



Corpus Christi Roman Catholic Church

*Administered by the Congregation of the Blessed Sacrament
in the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston*

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Dear Parishioners,

As you may have heard, we will begin to use a new translation of the Mass on the First Sunday of Advent, November 27, 2011. This is because we have received a new English-language translation of the third edition of *The Roman Missal* (formerly known as the *Sacramentary*). The Bishops have been working on this translation of *The Roman Missal* since Pope John Paul II announced a revision of the Missal in 2000.

You are probably wondering how this new translation will affect the way we celebrate the Mass in our parish. One thing that has not changed is the structure of the Mass. There will still be two major parts of the Mass, the Liturgy of the Word and the Liturgy of the Eucharist. Our postures — sitting, standing, kneeling, singing, listening, proclaiming, and praying at Mass — will also be the same. What will change are some of the words we hear, some of our responses, and some of the parts of the Mass that we sing.

An example of one difference in the new texts, that recurs several times, is the people's response to "The Lord be with you." Now we will respond, "And with your spirit." This change more carefully mirrors passages from scripture (see, for example, Judges 6:12; Ruth 2:4; 2 Chronicles 15:2; and Luke 1:28). It also corresponds to the original Latin and the response offered already in many other languages.

As mentioned above, we will begin to use the revised prayers of the Mass on the First Sunday of Advent, November 27, 2011. Between now and then, we hope to help our parishioners learn about and embrace these new Mass texts in several ways:

- We will have articles in the bulletin that explain various aspects of the Mass texts that have changed.
- After all the Masses the weekend of September 24-25, members of our Liturgy Commission will have a variety of different booklets, pamphlets and prayer cards available for parishioners to take home and study or reflect upon. Liturgy Commission members will also be available to answer questions you may have.
- We will have two presentations in October, on Tuesday the 18th and Thursday the 27th, offered by speakers from the Archdiocese who will help us to understand why the changes are happening and what the changes look like for us.
- Toward the end of October, before the Masses, we will begin to practice new music for the Gloria, the Holy, Holy and the Memorial Acclamations since the texts for these prayers is also changing.

I encourage you to continue reading the ongoing articles in the diocesan newspaper, *The Texas Catholic Herald*, that speak of these changes, and for more information I encourage you to take a look at the website of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops - USCCB.org.

We will continue to discuss our preparations as the weeks and months go by so we will be ready to implement these changes in our parish. But most importantly, let us pray that we remain open to the work of the Holy Spirit within our Church.

Yours in Christ,

Fr. Dana, SSS

Dana G. Pelotte, SSS, Pastor