



Office for Worship

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Getting to Know the New Missal

By now all the parishes in the Diocese will have received their new Missals and from next Sunday the 1st Sunday of Advent the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference has decreed that the Missal be used in its entirety. Many parishes have been steadily introducing the Order of Mass since Pentecost Sunday, and a number of parishes began learning new musical settings to the Ordinary of the Mass much earlier than that. Whilst some people are still reverting to some of the old responses (quite understandable after forty years!) the process for many parishes has been relatively seamless.

Now the challenge of getting to know your way (particularly for clergy and those liturgical ministers who assist them) has commenced. There are a number of things that might be helpful for you to note as you start using the Missal. The new Missal is not set out the same as the previous Sacramentary (from the USA which many parishes used) or the Missal that was published by E.J. Dwyer. The Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments in its guidelines to publishers indicated that the Missal in English must follow the same order as the Latin Missal. For that reason, you will find that where you expect things to be on the basis of previous use, they won't be!

The Rite for the Blessing and Sprinkling of Holy Water was included as part of the Act of Penitence but is now located in an Appendix II on page 1507. The previous Missal provided alternate invocations for the third form of the Act of Penitence. In the Missal there is only one provided, but in the appendix there are a number of new invocations. They can be found on page 1528 in Appendix VI.

The new translation also provides for the recitation of both the Nicene Creed and the Apostles Creed and the Apostles Creed is particularly recommended to be used during Lent and Easter because of the connection with Baptism.

In Appendix V on 1515 you will find sample formularies for the Prayer of the Faithful. Whilst many parishes either use other resources or compose their own intentions, it might be useful on some occasions to use the formularies provided here.

When using the *Sanctoral* please note that depending on the feast some prefaces that are specific to that feast are included with the Propers of the Mass. In the previous Missal there were a number of prefaces designated for "Weekdays." In the new Missal they are referred to as "Common Prefaces" and can be found on page 644.

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Whilst it is permissible to use Sunday Prefaces on weekdays, the Common Prefaces are there for use in ferial days.

The new Missal also provides a number of Masses for Various Needs and Occasions. These can be found on page 1297. These Masses can be chosen instead of the ferial Mass in Ordinary Time. They were not used much in the past, but there may well be occasions when the priest might choose them for good pastoral reasons.

The Eucharistic Prayers for Reconciliation and those for use in Masses for Various Needs can be found in the Appendix to the Order of Mass on page 785. Please note the rubric on page 788 and provides flexibility for the use of various prefaces with the Eucharistic Prayers for Reconciliation.

Finally, you will find that as you become familiar with the contents of the Missal there are many new formularies and propers for a range of pastoral needs. As has been said at the various presentations on the Missal for the clergy, the prayers are in a very different idiom and register from what we have been using, and they will require rehearsal before proclaiming them in the liturgical assembly. Please take time to spend time with the new Missal and discover the treasures that are contained in it.

Fr Peter Williams
Director of the Office for Worship.

What about the Other Rites?

The question has been raised with the Office for Worship about the other liturgical rites and how to use the new Missal in relation to them. Ultimately all the existing liturgical rites that were reformed after the Council will be re-translated.

In the meantime, those rites remain approved for use. However, when celebrating the Rite of Marriage and the Order of Christian Funerals celebrants should use the appropriate texts in the Ritual Masses in the new Missal. The same would apply also to the Rite of Confirmation. It may be somewhat cumbersome for a while to use two books, but the proper texts for those ritual Masses do supersede what is in the current liturgical ritual books. The first of the rituals to be released will be the Rite of Marriage and that is expected sometime in either 2012 or 2013.

Please ensure that if local funeral directors produce booklets as part of their service to the family that they are advised of the new texts for the Mass of Christian Burial, and similarly if the parish secretary has a template on the computer these will need to be edited.

Gathering for Parish Musicians

All those who serve in the ministry of music in our parishes are invited to this annual gathering at St Patrick's Cathedral on Friday 16 December, 2011 at 7.00 p.m. This is a social gathering hosted by Bernard Kirkpatrick, Director of Music at the Cathedral.

Bishop Anthony will be present and will preside at Vespers in the Cathedral. Please encourage your musicians to attend. It is a small way in which the Diocese can thank and acknowledge those who serve in this important liturgical ministry faithfully Sunday by Sunday and in many instances over many years.

Please email him at: music@stpatscathedral.com.au so that catering numbers can be confirmed.

Sacraments of Initiation for Children

Recently I was questioned about the necessity or need to revisit the Sacrament of Baptism when commencing preparation for the Sacrament of Penance.

Baptism is the gateway, the first of all sacraments. The importance of a fuller understanding, at a child's level, and certainly a reconnection for parents, is such that I consider this a foundational reflection for preparation for the Sacrament of Penance.

Children generally at age 7 or 8 do not have a tangible memory of their baptism. If they have fortunately been exposed to videos or photos of the event they may have some impressions, but the actual ritual remains an 'unknown'. The beautiful prayers of the Baptism Ritual are rich treasures which we as formators are able to help the parents 'unpack' for their children. When this is done, it enables the children to have a better understanding of their call to live as 'Christ-ians', followers of Christ, committed to living what the prayers of the Ritual prayed about.

When the connection to Baptism is re-enlivened and ritualised for both parents and children, the movement forward to a more realistic understanding of what 'sin' is, flows easily into the preparation for the Sacrament of Penance.

Baptism incorporates us into Christ and forms us into God's people. This first sacramental pardons all our sins, rescues us from the power of darkness, and brings us to the dignity of adopted children, a new creation through water and the Holy Spirit. Hence we are called and are indeed the children of God. (Christian Initiation: General Introduction, art. 2.)

Rediscovering the child's baptism can only but awaken a deeper desire and love of God for both children and parents.

Sr Mary Louise

Acolytes and Senior Servers

The Office for Worship in collaboration with the Institute for Mission conduct every year training for acolytes (and senior servers) and then those who are to be instituted to the ministry are subsequently installed by the Bishop. The Office is considering whether there would be any interest in a 'refresher' course being conducted in 2012 for those who have exercised this ministry for a number of years. The Missal now has a new General Instruction and many acolytes and senior servers may not be familiar with its contents. If you would like such a course and would send acolytes and senior servers to attend please email Cesar Abood at CAbood@parra.catholic.org.au

Liturgical Protocols for the Visit of the Bishop

If the Bishop is visiting a parish, school or other group in the Diocese and is celebrating a liturgy (be it the Mass or some other form), then those preparing the liturgy must contact the Office for Worship in good time to discuss the proposed celebration. Once the liturgy is planned and prepared it is not possible to make alterations to admit other elements when approval has been given by this Office.

RCIA

Please note the dates for 2012:

Rite of Election Sunday 26 February 2 pm
Penitential Service Friday 16 March 7.30 pm

A request for the Roll Call of Catechumens and the Roll Call of Candidates will take place January next year.

Mistake in the Ordo

Please note that the date for the Dedication of St Patrick's Cathedral in the *Ordo* for 2011 is **incorrect**.

The date is November 29 (next Tuesday.) In the Diocese this should be observed as a Feast (in the Cathedral a Solemnity) and that the texts from the Missal for the Dedication of a Church should be used and the liturgical colour is white.

Confirmation

In October I sent a letter was sent to all parishes requesting dates for parishes celebrating the Sacrament of Confirmation next year. If your parish has not responded please do so as soon as possible.

Sacramental Resources

Revised and updated resources are now available from the Office for Worship. We are currently in the process of collating Facilitators Notes and a section on hints/suggestions for Parent meetings. These will be available early next year. Please contact the Office for Worship for any orders or enquires.