

LLa NEWSLETTER

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IMPORTANT: Before beginning to read this newsletter, check your mailing label. Is the information there correct? If not, please notify our Treasurer so that we are mailing newsletters to an accurate address. **ALSO:** The expiration date for your membership appears above your name and address. If you find that you are delinquent in paying **dues**, please remit them right away. You may pay online at our web site or send your check to the Treasurer. Her address appears at the end of this newsletter along with dues rates.

From the President

This summer, the USCCB approved some key portions of the revised English translation of the new (third edition) Roman Missal. To say it has been long in coming is perhaps an understatement. One can understand the wishes of the bishops to be careful in their actions. On the other hand, there have also been reports of delays in approval because of disagreements in the face of mandates to improve the translation, which will be used by the English-speaking peoples of the world. The translations of the Order of Mass, of Masses for special needs, of ritual Masses, and Mass for the dead have all been approved along with other components. One important remaining portion is the Proper of Saints, which is now in “gray book” status, awaiting possible revision or approval. Votes to approve have carried by substation margins; 180-plus approving and 30-plus against in a typical ballot. It is encouraging that the process is moving forward, but when will this task return? There have been at least three major revisions of vernacular translations of the Roman Missal in a mere 40 years since Vatican II.

In contrast, Latin editions of the Roman Missal have stood in place for centuries. Will updates and revisions become a new norm? Will each major world language group in the Church need to maintain a standing committee to deal with proposed revisions? Surely, one would think, the publishers are happy about having to provide all those new books, but new book production is expensive, sometimes rivaling the cost of selling fewer copies of books that remain unrevised for decades. Will Catholics, in their personal reminiscences, recall the words of translations past and feel unaccustomed toward or even discomfort with translations that change as vernacular language shifts over decades of use? Most conscientious Catholics will welcome this particular new translation that restores orthodoxy, authenticity, and beauty. However, will it always be so? All of these questions bring up the importance of Latin in the liturgical life of the Roman Church. This heritage is the anchor that informs the intellects and nourishes the souls of Catholics through generations. It is, as our late LLA President Bob Edgeworth once observed, a kind of iconostasis for the western rite. That is really a beautiful analogy. In eastern rite churches, the iconostasis holds the icons in place before the worshipper’s gaze toward the altar. Latin can hold in place the wonderful expressions of Faith particular to the western rite. If a more authentic English translation is forthcoming, let us pray that it will bring many Catholics closer to that western iconostasis that is our Latin liturgy. A more authentic translation will bring minds closer to our Latin heritage...and even invite them to explore it.

James F. Pauer, President, Latin Liturgy Association, Inc.

Convention Reminder

Remember that our convention will be in Detroit July 16-18, 2010. There will be Holy Mass and other liturgies, speakers on various topics of interest, and other events like an organ recital and church tours.

Latin for Deacons

LLA member Dr. Lucy Carroll of the Philadelphia chapter held a workshop for permanent and transitional deacons in which she reviewed ecclesiastical Latin pronunciation and rehearsed Latin chants proper to deacons for the Ordinary form of Mass in Latin. It took place in September at the Carmelite Monastery in Philadelphia. Altar procedures were reviewed by Rev. Dennis Gill, Director of the Archdiocesan Office for Worship, and Monastery Sacristan Steve DuBan. What a helpful event for a particular liturgical need in today's Church!

Survey Results: Catholics and Latin

According to Georgetown University's Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate, one in four U.S. Catholics favors having traditional Latin Mass as a liturgical option, 12 percent oppose it, and 63 percent have "no opinion." Some observers have commented that the "no opinion" segment includes mostly people who have no experience of Mass in Latin, because of their age mostly. In 1985, 25% favored it while 40% opposed it. Clearly, there is a *tabula rasa* here: young Catholics who mostly (perhaps 78% of those under the age of 30) have no experience of Latin. The general opposition so prevalent for many years seems to be subsiding.

iLiber

An electronic form of the *Liber Usualis* for the popular iPhone device is becoming available. This application that combines an electronic version of the 1961 *Liber Usualis* with the Roman Calendar (also 1961) reduces the weight of the *Liber*, making it easier to navigate. It is called Liber Pro, is available for iPhone and iPod Touch, and is scheduled to be released September 29, 2009, at the cost of \$14.99. Liber Pro adds to this tome a linked table of contents, user-defined bookmarks, vertical and horizontal paging and zooming, browser-like navigation, a dynamic liturgical calendar, and more. Liber Pro is more than just an eBook. It is also the complete 1961 Roman Calendar, capable of calculating the moveable feasts throughout the year automatically. This means you can select a date; view the proper, common and feria for that date; and jump instantly to the relevant pages in the *Liber Usualis*. Further information is available at http://drakeapplications.com/products/Liber_Pro/ This site has a link to the iTunes store from which the app may be ordered. You were expecting perhaps the Daughters of St. Paul?

