



The Revised Roman Missal

On November 27th, 2011, the First Sunday of Advent, **English** parishes throughout the world will implement the **Third edition of the Roman Missal**. The Roman Missal is the ritual text for the celebration of Mass in the Roman Catholic Church. It is written in Latin under the title *Missale Romanum*. Translation into the common language of each nation or culture then follows.

The Roman Missal includes:

- the *General Instruction on the Roman Missal*, which provides the details and guidelines on how Mass is to be celebrated.
- It includes the rubrics (which are instructions or guidelines on what to do in each part of the Mass).
- Finally, the Missal includes text – all the prayers and responses spoken or sung during the Mass presently in the *Sacramentary* (the red book used by the priest for the celebration of the Mass).

What will be changed in the new Missal?

- Changes to collects, prefaces, as well as the Eucharistic prayers themselves.
- New wording for parts of the Gloria, both the Nicene and Apostles' Creed, the Sanctus (Holy, Holy), as well as new Memorial Acclamations.
- Restoration of the traditional wording of some responses – which other language groups have used all along. (Example: the response to the Presider's "The Lord be with you" changes from "And also with you" to "And with your Spirit")

Why will there be changes?

- This third edition of the Roman Missal adheres to a more literal translation from Latin of the texts (prayers and responses) than what we have been accustomed to in the decades since the Second Vatican Council. The Holy See wishes the translated texts to more closely mirror the original Latin texts, rather than our present practice of more simplified language.
- The more literal translation from Latin unifies the English world with other language groups throughout the world
- The new translation follows the Scriptural reference more closely.
- A number of new Eucharistic Prayers have been added since the present Sacramentary became available.
- A number of new saints have been canonized, which requires their feasts days to be added to the liturgical calendar.
- The translation approved and promulgated in 1975 – to present, was never foreseen to be the final translation for all time.

It is important to note that the Order of Mass has not changed.

So while we prepare for the implementation of the revised Missal, it should be stressed that the Mass itself has not changed – the essential elements remain: Introductory Rites, Liturgy of the Word, Liturgy of the Eucharist, and Concluding Rites.

Vatican II's *Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy* (1963) states in Paragraph 14 that “*the Church earnestly desires that all the faithful be led to that full, conscious, and active participation in liturgical celebrations called for by the very nature of the liturgy. Such participation is their right and duty by reason of their baptism.* The *CSL* #14 goes on to say “ *this full and active participation of the liturgy is to be considered before all else*”.

The revised translation will not affect this principle at all. Actually, we may notice more emphasis on the words and actions of the faithful as distinct from those of the presider, so that dialogues may be more clearly evident, with clear instructions to the priest not to say the people's responses (ex. the Memorial Acclamation and Great Amen).

Along with the revised *General Instruction on the Roman Missal* (which will be available any day now), Catholics might find it most beneficial to re-read the *Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy*, as this document continues to provide a necessary foundation in understanding the Church's liturgical prayer, and in a particular way, the Mass.

Over time, we have come to know our prayers and responses by heart – we do not need to read them in order to participate. With the implementation of the third edition of the Roman Missal, we will have to learn the new translations of the prayers, responses, and acclamations. This will require patience, time, effort, and openness.

In order to better enable the people's continued full, conscious and active participation, the Archdiocese of Moncton is offering a number of sessions in preparation for the implementation of the Revised Roman Missal. These are listed below, as well as links to the National Liturgy Office (CCCB) website, the Canadian Conference of catholic Bishops, and the CCCB Publications service.

Singing a New and Different Song to the Lord – Music and the Revised Roman Missal – with Heather Reid – September 16th & 17th, Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, Riverview, NB.

See poster and brochure on diocesan website. Registration deadline: September 9th

The Revised Roman Missal: Praying in a Revised Way – An Information Session to help parishioners know and understand the revisions that will be implemented on the 1st Sunday of Advent, Nov. 27th, 2011 - so that we might continue to fully, consciously and actively participate in the Eucharist. This session will be repeated in a number of English parishes throughout the diocese:

+ **September 28th**, at St. Vincent's Church, Sackville (for St. Bartholomew's, St. Clement's, and St. Vincent's)

+ **October 19th**, at Immaculate Conception Church, Rexton (for Our Lady of Hope Pastoral Unit and St. Ann's (Elsipogtog), St. Bartholomew (Bass River), Blessed Kateri (Indian Island)

+ **October 25th**, at Holy Ghost Church, Riverside-Albert

+ **November 8th**, at St. Bernard's, 43 Botsford St., Moncton (for churches of the Greater Moncton area)

Note: You are welcome to attend any session that is convenient, regardless of location. All sessions will be from 7:00pm – 8:30pm, including a break and question period. These sessions are offered jointly by the Office of Liturgy and the Office of Faith Development. See the diocesan website for more information or contact Deb Gillespie (857-9531, ext. 296) or Ellen Bennett (857-9531, ext.227)

- **Links for information of the Roman Missal:**

Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops: www.cccb.ca

National Liturgy Office: www.nlo.cccb.ca

Roman Missal in Canada: www.romanmissal.ca

CCCB Publications: www.cccb.publications.ca

Celebrate 9Novalis): www.celebrate-liturgy.ca/index.php?id=268

The Archdiocese of Moncton website will continue to provide updates as material becomes available.