



NewsLetter

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Volume LIV

May 2018

Implementation of the *Order of the Dedication of a Church* and an Altar Set for November 9, 2018

Following the usual editorial review process by the Secretariat of Divine Worship, the ritual edition of the *Order of the Dedication of a Church and an Altar* is now being prepared for publication by USCCB Communications and should be available by July.

Daniel Cardinal DiNardo, USCCB President, has promulgated the decree of publication and set the mandatory implementation date of the Dedication rite for November 9, 2018, the Feast of the Dedication of the Lateran Basilica. The ritual book may be used in the liturgy upon its publication.

For the benefit of our readers, we reprint the USCCB decree of publication for the *Order of the Dedication of a Church and an Altar*:

UNITED STATES CONFERENCE OF CATHOLIC BISHOPS DECREE OF PUBLICATION

In accord with the norms established by the Holy See, this edition of the *Order of the Dedication of a Church and an Altar* is declared to be the definitive approved English translation of the *Ordo Dedicationis Ecclesiae et Altaris, editio typica* (1977), and is published by authority of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops.

The *Order of the Dedication of a Church and an Altar* was canonically approved for use by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops on November 11, 2014, and was subsequently confirmed by the Apostolic See by decree of the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments on November 9, 2017 (Prot. n. 241/15).

This rite may be used in the Liturgy upon publication, and its use is obligatory as of November 9, 2018, the Feast of the Dedication of the Lateran Basilica. From that date forward, no other English translation of the rite may be used in the dioceses of the United States of America.

Given at the General Secretariat of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, Washington, DC, on May 21, 2018, the Memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church.

Daniel N. Cardinal DiNardo
Archbishop of Galveston-Houston
President, United States Conference of
Catholic Bishops

Rev. Msgr. J. Brian Bransfield
General Secretary

Chant Settings of the *Order of the Dedication of a Church and an Altar*

Mode 4



A feature of the new edition of the *Order of the Dedication of a Church and an Altar* is the large quantity of musical settings that it contains – mostly chant settings of antiphons and responsories that accompany and form a part of the rites of dedication. These chant settings are based on the music in the 1977 Latin typical edition of the *Ordo Dedicationis Ecclesiae et Altaris*. (The sample above is the antiphon for the chant at the entrance procession for the dedication of a church.) Two principles guided the preparation of the English chant settings contained in the new edition.

First, the composers commissioned by the International Commission on English in the Liturgy aimed for a fidelity to the Gregorian chant of the Latin edition. However, since there are vast differences between English and Latin language structures, adaptations to the melodies were sometimes necessary to respect the demands of the English language. But the goal was to present chant settings modeled on the Gregorian tradition, which marries text and music in an integral and powerful way.

The second principle guiding the composers was a desire to ensure a relative simplicity in the chants, to support their use by the communities who will celebrate the new rite. For the most part, the Latin chants in the typical edition are themselves quite simple, and in these cases the English settings mirror this simplicity. In other cases, the source chants are more complex, and here the English adaptations simplify the musical language. In places where the rite provides multiple options for a chant, the composers ensured that at least one of the musical settings allows for ease of singing in pastoral situations.

Like the *Roman Missal, Third Edition*, the chants in the *Order of the Dedication of a Church and an Altar* present musical settings in modern, stemless musical notation. Pointing for the Psalms that accompany various antiphons will also be included. In addition, the Secretariat of Divine Worship will soon make the chants available as free PDF downloads on the USCCB website. This should assist musicians who are preparing for ceremonies that will use the ritual edition.

