

A Few Definitions to Help You

From The Nicene Creed:

“**I believe**”: instead of ‘We believe,’ will now be used to express that not only do we stand together with one voice in professing our beliefs, but that we declare *individually* our profession of faith

From The Nicene Creed:

Our Declaration of Faith

Consubstantial: declared at the Council of Nicea (325), Christ was ‘the same substance of the Father.’ Jesus *is* God, not simply *like* God. The Trinity is comprised of Father, Son and Holy Spirit; three equal Persons in one omnipotent God.

From the Holy, Holy, Holy:

“**Holy, holy, holy Lord God of hosts**”: This may be a bit confusing for children since they oftentimes think of a host as only the Eucharist. In this new text, the kind of host being spoken of means, ‘a great multitude.’ Picture hundreds of angels bowing down in adoration in front of God in heaven: multitudes!

From Behold the Lamb of God:

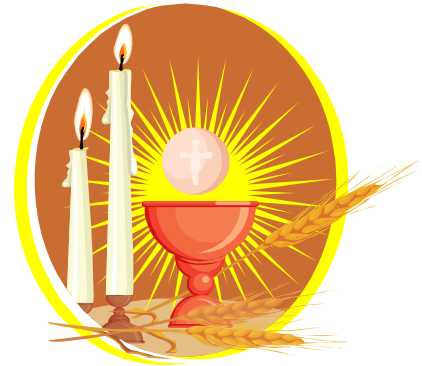
As in the Scripture story on the preceding page, the sentence, “**Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof**”: refers to us as temples of the Holy Spirit. Our hearts are as a ‘house’ which must be in order for Christ to enter it at Holy Communion.

1. [The Sacraments, Source of Our Life in Christ](#)
The Didache Series, 2009



The Revised Mass Texts For Busy Parents and Their Kids

By Beth Belcher



The Lord be with you. And with your spirit.

Now that you have found out that there are going to be changes in the Mass, you may be asking yourself some of the following questions: Can the Mass really be changing after 50 years? I thought all of the changes came after the Second Vatican Council? Why a change? Why now? How will I be able to help my kids to know what is going on? Maybe it won't feel the same ... maybe I won't feel the same about the Mass. It is not unusual to have some concern or anxiety over change, especially when that change is about something you have known and depended upon for, possibly, your entire life. But rest assured that although words and responses are changing, the mystery of the Mass is staying the same. Look inside this pamphlet to help your kids understand the changes, the reasons and how to continue to grow in the love of God as we embrace the new expression of the same familiar sacrament.



Liturgical Prayer is the Prayer of the Church

It is remarkable and exciting that the Church - the People of God - is a growing and living Body which continually seeks to increase our relationship to Christ Himself.

When we unite our prayers, postures and actions in the liturgy, we show our desire for union with Jesus and each other.

Some of the prayers and responses have changed to bring greater meaning and reverence to our Mass experience.

Our actions are also prayers. When we stand, we show joy and adoration of God. By kneeling, we show repentance and adoration. When we sit, we act as a listening disciple.⁽¹⁾ Our postures show in our bodies what the prayers express in our souls.



Our actions complete the prayerful, sacramental experience when we process in, receive Communion and offer each other the Sign of Peace.

A Thinking Difference

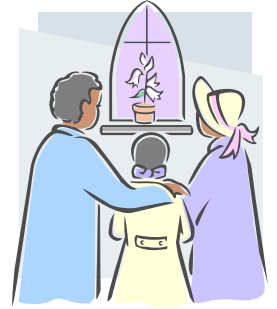
Whenever there is a change in our lives, we need to take time to reflect on it. When we put into practice the changes in the Mass, we should begin to think more carefully and deeply about the prayers we say and how our lives flow from the Eucharist. We may become more able to make Sunday Mass the central moment of our lives, and Jesus a greater model for right living.



Have you ever heard *your* words coming out of *your child's* mouth? Your child will learn to accept these changes in the same vein as you help to present them. Help your kids to love the Mass with a renewed sense of joy and participation as you familiarize them with the changes of text!

Building the Church in the World

When praying together as a family say a special prayer for the Family of God, the Body of Christ, then look ahead to the Saturday night or Sunday Mass that your family will attend together.



Integrate the Church seasons on the family calendar in order to make faith commitments a priority. Check the parish website, bulletin or religious calendar for information about liturgical seasons and feast days.

Each Church season invites growth through participation in ministries, devotions and



service. How can we use the gifts and talents we possess in the service of the Church? How will the family be shaped in each new season? Which Works of Mercy will the family participate in during the season of Lent? How can the family experience

waiting during Advent? And how will we grow during Ordinary time? We are able to make great strides in our faithfulness as we join others in our community in prayer, worship and service.

