

ROMAN MISSAL UPDATE #4

Diocese of Rochester

June 2011

The Use of Chant Settings with the Missal

Over the last forty years, the Catholic people in the United States have developed a substantial repertoire of Mass settings for their sung participation in the celebration of Eucharist. Each parish has its own unique set of Mass settings, but we have also found common settings among us for diocesan celebrations, funerals, weddings, and other inter-congregational celebrations. Marty Haugen's *Mass of Creation* comes immediately to mind.

The implementation of the translation of the Roman Missal, Third Edition will render our present repertoire useless, and present parishes with the challenge of learning new settings for the sung parts of the Ordinary of the Mass: the dialogues, Glory to God, Gospel Acclamation, Creed, Holy, Memorial Acclamation, Great Amen, and Lamb of God. Composers and publishers have been busily at work preparing re-written versions of already-existing Mass settings or composing new ones. What is becoming available from the publishers may seem bewildering to parish pastoral and liturgical leadership. What is available, what to choose, will the people get it, can we afford to buy all new music for our choirs, and other questions are arising.

Leadership and all music ministers need to reckon with the fact that where we are after forty years is not where we will be in the forty-first year. Patient rebuilding of our repertoire will be required.

In light of this situation, the Diocesan Liturgical Commission made the following recommendation to Bishop Clark through the Presbyteral Council in April. It was accepted by them at the May meeting of the Council.

All the parishes in the Diocese of Rochester learn the English chant setting for use during the first year of the implementation of the Roman Missal, at least for the Mass dialogues and acclamations of the Eucharistic Prayer.

The Commission made this recommendation for several reasons:

- 1) this simple, new musical setting will help all the people of our Diocese to learn the revised translations more easily,
- 2) it will ensure, full, conscious and active participation at diocesan celebrations at the Cathedral and at celebrations with the Bishop around the Diocese,

- 3) it will allow parishes to continue sorting through the many options for additional Mass settings during the coming year, and to make the choices that are appropriate to their congregations,
- 4) it will help avoid excessive costs for purchase of new music since the chant is to be printed in all worship aids and supplements,
- 5) it can be a decision easily affirmed by the next bishop, and
- 6) it links us with the rich tradition and amplifies the beauty of the human voice in praise of God.

By using the chant setting as an introduction and foundation to the revised sung texts, other choices can be made over the next several years that will re-build a suitable repertoire of Mass settings in each parish.

The Roman Missal and the Catholic Courier

The Catholic Courier began an excellent series of articles on the revision and implementation of the Roman Missal in its June issue. There will be a monthly feature article through to November. Parishes may wish to draw attention to these articles through pulpit or bulletin announcements.

Upcoming Meetings

Musicians' Networking Meetings: August 27 and October 22, 9:00 AM -noon
Our Lady of Peace, 130 Exchange Street, Geneva

To Be Scheduled in the Fall:

- meetings with priests on praying the Missal
- reading sessions for musicians of new and revised Mass settings

Roman Missal Publication Date

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops has set **October 1, 2011** as the date for all publishers to begin distributing copies of the Missal. All seven approved publishers are in the phase of pre-ordering their various editions, many with discounts from the prices listed below. Parishes are well-advised to shop for the edition and style of the book that best suits their needs.

Catholic Book Publishing Company

www.catholicbookpublishing.com

deluxe leather edition	\$159.00
altar clothbound	129.00
chapel clothbound	89.00

Liturgical Press

www.litpress.org

ritual edition	\$169.95
chapel edition	119.95

Liturgy Training Publications (LTP)

www.ltp.org

ritual edition	\$175.00
chapel edition	95.00
regal edition	500.00

Magnificat

www.catholiccompany.com

(This publisher seems to be promoting the edition of Liturgical Press.)

Midwest Theological Forum

www.theologicalforum.org

regal edition	\$500.00
chapel edition	350.00

United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB)

www.usccb.org

altar edition	\$169.00
chapel edition	115.00

World Library Publications

www.wlp.jspaluch.com

deluxe edition	\$395.00
value edition	195.00