



NewsLetter

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USCCB Administrative Committee Approves Change to *Sing to the Lord: Music in Divine Worship*

In response to a request from the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments, the USCCB Administrative Committee adopted a change on September 12, 2012 to the U.S. Bishops' 2007 guidelines on liturgical music, *Sing to the Lord: Music in Divine Worship*. Number 188 of the document has been altered to remove any further permission for the use of Christological tropes or other adaptations to the text of the *Agnus Dei (Lamb of God)*.

The Latin Church members of the USCCB had originally approved *Sing to the Lord: Music in Divine Worship* in November 2007 by a margin of 88% (only a simple majority was required). Originally intended to be presented as particular law (which would have required a two-thirds majority and subsequent confirmation by the Holy See), the text was finally presented as a set of non-binding guidelines for use in the dioceses of the United States. At the time the common practice in many parishes was to extend the singing of the *Lamb of God*, often required to accompany the Fraction Rite that included the pouring of the Precious Blood into chalices for the distribution of Holy Communion under both kinds, by the addition of additional Christological invocations. It was noted during the drafting of the text of *Sing to the Lord*, and in the modification and amendment process with the body of Bishops, that this had been a custom that was widely accepted in the United States, and was also acceptable practice in other languages, including the German *Singmessen*, which have been in long-standing use in German-language territories.

Over the past several years there has been discussion in the Committee on Divine Worship regarding this apparent discrepancy, and the policy of the Secretariat in regard to the approval of musical settings of the Order of Mass shifted in preparation for the implementation of the *Roman Missal, Third Edition* last year. Composers of new musical settings of the parts of the Order of Mass from the *Roman Missal* were prohibited from including alternate texts for the *Lamb of God*. All new approved musical settings of the Order of Mass are, therefore, in conformity with this change.

Earlier this year, Timothy Cardinal Dolan, USCCB President, received a letter (Prot. n. 158/12/L) from Archbishop J. Augustine Di Noia, O.P., then-Secretary of the Congregation, regarding the practice of adding "tropes" or other Christological invocations to the *Lamb of God*. The Congregation noted that this practice is not in conformity with no. 130 of the Order of Mass, and requested that the USCCB make this information available to publishers and pastors. Cardinal Dolan responded that the matter would be addressed, in part through a correction to *Sing to the Lord*.

This alteration is effective immediately, and affects all existing and future musical settings of the *Lamb of God*.

The relevant paragraph now reads (new text in underline):

188. The supplicatory chant *Agnus Dei* accompanies the Fraction Rite. It is, “as a rule, sung by the choir or cantor with the congregation responding; or it is, at least, recited aloud. This invocation accompanies the fraction and, for this reason, may be repeated as many times as necessary until the rite has reached its conclusion, the last time ending with the words *dona nobis pacem (grant us peace)*” (GIRM, no. 83). The *Agnus Dei* should not be prolonged unnecessarily (see GIRM, no. 83) nor may other texts be added to this chant.

In addition to this change in the text, the full text of *Sing to the Lord: Music in Divine Worship* is undergoing an editorial review in light of the *Roman Missal, Third Edition*. The review will result in minor changes to vocabulary, capitalization, and quotes from the *General Instruction of the Roman Missal* and the Order of Mass.

September 2012 Meeting of the Subcommittee on Divine Worship in Spanish

The Subcommittee on Divine Worship in Spanish met at the USCCB headquarters in Washington, DC from September 13-14, 2012. The meeting focused primarily on discussion of the future *Misal Romano, Tercera Edición* for the United States and its implementation.

Bishop Octavio Cisneros, Subcommittee Chairman, gave an update on the status of translating the *Missale Romanum, editio typica tertia* into Spanish. A text for use in the dioceses of the United States will be adapted from an approved text of another Spanish-language Conference of Bishops. While some Conferences have already received the *recognitio* for their editions of the *Misal Romano, Tercera Edición*, the texts from others have not yet been approved. Bishop Cisneros noted that the Conference of Mexican Bishops submitted its translation of the *Misal Romano* to the Holy See; the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments is currently reviewing the text and a reply is expected in the near future. The Hispanic Bishops of the U.S. will make a suggestion regarding a base text to be used once the Mexican edition has been approved by the Holy See.