The “Heart” of the Church: Pope Francis’ Catechesis on the Holy Mass – The Introductory Rites and Liturgy of the Word

Pope Francis offered a fifteen-part catechesis on the Mass from November 2017 to April 2018, during his weekly General Audience at the Vatican. His purpose was “to rediscover...the beauty that is hidden in the Eucharistic celebration and that, once revealed, gives full meaning to each person’s life” (Nov. 8, 2017). In his catechesis, the Holy Father drew on a variety of sources: Sacred Scripture, liturgical texts, the documents of the Second Vatican Council, the *General Instruction of the Roman Missal*, the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, and the Church Fathers. Covered in this two-part series, however, will be the Pope’s personal insights about the Mass: Part I focuses on the Introductory Rites and Liturgy of the Word, while Part II will treat his reflections on the Liturgy of the Eucharist and, by means of the Concluding Rites, the mission to which the Eucharist commits the People of God.

Initial Considerations – November 8–December 13, 2017

The Pope begins with a simple yet profound premise: “Mass is prayer; rather, it is prayer *par excellence*, the loftiest, the most sublime, and at the same time the most ‘concrete.’ In fact it is the loving encounter with God through his Word and the Body and Blood of Jesus. It is an encounter with the Lord” (Nov. 15). “Without Christ we are condemned to be dominated by everyday weariness, with its worries, and by fear of the future. The

Sunday encounter with the Lord gives us the strength to experience the present with confidence and courage, and to go forth with hope. For this reason we Christians go to encounter the Lord on Sunday, in the Eucharistic celebration” (Dec. 13). “[T]he greatest grace,” said the Holy Father, “[is] being able to feel that the Mass, the Eucharist, is the privileged moment to be with Jesus and, through him, with God and with brothers and sisters” (Nov. 15). This is so because “[t]he Eucharist is a wondrous event in which Jesus Christ, our life, makes himself present. Participating in the Mass ‘is truly living again the redemptive passion and death of our Lord. It is a visible manifestation: the Lord makes himself present on the altar to be offered to the Father for the salvation of the world’” (Nov. 8). For this reason, Pope Francis advises, “As we enter the church to celebrate Mass, let us think about this: I am going to Calvary, where Jesus gave his life for me. In this way the spectacle disappears; the small talk disappears; the comments and these things that distance us from something so beautiful as the Mass, Jesus’ triumph” (Nov. 22).

Introductory Rites – December 20, 2017–January 10, 2018

Pope Francis first draws out the profound meaning of the Sign of the Cross. “The Mass begins with the Sign of the Cross. The whole prayer moves, so to speak, within the space of the Most Holy Trinity – ‘In the name of the Father, of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit’ – which is the space of infinite communion; it has as its beginning and end the love of the Triune God, made manifest and given to us in the Cross of Christ. In fact his Paschal Mystery is the gift of the Trinity, and the Eucharist flows ever from his pierced Heart” (Dec. 20). The *Penitential Act* acknowledges the twofold nature of sin. “It is good to emphasize that we confess to being sinners *both to God and to our brothers and sisters*: this helps us understand the dimension of sin which, while separating us from God, also divides us from our brothers and sisters, and vice versa. Sin severs: sin severs the relationship with God and it severs the relationship with brothers and sisters, relationships within the family, in society and in the community: sin always severs; it separates; it divides” (Jan. 3, 2018). The Pope also highlights the importance of silence in liturgical prayer. In the *Collect*, “[t]he priest says ‘let us pray’ and then there is a brief silence, and each one thinks about the things they need, that they wish to ask for in the prayer. The silence is not confined to the absence of words but rather to preparing oneself to listen to other voices: the one in our heart and, above all, the voice of the Holy Spirit” (Jan. 10).

Liturgy of the Word – January 31–February 14, 2018

Emphasis on the living dialogue between God and his people marks the Holy Father’s catechesis on the Liturgy of the Word. “The pages of the Bible cease to be writings and become living words, spoken by God. It is God, who through the reader, speaks to us and questions us, we who listen with faith” (Jan. 31). Similarly, we must listen to the Gospel “with an open heart, because it is the living Word. Saint Augustine writes: ‘The Gospel is the mouth of Christ. He is seated in heaven, but he has not stopped speaking on earth’” (Feb. 7). Pope Francis vividly describes the power of the Word of God: it “makes a pathway within us. We listen to it with our ears and it passes to our hearts; it does not remain in our ears; it must go to the heart. And from the heart, it passes to the hands, to good deeds. This is the path which the Word of God follows: from our ears to our heart and hands” (Jan. 31). “The Lord speaks for everyone, Pastors and the faithful... The Lord comforts, calls, brings forth sprouts of a new and reconciled life. And this is through his Word. His Word knocks at the heart and changes hearts!” (Feb. 14).