As members of the Communion of Saints, we elevate the entire Body of Christ by our reverent and joyful presence in Mass. We can encourage and model respect in word, action and posture.





Penitential Acts: Confiteor

I confess to almighty God,
And to you my brothers and
sisters,

That I have greatly sinned,

In my thoughts and in my words,
In what I have done, and in what I have failed
to do,

Through my fault, through my fault, through
my most grievous fault;

Therefore I ask blessed Mary, ever-Virgin,

All the Angels and Saints,

And you, my brothers and sisters,

To pray for me to the Lord, our God.

Why do we confess that we have ‘greatly sinned’?
Or say, ‘through my most grievous fault’? Because
our personal choice to sin diminishes the entire
Body of Christ.

Gloria: A Scriptural Song of Praise

Glory to God in the highest,
And on earth peace to people of good will.

We praise you, we bless you,

We adore you, we glorify you,

We give you thanks for your great glory,

Lord God, heavenly King,

O God, almighty Father.

Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,

Lord God, Lamb of God,

Son of the Father,

You take away the sins of the world,

Have mercy on us;

You take away the sins of the world,

Receive our prayer;

You are seated at the right hand of the Father,

Have mercy on us.

For you alone are the Holy One,

You alone are the Lord,

You alone are Most High, Jesus Christ,

With the Holy Spirit,

In the glory of God the Father. Amen.



This Gloria is a more exact translation of
the Latin missal which was updated in
2002, and translated into English for us
to begin using in Advent 2011.

Behold the Lamb of God

Priest: Behold the Lamb of God

Behold him who takes away the sins of the
world.

Blessed are those called to the supper of the
Lamb.

All: Lord, I am not worthy that you should
enter under my roof, but only say the word
and my soul shall be healed.



The story of *The Centurion’s Servant* helps us
to understand the new text of this Mass prayer.

“After Jesus had finished all his sayings in the
hearing of the people, he entered Capernaum.
A centurion there had a slave whom he valued
highly, and who was ill and close to death.
When he heard about Jesus, he sent some
Jewish elders to him, asking him to come and
heal his slave. When they came to Jesus, they
appealed to him earnestly, saying, ‘He is
worthy of having you do this for him, for he
loves our people, and it is he who built our
synagogue for us.’ And Jesus went with them,
but when he was not far from the house, the
centurion sent friends to say to him, ‘Lord, do
not trouble yourself, for I am not worthy to
have you come under my roof; therefore I did
not presume to come to you. But only speak
the word, and let my servant be healed. For I
also am a man set under authority, with
soldiers under me; and I say to one, ‘Go,’ and
he goes, and to another, ‘Come,’ and he
comes, and to my slave, ‘Do this,’ and the slave
does it.’ When Jesus heard this he was amazed
at him, and turning to the crowd that followed
him, he said, ‘I tell you, not even in Israel have
I found such faith.’ When those who had been
sent returned to the house, they found the
slave in good health.” (Lk 7:1-10, NRSV)

The other version can be found in Mt 8:5-13.

Nicene Creed: Present usage in blue

We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is seen
and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
one in Being with the Father.

Through him all things were made.
For us men and for our salvation
he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he was born of the Virgin Mary,
and became man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius
Pilate;

he suffered, died, and was buried.

On the third day he rose again
in fulfillment of the Scriptures;

he ascended into heaven and is seated
at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living
and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from
the Father and the Son.

With the Father and the Son
he is worshiped and glorified.

He has spoken through the Prophets. We
believe in one holy catholic
and apostolic Church.

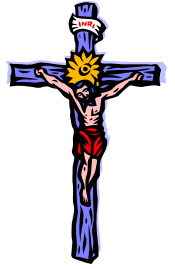
We acknowledge one baptism
for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.



Nicene Creed: Revisions in red

I believe in one God,
the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.
I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the Only Begotten Son of God,
born of the Father before all ages.
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
consubstantial with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us men and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
and by the Holy Spirit
was incarnate of the Virgin Mary,
and became man.



For our sake

he was crucified under Pontius
Pilate,

he suffered death and was buried,
and rose again on the third day
in accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven and is seated
at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead
and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord,
the giver of life, who proceeds
from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is adored
and glorified,

who has spoken to through the prophets.
I believe in one, holy, catholic,
and apostolic Church.

I confess one baptism for the forgiveness of
sins and I look forward to the resurrection of
the dead and the life of the world to come.
Amen.

Though still quite familiar, this translation of the Nicene Creed probably has the most changed wording of all of the texts. It offers a richer more complete expression of the original Latin missal, but also gives us a truer sense of what it is we actually are professing; what we believe! It may take some time to memorize the new wording of this prayer, but it will certainly be worth it!

