

LITURGY LESSON

Lesson 7: The Mystery of Faith



*Preparing for the 3rd Edition of
the Roman Missal*

Most of our previous Liturgy Lessons have focused on the changes in the Mass that the congregation will be learning. Today's lesson is mostly focusing on the changes that the Priest will say during this part of the liturgy.

Midway through the Eucharistic Prayer something very special, very mysterious, happens. The priest speaks the words Christ spoke at the Last Supper – the words of Consecration. He calls upon the Holy Spirit and the bread and wine are changed, or transubstantiated, into the Body and Blood of Christ. This is a critical part of the Mass and the heart of our faith. Although the meaning of these words will remain the same, the words that the priest says will be changed slightly.

The new language is:

*Take this, all of you, and eat of it, **for** this is my Body, which will be given up for you.*

*Take this, all of you, and drink from it, **for** this is the **chalice** of my Blood, the Blood of the new and **eternal** covenant, **which** will be **poured out** for you and for **many for the forgiveness of sins**. Do this in memory of me.*

The new translation stresses that we all **share** in the body of Christ. The term **everlasting** has been changed to **eternal**. The word **shed** has been replaced by the phrase **poured out**. The word **all** is replaced by the word **many**.

The second part of the Mystery of Faith is when the priest asks us to proclaim it. In the new translation we will have three acclamations instead of four. Each is only slightly different than the ones we use now. One example is:

We proclaim your death, O Lord, and profess your resurrection until you come again.

There are two primary reasons for the new language. The first is to make the words that we say more faithful to the Latin. The second is to make it even clearer that we are lifting up a prayer. Each of our new memorial acclamations is addressed directly to Jesus the Lord.

At Sunday Mass we sing these acclamations. Since the words have changed, we will also see new music to go with those new words.



Changes in the People's Parts : the Mystery of Faith

<p><i>Institution Narrative</i> (Priest's part...)</p>	<p>Before he was given up to death, a death he freely accepted, he took bread and gave you thanks. He broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said: Take this, all of you, and eat it: this is my body which will be given up for you. When supper was ended, he took the cup. Again he gave you thanks and praise, gave the cup to his disciples, and said: Take this, all of you, and drink from it: this is the cup of my blood, the blood of the new and everlasting covenant. It will be shed for you and for all so that sins may be forgiven. Do this in memory of me.</p>	<p>At the time he was betrayed and entered willingly into his Passion, he took bread and, giving thanks, broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take this, all of you, and eat of it: for this is my Body which will be given up for you. In a similar way, when supper was ended, he took the chalice and, once more giving thanks, he gave it to his disciples, saying: Take this, all of you, and drink from it: for this is the chalice of my Blood, the Blood of the new and eternal covenant, which will be poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this in memory of me.</p>
--	--	--

<p>Mystery of Faith (formerly the Memorial Acclamation)</p>	<p>Priest: Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:</p> <p>People: A – Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.</p> <p>or B – Dying you destroyed our death, rising you restored our life. Lord Jesus, come in glory.</p> <p>or C – When we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim your death, Lord Jesus, until you come in glory.</p> <p>or D – Lord, by your cross and resurrection, you have set us free. You are the Savior of the World.</p>	<p>Priest: The mystery of faith.</p> <p>People: A – We proclaim your death, O Lord, and profess your Resurrection until you come again.</p> <p>or B – When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we proclaim your death, O Lord, until you come again.</p> <p>or C – Save us, Savior of the world, for by your Cross and Resurrection, you have set us free.</p>
---	--	---

More information concerning the 3rd Edition of the Roman Missal including extended commentary on the new translation visit the website of the American Bishops at <http://old.usccb.org/romanmissal/index.shtml>