

# Bulletin Blurbs on the New Roman Missal

November 2011

*In preparation for the implementation of the new Roman Missal in November, we're encouraging parishes to include a short blurb in their bulletins each week. The Office of Worship will send suggested bulletin blurbs monthly. Since this is an excellent opportunity for catechesis on the liturgy, some blurbs will focus specifically on the upcoming changes; others will focus on our celebration of the Eucharist in general.*

*Below are the bulletin blurbs for November 2011:*

## **Sunday, November 6, 2011**

*On Sunday, November 27, Catholics in the United States will begin worshipping with the newly-translated texts of the third edition of the Roman Missal.*

As we get closer and closer to Nov. 27, archbishops on both sides of the Atlantic have offered words of wisdom on the new English translation of the Roman Missal. In a column for The Tidings archdiocesan newspaper, Los Angeles Archbishop Jose H. Gomez writes about the "wonderful gift" the revised Missal will be for the Church: "Implementing this new translation means much more than simply memorizing new prayers. I really believe this new translation offers us a special moment of grace. It is a fact of life that anything we do over and over again can become routine, something we just do without paying too much attention. But we can never let the Mass become routine for us. We need to love the Eucharist! We need to live the holy Mass! Our Christian life, our whole life, must be centered in the Eucharist. That is why this new translation is such a wonderful gift. It gives us the opportunity for a new Eucharistic catechesis. It gives us the chance to reflect more deeply on the meaning of our worship — on what we do when we celebrate the Eucharist, and why."

## **Sunday, November 13, 2011**

*On Sunday, November 27, Catholics in the United States will begin worshipping with the newly-translated texts of the third edition of the Roman Missal.*

The new translation of this third edition of the Roman Missal will sound different from our present translation. For the priests in particular they will have to begin to get used to slightly different cadence when offering the prayers of the Mass. Arguably some of the translations are much richer and some are more challenging. No translation is perfect. Though change is part of our life no one likes it. There is understandably some sadness in letting go of familiar words. But a change in words of how something is expressed does not mean a change in the belief that is expressed. New words indeed can open for us new meanings, new insights into the deep mystery of our faith expressed in our common prayer. Thus, the new Missal offers us an opportunity to look more deeply at the center of our faith, the celebration of the Eucharist, Holy Mass. Certainly, any closer look at this primary source and summit of who we are as disciples of Jesus cannot hurt us but only deepen our commitment to follow Christ.

### **Sunday, November 20, 2011**

*On Sunday, November 27, Catholics in the United States will begin worshiping with the newly-translated texts of the third edition of the Roman Missal.*

Today is the final Sunday that we will pray with the texts of the present Sacramentary (Roman Missal 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition). These texts have served us well. However, with Rome's promulgation of a third edition of the Roman Missal comes a new English translation of the Missal. Some people love change; others dread it. But one thing is true: to live is to change! We are actually fortunate to be Catholic at this point in our history. The new translation of the Missal gives us this unique opportunity to reflect on the words we pray at Mass. Because the translation is new, we have to listen a little more closely and pay more attention to the words. In some ways, it'll feel like we're hearing them for the first time. Next Sunday we begin a new liturgical year, and our use of the new Roman Missal.

### **Sunday, November 27, 2011**

Today, we begin worshiping with the newly translated texts of the Roman Missal third edition. Even though many of the words will sound different to us, we will celebrate the same order of Mass that we have used since Vatican II nearly 50 years ago. The basic structure of the Mass remains unchanged. Our celebration of the Eucharist is rich in history and tradition. Like countless generations of Christians before us, we listen to homilies, we petition God for favors and mercy, and thank Him for all of his blessings. The priest still consecrates simple bread and wine and it is transformed into the Body and Blood of Christ. Young and old, saints and sinners are all invited to participate in a sacred meal. Then, we are dismissed from that holy assembly to preach the Good News, to do good works and to build up the Kingdom of God. Some of the words of the Mass have changed, but the faith we proclaim with those words is ageless.