Building the Domestic Church: The Family

*Making time for each other is a challenge in these days as our children become more involved in activities in or out of school. But gathering and praying together as a family helps us to become united through Jesus.



*Color code the family calendar based on each person's activities and needs. Make sure to refer to Church feast days, especially Holy Days of Obligation or your child's altar server schedule!

*What commitments does your family have during each season of the year? Do your kids participate in soccer? Band? Dance? Football? Or other activities? How can we make family life a priority during these seasons? Be sure to incorporate the acknowledgement of God's participation in family life during each of these seasons, asking God's blessing on your child, their peers and their coaches or advisors.

*Help your family to understand that **THEY ARE THE CHURCH**, and by concentrating on praying in Mass and socializing after Mass that they are building the community, **THE PEOPLE OF GOD**.

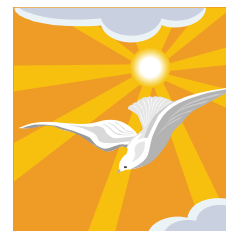
Practice makes perfect! As every parent knows, building up the family takes time, practice and effort. Nothing is easy, but all of it is worthwhile. During family prayer practice a few of the New versions of Mass prayers together so that everyone will be comfortable with the changes.



As I Was Saying ...

It is important to maintain a positive perspective when teaching your child anything new. Riding bikes, learning new concepts in Math or mastering new skills comes far more easily with a positive outlook. You are so important in the life of your child that if you tell them that you believe in them and that they can master a new skill they will believe that they can, too!

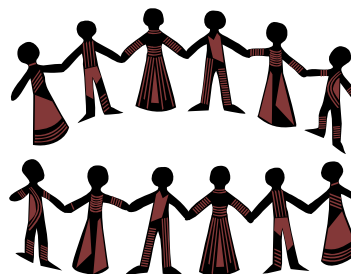
Forming your child in faith is the same. Even if you sometimes feel inadequate, your gift of faith and desire to pass that faith on to your child will be supported and sustained by the Holy Spirit. Say a prayer to the Holy Spirit before discussing important subjects with your child, and you can't go far wrong.



The new translations of prayers and responses that we will begin to say on the First Sunday of Advent, 2011, will help us to connect more completely with God through God's Son Jesus Christ. The Sacrament, itself, has not changed, and the Mystery of the Sacrament has not changed. The only differences are some of the words used to express the same ideas.

As we mature in faith, and help our children to become the people God intends, we grow more deeply in our personal relationship with Christ and His Church. Our expressions also become more mature and refined to allow us to more completely understand how Christ works in our lives. The words we say in the Mass bring us to greater reflection and immersion into the Mystery. Happily, we can bring our families with us! We can help them

to know Christ more completely and build greater bonds with our neighbors. The new prayers and responses will help us to do just that!



So What Has Changed?



“The Lord be with you.”

We honor and recognize the Holy Spirit who dwells in each of us through baptism. The Spirit is present in a special way in those who are ordained, and so we say,

“And with your spirit.”

May the Lord ...

May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church.



It is right ...

Priest: The Lord be with you.

People: And with your spirit.

Priest: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Priest: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right and just.

It is not only ‘right’ to give God thanks and praise, but in all justice, we owe God thanks for everything that comes our way. We even give thanks for the good which can come out of ‘bad’ things that happen in our lives.

Holy, holy, holy ...

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts.

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes

In the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.



We Go To Mass Because ...

As all parents know we go to Mass for many good reasons, including; worshipping God, giving God thanks for everything, receiving Christ in the Eucharist, sharing special time with friends and family. Sometimes our kids have trouble understanding the importance of the time we give to God on Sundays. This can be confusing to them as Mass words change, but the Mystery stays the same.



Help your kids to see how great going to Mass can be, even with the word changes:

- ◆ Remind your kids that JESUS IS THERE! Live and in person!
- ◆ We get to see good Catholic friends at Mass where we share our lives with each other and learn about Jesus, too!
- ◆ At Mass we get to join our family and friends on the journey to Jesus by taking an active part in the liturgy through our words, songs, and actions!
- ◆ We get to sing about God and Jesus, His Son, and see windows and/or pictures depicting God’s love for us!
- ◆ We hear stories of salvation history and we are a part of that history, too!
- ◆ In some parishes, the whole congregation gets to see a baby baptized or couples renewing their wedding vows in front of EVERYONE!
- ◆ Help your child to enjoy the old and the new of the Mass by making their own poster or a word cloud (like the one above) by going to:

<http://tinyurl.com/Make-a-Word-Cloud>