



NewsLetter

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Holy See to Facilitate Expedient Approval for the *Roman Missal*

The Committee on Divine Worship, at its November 2008 meeting, indicated that the USCCB would complete its review and approval of the texts of the third edition of the *Roman Missal* by the end of 2010, and noted that once the *recognitio* was issued by the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments, publishers would need as much as one year to prepare, publish, and distribute the *Roman Missal* for use in parishes. On December 15, Francis Cardinal George, O.M.I., USCCB President, received a letter from Antonio Cardinal Cañizares Llovera, Prefect of the Congregation, in which he expressed a desire to facilitate a more expeditious completion of the approval process for the English translation of the *Missale Romanum, editio typica tertia*, and see the publication of the *Roman Missal* in English by the end of 2010.

In particular, Cardinal Cañizares recognized the valuable work of consultation and input from the various Conferences of Bishops, but noted that at least one Conference has completed its process of approval and has submitted its request for *recognitio*. He suggested that to expedite the approval of the remaining sections of the *Missal*, Conferences could place a lesser priority on the “Gray Books” for the *Introductory Material*, the *Appendices*, and the *Antiphons* prepared by the International Commission on English in the Liturgy (ICEL), given that, for the most part, they are rather technical in nature. Cardinal Cañizares suggested that priority be given to voting on other remaining sections and submitting them to the Congregation by November 30, 2009.

Cardinal George, in consultation with Bishop Arthur Serratelli and the members of the Committee on Divine Worship, sent an affirmative reply to Cardinal Cañizares’ request, noting that the USCCB desired to maintain the U.S. Adaptations to the *General Instruction of the Roman Missal* (which is contained in the *Introductory Material*). He noted that would take publishers one year from the reception of the *recognitio* to produce the liturgical book of the *Roman Missal*.

As originally planned, the Bishops of the United States are expected to consider four Gray Books at their plenary meeting in June 2009: *Ordo Missae II*, *Ritual Masses*, *Masses for Various Needs and Intentions*, and *Votive Masses and Masses for the Dead*. This will leave for the November 2009 meeting consideration of the final two Gray Books: the *Proper of Saints* and the *Common of Saints*. At that meeting they will also review the *Propers for the Dioceses of the United States of America*.

The process of preparation, consultation, review, and approval of the text of the *Roman Missal* over the past five years has involved not only the Holy See, but, as prescribed by *Liturgiam authenticam*, bishops and scholars at ICEL, the USCCB, and the other member conferences of ICEL as well.

In conjunction with the USCCB Task Force for Faith Formation and Sacramental Practice, the Committee on Divine Worship is working to develop a framework, timeline, and materials for the important catechetical formation to prepare priests and the faithful for the implementation of the revised translation of the *Roman Missal*. In addition, both the “Leeds Group” and the Federation of Diocesan Liturgical Commissions are continuing their work of developing resources for catechesis as well. It is hoped that the process of remote catechesis will begin at the end of 2009. Proximate (*i.e.*, immediate) formation will commence once the *recognitio* is granted by the Congregation, so that clergy and the faithful will be prepared when the text of the *Missal* is ready for use.

In the February 2008 *Newsletter*, the Secretariat of Divine Worship presented a timetable illustrating the current process of translating and approving the third edition of the *Roman Missal*. After a year of many developments, it is now necessary to provide our readers with an updated timetable, reflecting the progress that has been made. Since last year’s timetable, the Holy See has confirmed the *Order of Mass I*, and the USCCB has approved the Gray Book of the *Proper of Seasons*. Periodic updates will be available on the Secretariat’s *Roman Missal* formation website at www.USCCB.org/liturgy/missalformation.

