

Holy See Confirms English Third Edition of the *Roman Missal*

"The Third edition of the *Roman Missal* has been approved by the Holy See, beginning a new stage of liturgical renewal following the Second Vatican Council. The translation was confirmed by the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments (CDWDS) and announced at the start of the *Vox Clara Committee* (established in order to provide advice to the Holy see concerning English-language liturgical books and to strengthen effective cooperation with the Conferences of Bishops in this regard) meeting in Rome on April 28, 2010.

This has indeed been a truly collegial enterprise. Not only were all five continents represented in the membership of the committee, but also in the words of the Holy Father, Pope Benedict XVI in his address to the Members and Consultors of the *Vox Clara Committee*, ... "been assiduous in drawing together contributions from Bishops' Conferences in English-speaking territories all over the world." One can imagine that it has been a painstaking study of translations, many consultations and scholarship. www.USCCB.org/romanmissal

Antonio Cardinal Cañizares Llovera, CDWDS Prefect communicated this announcement to Francis Cardinal George, O.M.I., USCCB President." NewsLetter, Committee on Divine Worship, Vol XLVI May-June 2010, USCCB Secretariat of Divine Worship, 3211 Fourth Street, NE, Washington, DC.

One would recall the last time such a major change was brought about with the introduction and implementation of new rituals after the Second Vatican Council. These changes and implementations were not always supported by appropriate and adequate formation, catechesis and assistance. From a practical stand point, available resources and their dissemination for such a monumental undertaking were rarely sufficient. Helpful appropriate information was not easily accessible.

This time around, with the advances in technology in terms of communication and Internet, not only data can be stored digitally but also made easily accessible to help disseminate the new translation, facilitate its implementation, and resolve some of the old challenges. www.BecomeOneBodyOneSpiritInChrist.org

"Unlike the implementation of the *Roman Missal* after the Second Vatican Council, there will be no significant ritual changes in the liturgy as a result of the third edition"

However, this enormous task of introducing the new translation would need to anticipate the resulting challenges to adjust to new unfamiliar texts after nearly forty years of continuous use of the previous translation. Perhaps it is important to note, that any 'Translation' is always an art, not a perfect science. English being a living language, like any living organism, it evolves from one generation to the next.

The introduction of this change is handled with a lot of sensitivity, with opportunities for catechesis in order to avert the risk of confusion or bewilderment. It is a universal endeavor of the Church to see this as a springboard for a renewal and a deepening of Eucharistic devotion all over the English-speaking world. www.RevisedRomanMissal.org

At the ceremony of the Rite of Ordination to the Priesthood, a paten and a chalice is presented to the newly ordained priest with the following words: "Receive the oblation of the holy people, to be offered to God. Understand what you do, imitate what you celebrate, and conform your life to the mystery of the Lord's cross" (Rites of Ordination, no. 135).

The Receipt of the *recognitio* marks the beginning of the proximate preparation for the implementation of the New Roman Missal.

Suggested Reading Resources:

- www.USCCB.org/romanmissal
- Multimedia Catechetical Resource on the *New Roman Missal*
www.BecomeOneBodyOneSpiritInChrist.org
- www.RevisedRomanMissal.org