

Welcoming **The Roman Missal, Third Edition**

Do these changes mean that the old translation was not valid and orthodox?

The current translation was approved by the conferences of bishops and confirmed by the Holy See. Until the new text becomes effective, the current translation remains the valid ordinary form of the Liturgy in the Roman Rite. The revised translation attempts to address some inadequacies in the present translation by introducing a more elevated style of language and by retaining many poetic texts and scriptural allusions. The current translation fostered the faith of two generations of Catholics and retains a valid place in church history.

Can we start using the texts approved by the bishops immediately?

The translation of the *Missale Romanum* could not be used in the celebration of the Mass until the complete text was confirmed by the Holy See. Now that the translation has received the *recognitio*, the USCCB has established the first day on which the new translation may be used. Use of the revised text requires preparation and catechesis for both priests and the faithful. When the time comes to use the texts in the celebration of the Mass, priests will be properly trained, the faithful will have an understanding and appreciation of what is being prayed, and musical settings for the liturgical texts will be readily available. In the US, the commencement of use of the new Missal is set for November 27, 2011, i.e., the First Sunday of Advent.

What will the new *Missal* mean in my parish?

In the months before the revised translation is implemented, parishes will have to do many things. The parish will have to replace liturgical books and participation aids. Priests will practice proclaiming the new texts and will prepare homilies helping the faithful to understand the new translation and to deepen their appreciation for the Liturgy. The music ministers and the people will learn new musical settings for the parts of the Mass (such as the *Gloria* and the *Sanctus*).

What is the difference between a *Sacramentary* and *Roman Missal*?

The red book that the priest uses most often during Mass is called *The Sacramentary*, which together with the *Lectionary for Mass* (Scripture Readings) make up *The Roman Missal*. With the new translation, the name of the book will change from *The Sacramentary* to *The Roman Missal*, a translation of the Latin title, *Missale Romanum*.

(...to be continued)

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