<i>Revised Feb. 1, 2009</i>	Green Book sent from ICEL	Green book comments sent to ICEL	Gray Book from ICEL	Consideration by Committee on Divine Worship	Gray Book vote by USCCB <i>(followed by submission of text to the Holy See)</i>	Recognitio granted
<i>Order of Mass I</i>	<i>version 1: 2/04 version 2: 6/05</i>	<i>version 1: 7/04 version 2: 11/05</i>	2/12/06	3/06	6/15/06	6/23/08
<i>Proper of Seasons</i>	3/1/06	6/22/06	6/28/07	1/30/08	11/11/08	
<i>Order of Mass II</i>	5/15/06	11/27/06	11/1/07	6/11/08	June 2009	
<i>Ritual Masses</i>	3/30/07	6/07	2/22/08	11/09/08	June 2009	
<i>Masses for Various Needs & Intentions</i>	3/30/07	6/07	2/22/08	11/09/08	June 2009	
<i>Votive Masses and Masses for the Dead</i>	8/31/07	2/02/08	10/27/08	1/26/09	June 2009	
<i>Proper of Saints I Common of Saints</i>	9/15/06	4/07	10/27/08	June 2009	projected Nov. 2009	
<i>Proper of Saints II</i>	8/31/07	2/02	10/27/08	June 2009	projected Nov. 2009	
<i>Propers for the Dioceses of the United States</i>	<i>In production by the Committee on Divine Worship</i>			June 2009	projected Nov. 2009	
<i>Antiphons</i>	5/24/07	2/02	10/27/08	<i>To be completed by the Congregation for Divine Worship in consultation with ICEL and Vox Clara (based on Green Book consultations)</i>		
<i>Introductory Material</i>	9/21/07	3/14/08	10/27/08			
<i>Appendices</i>	10/31/07	3/13/08	10/27/08			
<i>Eucharistic Prayers for Masses with Children</i>	3/30/07	6/07	2/22/08	6/11/08	<i>Delayed — awaiting action on separate text from CDWDS</i>	

January 2009 Meeting of the Committee on Divine Worship

On January 26, 2009, members of the USCCB Committee on Divine Worship met in Washington, DC to consider six items: the *Votive Masses and Masses for the Dead* “Gray Book” prepared by the International Commission on English in the Liturgy (ICEL), a U.S. adaptation to the forthcoming *Roman Missal* using the proposed Mass in Thanksgiving for the Gift of Human Life, a review of Lectionary readings for the Sundays in Ordinary Time, adoption of a Spanish-language *Leccionario* for the United States, consideration of five petitions from prospective National Shrines, and a review of the latest action by the USCCB priority task forces.

ICEL Gray Book: *Votive Masses & Masses for the Dead*

After reviewing the text, the Committee decided to recommend the Gray Book of *Votive Masses and Masses for the Dead* to the Administrative Committee for placement on the agenda of the June 2009 plenary meeting of the USCCB. This Gray Book is expected to join three others – *Ordo Missae II*, *Ritual Masses*, and *Masses for Various Needs and Intentions* – that were previously reviewed by the Committee, and soon will be voted upon by the country’s Latin Rite Bishops. After the Bishops have the opportunity to modify and amend the texts, all four Gray Books require passage by a two-thirds majority and subsequent confirmation by the Holy See.

Mass in Thanksgiving for the Gift of Human Life

After receiving a request from Archbishop Michael Sheehan of Santa Fe, the Committee considered the possibility of adding a Mass formulary concerning Thanksgiving for the Gift of Human Life to the Gray Book of the *Masses for Various Needs and Intentions* as a U.S. adaptation of the text. The Bishops of the United States had adopted this Mass formulary in November 1992 and submitted it to the Holy See for *recognitio*. The Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments commended the text for further study and consideration, but it is noted that in the new *Missale Romanum, editio typica tertia*, there is no formulary for such a Mass.

The Committee modified the originally approved text to match the composition and style of the *Missale Romanum, editio typica tertia*. A Spanish translation of the text will also be submitted to the body of Bishops. This Mass formulary also necessitated a proposed change to number 373 of the *General Instruction of the Roman Missal*: if approved by two-thirds of the Latin Rite Bishops and confirmed by the Holy See, the Mass in Thanksgiving for the Gift of Human Life will be permitted for use with white vestments on January 22 (or January 23, if January 22 falls on Sunday), while leaving the current Mass “For Peace and Justice” with violet vestments as an option.

Review of Lectionary Readings for the Sundays of Ordinary Time

During this one-day meeting, the Committee was able to review part of the text of revised *Lectionary* readings for the Sundays in Ordinary Time. In the course of this multi-year *Lectionary* revision, however, a new translation of the Old Testament was approved for the Revised New American Bible, thus necessitating a change in all the Old Testament texts for the revised *Lectionary*. The Committee thus decided to postpone review of the Old Testament readings until they can be updated to reflect the recently approved translation. In addition, members decided to postpone consideration of the revised *Lectionary* by the body of Bishops until the entire project can be completed and reviewed by the Committee.