Society of Jesus Christ the Priest expands

In Madison, Wisconsin, members of the Society of Jesus Christ the Priest have expanded their apostolate in that diocese. Beginning in 2006, Bishop Robert Morlino invited priests from the society to serve in a five-parish cluster in the Sauk City area. Five priests are currently serving there, with three more expected to arrive this fall. The priests eliminated girls as altar servers and lay people to assist with Communion. They have greatly increased opportunities for confession and added traditional Latin Mass to the schedule at the parishes. Founded in 1980, the Society is based in Murcia, Spain, but has members from other countries, including the U.S. The Society has 25 priests, 13 consecrated women, 2 laymen and 12 seminarians studying for the priesthood.

Online Resources: Liber, Chant Propers, Beginners' Latin Course

The Institute of Christ the King has made available on their web site pdf files containing the proper chants for Mass. These chants from the *Liber Usualis* and *Graduale* are organized by date for the current liturgical year and may be downloaded. What a convenient way to provide choir and congregation with not just the texts but also the chant notations for each day.

<http://www.institute-christ-king.org/latin-mass-resources/sacred-music/>

Musica Sacra maintains the *Liber* in its traditional organization:

<http://www.musicasacra.com/pdf/liberusualis.pdf>

Also in convenient pdf format for download, the Latin Mass Society of England and Wales continues to offer a quick course in Latin for those interested in the language for Mass and without any experience of it. Here is the site's description of the course: *Simplicissimus* (Latin for 'very easy') is a unique, user-friendly Latin Course based on a *Teach Yourself* method guaranteed to give maximum results with the minimum of effort. Its aim is to give priests a working knowledge of the Latin of the traditional Roman Missal so as to enable them to celebrate Holy Mass in the old rite with understanding and devotion. The Course is specially designed for the absolute beginner; no need whatever to have had any formal classical background or previous knowledge of Latin. It can even be used by those who consider themselves without any particular aptitude at all for learning languages.

<http://www.latin-mass-society.org/simplicissimus/index.htm>

Society of St. Pius X

Talks between the Holy See and the Society of St. Pius X are scheduled to continue in mid-October. According to a story in the French daily *Le Figaro*, sources both in Rome and in the SSPX say that the discussions, "which will center on theological disagreements arising from the teachings of Vatican II, will be kept strictly confidential."

Statement on Liturgical Practices

A number of sources are reporting that additional guidelines for the celebration of Mass in the Ordinary Form are expected to appear soon. These will encourage the printing of Latin preceding the vernacular in missals intended for use by the laity, a greater emphasis on *ad orientem*, and stricter guidelines for the distribution of Holy Communion by curtailing the use of lay ministers and distribution into the palm of the hand. Sources also say that a gradual implementation is more likely than immediate change.

Latin Liturgy Association, Inc.

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Founded in 1975

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***ORATIO PRO MISSA LATINE CELEBRANDA
PRAYER FOR THE CELEBRATION OF THE MASS IN LATIN***

(Official Prayer of the Latin Liturgy Association)

***O MUNDI REGNATOR, QUI TE OMNI LINGUA HOMINUM ANGELORUMQUE
LAUDARI VOLUISTI; TRIBUE, QUAESUMUS, UT ETIAM IN DIEBUS NOSTRIS
SACRIFICIUM DILECTI FILII TUI IMMACULATUM ASSIDUE LINGUA ROMANA IN
ORATORIIS GENTIS NOSTRAE OMNIUMQUE PERMULTIS TIBI OFFERATUR A POPULO
AD TE TOTO CORDE CONVERSO: PER CHRISTUM DOMINUM NOSTRUM. AMEN.***

O Master of the Universe, who have willed that you be praised in every tongue of men and angels, grant that in our day too, the perfect sacrifice of your beloved Son may continue to be offered to you in the tongue of the Romans in many churches of our land and every land by a people who have turned to you with all their heart; this we ask through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

*Cum licentia Ordinarii:
Baton Rouge, LA
August 8, 1994*