In the *Homily*, the priest or deacon “is not doing something of his own, but is preaching, giving voice to Jesus; he is preaching the Word of Jesus” (Feb. 7). This, too, is a place for silence: “Therefore, after the homily, a moment of silence allows the seed received to settle in the soul, so that intentions to heed what the Spirit has suggested to each person may sprout” (Feb. 14). Preparation is also important. “How do we prepare a homily, dear priests, deacons, bishops?,” asks the Pope. “With prayer, by studying the Word of God and by making a clear and brief summary” (Feb. 7). Next comes the *Profession of Faith*, or Creed, which highlights “an essential nexus between listening and faith. They are linked. Indeed, this – faith – does not arise from human imagination, but, as Saint Paul recalls, ‘comes from what is heard, and what is heard comes by the preaching of Christ’ (Rom 10:17). Thus, faith is nourished by what is heard and leads to the Sacrament” (Feb. 14). Finally, the *Universal Prayer (Prayer of the Faithful)* concludes the Liturgy of the Word, exhorting us “to turn our gaze to God, who takes care of all his children” (Feb. 14).

The Liturgy of the Word is integral to the celebration of the Mass, says Pope Francis, “because we gather precisely to listen to what God has done and still intends to do for us. It is an experience which occurs ‘live’ and not through hearsay because ‘when the Sacred Scriptures are read in the Church, God himself speaks to his people, and Christ, present in his own word, proclaims the Gospel’ (*General Instruction of the Roman Missal*, no. 29; cf. *Sacrosanctum Concilium*, nos. 7, 33)” (Jan. 31).

Excerpts from the General Audiences of Pope Francis, © 2017, 2018 Libreria Editrice Vaticana. Used with Permission. All rights reserved. The Holy Father’s catechesis is available at <http://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/audiences/index.html>.

Chant Resources for the *Misal Romano, Tercera Edición*

As of Pentecost Sunday, May 20, 2018, the new *Misal Romano, Tercera Edición* may be used in the United States. To support priests and musicians in the use of the new chants in the *Misal*, the Secretariat of Divine Worship has prepared a webpage, accessible at USCCB.org/cultodivino, that makes the chants available as free PDF downloads, in the same manner as the English *Roman Missal* chants on the website of the International Commission on English in the Liturgy. Chants from the Order of Mass are now available, and more chants from the *Misal Romano* will be added in the coming months.

The *Misal Romano* chant webpage will also include accompaniments for the Order of Mass and certain major feasts. These will be a helpful support for the singing of the choir and the congregation. In addition to keyboard accompaniment, this accompaniment to the Spanish chants includes guitar chords, providing both traditional chord notation (lead sheet notation) and also *solfeggio* notation. Thus, even using a variety of instrumentation, these resources will support the use of traditional chant melodies at Mass.

Pa-dre nues-tro, que es-tás en el cie-lo, santificado se-a tu nom-bre;

Mi m La m La m/Do Mi m La m/Do Mi m
 Em Am Am/C Em Am/C Em

2020 Liturgical Calendar Available for Purchase

The 2020 edition of the *Liturgical Calendar for the Dioceses of the United States of America* is available for purchase from the USCCB Secretariat of Divine Worship. The calendar lists each day’s celebration, rank, liturgical color, Lectionary citations, and Psalter cycle.

Calendars are on sale for \$10.00 each, and are available either in 8½ × 11” paperback or e-mailed in Microsoft Word or PDF format. Checks are to be made out to the Committee on Divine Worship and mailed to the Secretariat at 3211 Fourth Street, NE, Washington, DC 20017, ATTN: 2020 Liturgical Calendar.