Members of the Subcommittee reviewed and finalized the Spanish translation of several U.S. adaptations for the *Misal Romano, Tercera Edición* which were previously approved and implemented in the English-language *Roman Missal, Third Edition* for the United States, including *The Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ* (Christmas proclamation) and the *Norms for the Distribution and Reception of Holy Communion under Both Kinds in the Dioceses of the United States of America*. The *Announcement of Easter and the Moveable Feasts* (Epiphany proclamation) was also finalized.

The status of the process for catechesis in Spanish on the Mass was reviewed. Work continues on the creation of catechetical materials for Hispanics in the United States as preparation for the implementation of the *Misal Romano* as well as avenues for outreach to Hispanic youth. The Subcommittee previewed a DVD intended for use by Hispanic youth. The Subcommittee also selected a series of new articles on the Mass and the *Misal* for placement on appropriate sections of the USCCB website. These articles should appear in the coming weeks and months.

As reported in the May-June 2012 *Newsletter*, the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments recently declined to grant the *recognitio* to the Spanish translation of the U.S. proper blessings for inclusion in the *Bendicional*, the Spanish-language translation of *De Benedictionibus* (the *Book of Blessings*). The Congregation requested a copy of the full text of the *Bendicional* with the U.S. blessings in place. Bishop Cisneros will investigate further and report to the Subcommittee at its January 2013 meeting. A decision on how to proceed will be discussed at that time.

The next meeting will be held in Miami, Florida, January 29–31, 2013.

Pastoral and Liturgical Considerations for the Year of Faith



YEAR OF FAITH 2012
2013

Pope Benedict XVI announced the upcoming “Year of Faith” in his Apostolic Letter *Porta Fidei*. The Year of Faith begins on October 11, 2012, marking the 50th anniversary of the opening of the Second Vatican Council and the 20th anniversary of the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, and concluding on November 24, 2013, the Solemnity of our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe. The Year of Faith is a “summons to an authentic and renewed conversion to the Lord, the one Savior of the world” (*Porta Fidei*, no. 6). In other words, this is an opportunity for Catholics to experience a conversion – to turn back to Jesus and enter into a deeper relationship with him. Many particular resources and plans from the Holy See have been announced in recent weeks, and in addition, the USCCB Secretariat of Evangelization and Catechesis has undertaken efforts to promote and encourage the Year of Faith in the dioceses of the United States. Pope Benedict will preside at the opening Mass in Rome for the Year of Faith as part of the Synod of Bishops on the New Evangelization.

In a letter to Timothy Cardinal Dolan, USCCB President, dated July 3, 2012 (Prot. n. AF/162/2012), Archbishop Rino Fisichella, President of the Pontifical Council for the Promotion of the New Evangelization, announced some of the particular initiatives undertaken by the Holy See in regard to the Year of Faith. Further information about the Year of Faith and USCCB initiatives can be found on the USCCB website at www.USCCB.org. The Pontifical Council for the Promotion of the New Evangelization has also set up a special website for the Year of Faith at www.AnnusFidei.va. As the Year of Faith progresses, both sites will be updated regularly with new resources and additional initiatives.

The Profession of Faith, the Nicene Creed, is central to the Year of Faith, and it is hoped that this focus will encourage the use of the Creed as part of daily prayer. Prayer cards with the Nicene Creed, using also the image of Christ the Pantocrator (intended to be the icon for the Year of Faith), will be available from Libreria Editrice Vaticana (LEV).

A new Mass formulary, *Pro Nova Evangelizatione* (“For the New Evangelization”) has been approved by the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments for use during the Year of Faith. Though work has begun on translations into various languages, they have not yet been released as of late-September 2012. English and Spanish translations of the Mass for the New Evangelization will be disseminated to dioceses as soon as they are available. For Masses on October 11, alternate formularies from the *Roman Missal* include the Mass for the Unity of Christians (with its own Preface) or the Mass for the Evangelization of Peoples.