Adoption of the *Leccionario* for the United States

In January 2002, the Subcommittee on Hispanics and the Liturgy discussed the creation of a Spanish-language *Lectionary for Mass* for use in the United States. The Subcommittee recommended that the USCCB pursue such a project, securing copyrights for the use of the readings and Psalter text from the Mexican and Spanish *Leccionario*, respectively.

The then-Committee on the Liturgy, at their meeting in March 2002, considered the recommendation of the Subcommittee and approved the creation of a *Leccionario* for use in the dioceses of the United States, utilizing the translation of Sacred Scripture approved for use in the dioceses of Mexico. The translation of the Psalms for the American *Leccionario* comes from the Psalter used in the dioceses of Spain, and is preferred because it enjoys

the characteristic of greater ease in singing than the translation approved for Mexico, since the Psalms are by their nature to be sung during the Liturgy. In addition, the principles of the Instruction *Liturgiam authenticam* – issued by the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments in 2001 on the subject of liturgical translations – encourage collaboration in the development of texts among the various Conferences of Bishops within each language group. Following discussions with several USCCB offices (Publishing, General Counsel, and Accounting Services) and the Episcopal Conferences of Mexico and Spain, the requisite copyright permissions have been secured. The USCCB will hold the copyright for the *Leccionario* used in the United States.

During its June 2005 meeting, the then-Committee on the Liturgy approved Volume I of the *Leccionario* (Sundays and Solemnities). At this meeting, members of the Committee reviewed and approved Volumes II, III, and IV. Approval of the *Leccionario* for the dioceses of the United States requires an affirmative vote from two-thirds of the USCCB's Latin Rite Bishops, followed by confirmation of the Holy See. Since both the *Leccionario* used in Mexico and the Psalter used in Spain have previously been approved by the Congregation, a speedy *recognitio* is expected for the American *Leccionario*.

Petitions from Shrines Seeking National Shrine Status

Members also reviewed the petitions from five Shrines seeking designation or confirmation as National Shrines. Reports were delivered regarding site visitations to Shrines in Chicago, the Philadelphia area, and St. Paul, Minnesota. A site visitation will be conducted in the future of another Shrine in Philadelphia. The Committee's observations were given to the Administrative Committee for action at their meeting in March 2009.

Reports of the USCCB Task Forces

Finally, the Committee reviewed preliminary reports from the four USCCB task forces with which it is involved. As reported in the September 2008 *Newsletter*, the USCCB has established five task forces which correspond to the five Priority Goals that the body of Bishops approved in 2007. The Committee on Divine Worship is represented in four of those task forces: Archbishop Wilton Gregory is on the Task Force for Faith Formation and Sacramental Practice, Archbishop George Niederauer is on the Task Force for Strengthening Marriage, Bishop Kevin Farrell is on the Task Force for the Promotion of Vocations, and Bishop Octavio Cisneros is on the Task Force for the Recognition of Cultural Diversity.

Preparing for the reception of the third edition of the *Roman Missal* is one goal of the Faith Formation and Sacramental Practice task force, and the Committee will play a major role in catechesis. Among the initiatives formed by the other task forces, one of note comes from the Strengthening Marriage task force: the Committee will assist in promoting the new Spanish text of the revised *Rito del Matrimonio* and the current English *Rite of Marriage* ritual text, while preparing for its revision sometime in the future.

The Committee will next meet in June in San Antonio, Texas, prior to the spring plenary meeting of the USCCB.

January 2009 Meeting of the Subcommittee on Hispanics and the Liturgy

The Subcommittee on Hispanics and the Liturgy met at the Mexican American Catholic College in San Antonio, Texas from January 26-28, 2009. The group devoted a large portion of the allotted time to the ongoing task of the translation into Spanish of the *Missale Romanum, editio typica tertia*. In the course of the meeting, the Subcommittee members translated the texts of the U.S. Propers of the Saints into Spanish. The group also reviewed catechetical materials which will be prepared to accompany the use of *ustedes* in place of *vosotros* in the Ordinary of the Mass. This change will take effect when the *recognitio* is granted for the *Missale Romanum, editio typica tertia* in Spanish for use in the dioceses of the United States of America.