he says 'the Lord be with you'.
- ◆ Also we are praying that the Lord may be with the priest as he leads us in prayer.
- ◆ It applies to all of us too.
- ◆ Using the word 'spirit' reminds us that we are thinking about who we are and who we shall be.
- ◆ There is graciousness in this Hebrew greeting.
- ◆ One person mentions the Lord's presence and the other adds more.
- ◆ There is much to be said for preserving this ancient example of Middle Eastern charm and good manners.

# A familiar New Testament greeting



- ◆ 2 Timothy 4 :22
- ◆ The Lord be with your spirit. Grace be with you

# Further Greetings



- ◆ Galatians 6:18
- ◆ Philippians 4:23
- ◆ Philemon 1: 25

*The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit*

# Reflection Time

- ◆ This greeting is very ancient.....share how you will feel using it
- ◆ After all have shared say to your neighbour 'The Lord be with you'
- ◆ Then listen as they reply 'And with your Spirit'