A special hymn has been composed for the Year of Faith, entitled *Credo, Domine, adauge nobis fidem*. The original bilingual Latin and Italian text and music are available on the Italian site for the Year of Faith. Translations into the major languages for use throughout the world are pending.

The Year of Faith logo, pictured above, is available for download for use in dioceses and parishes free of charge for various pastoral initiatives. Publishers who intend any commercial uses of the logo must contact the Pontifical Council for the Promotion of the New Evangelization to discuss licensing and obtain permission for use of the logo.

In his Apostolic Letter, Pope Benedict suggests that liturgical catechesis and sacramental practice should be an important part of the Year of Faith. In the dioceses of the United States, where extensive liturgical catechesis in preparation for the implementation of the *Roman Missal, Third Edition* has just recently taken place, it would seem imprudent to embark on any additional “program” of instruction about the liturgy. It has been suggested, rather, that continuing reflection and instruction on the *Roman Missal* continue as part of the Year of Faith. Such a mystagogical approach would enable effective instruction as priests and faithful alike continue to grow more familiar and comfortable with the new liturgical texts.

In addition to continued reflection and instruction on the *Roman Missal*, it is hoped that the Year of Faith will inspire Catholics to deepen their faith through prayer and study. The faithful are encouraged to study the documents of Vatican II and the *Catechism*, as well as the *United States Catholic Catechism for Adults*. Most importantly though, the goal of the Year of Faith is the deepening of one's faith through a personal encounter with Christ, and to that end all are encouraged to pray daily, study Scripture and celebrate weekly Sunday Mass.

Low-Gluten Hosts Available from Third Source in United States

In the March 2012 *Newsletter*, the Secretariat of Divine Worship announced a second source of low-gluten Communion hosts in the United States for those living with celiac–sprue disease. A third U.S. distributor has since come forward. GlutenFreeHosts.com Inc. of Syracuse, New York sells low–gluten hosts which are manufactured in Poland. These hosts contain less than 20 parts–per–million (ppm), or 0.002%, of gluten, and were certified in 2009 by the Diocese of Radom, Poland as suitable for use in the Eucharistic liturgy.

According to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, products containing less than 20 ppm may be labeled as “gluten free.” An article in the magazine *Gluten–Free Living* states that the equivalent of 27,000 ppm (10 milligrams) per day is usually safe, though this number may well vary from person to person. The low–gluten hosts provided by the three suppliers approved by the USCCB contain 20 ppm, 100 ppm, and 162 ppm— all far below the recommended safe allowance. In any event, the hosts contain sufficient amounts of gluten to be used as valid matter for the Eucharist.

Individuals seeking to purchase these hosts should do so through their parishes. Parishes and dioceses may use the following contact information:

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| GlutenFreeHosts.com Inc. | Phone (toll-free): (800) 668-7324 ext. 1 |
| 100 Buckley Road | Web: www.GlutenFreeHosts.com |
| Liverpool, NY 13088 | E-Mail: info@glutenfreehosts.com |

U.S.–based distributors of low-gluten hosts from Europe or other places are kindly asked to notify the Secretariat of Divine Worship so that a consolidated list of approved distributors may be assembled.



Staff Changes at the Secretariat of Divine Worship

Ms. Tess Stumme, who served the Secretariat of Divine Worship as a Staff Assistant since August 2010, has left the USCCB to become a middle–school science and social studies teacher. Her last day was August 17, 2012. During her time with the Secretariat, Ms. Stumme took part in distributing the *Newsletter* and maintained its database, assisted in the approvals process for participation aids, musical settings, and other liturgical publications, especially during the transition to the *Roman Missal, Third Edition*, and prepared liturgical supplies for the various plenary meetings of the USCCB.

Ms. Hannah Dell will begin work with the Secretariat on October 1, 2012. She joins Msgr. Richard Hilgartner, Executive Director, Rev. Daniel Merz, Associate Director, Sr. Doris Turek, SSND, Multicultural Specialist, and Mr. Matthew Godbey, Staff Assistant.