

ROMAN MISSAL UPDATE #5

Diocese of Rochester from Fr. Bob Kennedy

September 2011

Where Should We Be in the Diocesan Implementation Plan?

All parishes of our diocese should now be ready to launch the major piece of Phase 2, the proximate introduction of the new Roman Missal. The “official” start of this is September 18, National Catechetical Sunday, and runs through the official implementation date in the United States, November 26/27, 2011, the First Sunday of Advent.

Each parish will have structured a plan that fits its needs, but it should include a combination of homilies, bulletin and website inserts/blurbs, adult education programs, integration into faith formation and youth ministry programs, and whatever else your pastoral imagination suggests will help the parish receive these changes. Always keeping a positive focus on the centrality of the Eucharist in the prayer and life of the Catholic faithful, the parish plan should address why the Missal has been re-translated, what the changes for the congregation will be, and the benefits these changes can bring to our celebrations.

For bulletin inserts and brief homily hints for every Sunday from September 18 to November 27, see the pertinent sections of the USCCB *Parish Guide for Implementing the Roman Missal, Third Edition*, which Bishop Clark sent to every parish last January. Also see *Understanding the Revised Mass Texts* by Paul Turner from Liturgy Training Publications (www.ltp.org), and the resource materials from the Federation of Diocesan Liturgical Commissions (www.fdlc.org).

The best website remains the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (www.usccb.org/romanmissal).

Bishop Clark Approves Early Implementation of Musical Settings

In June Archbishop Timothy J. Dolan, President of the US Conference of Catholic Bishops, authorized diocesan bishops to permit the gradual introduction of some musical settings of the new Roman Missal. After consultation with the Diocesan Liturgical Commission and its music subcommittee, Bishop Clark decided to permit those parishes who wish to do so to implement:

- new settings of the Gloria after October 1, 2011, and
- new settings of the Holy, Holy, Memorial Acclamation, and Great Amen after November 1, 2011.

In his letter of permission, he also reminded pastors and pastoral administrators that he had accepted the recommendation that chant settings of the people's parts of the Mass be given priority for learning new music (see Roman Missal Update #4). That way all faith communities of our local Church will have a common repertoire when we join together as a diocese or in parish clusters. It will also serve as a solid base upon which to learn additional Mass settings in the months and years ahead.

“Let Us Pray:” Small Group Meetings with Priests on Praying the Roman Missal

Thirteen small group meetings with priests have been scheduled this fall to provide principles and practical ideas for praying the presidential prayers of the new Missal gracefully and meaningfully in public. The sessions for ***no more than 12-15 priests*** will use a Collect, a Preface, and a Eucharistic Prayer as examples.

For every participant to get maximum benefit, Priests must pre-register for a session, and the maximum number of participants will be observed. No additional sessions can be added. To register, contact Diana Collins at the Office of Parish Support Ministries at 585-328-3228, ext. 1328, or dcollins@dor.org.

It's Time to Order

If your parish has not ordered copies of the new Missal, now is the time to do so! Remember to order one, not only for the main worship space in your church, but also for any other places you may need the altar size or chapel size: chapels, convents, schools, nursing homes, additional worship sites in your cluster, and so on. Choose the edition and publisher that best suits your needs.

Resources from the Office of Evangelization and Catechesis

The OEC has recently sent via Lotus Notes lesson plans for faith formation and Catholic school programs, and also made available five retreat modules based on texts from the new Roman Missal for use by older children, teens and adults. Log onto the diocesan website (www.dor.org) and click on Office of Evangelization and Catechesis, and find your way to these wonderful tools and resources!