

On the Revised Translation of the Mass
Bulletin Insert 4
“The Mass Requires an Elevated Tone”

Over the course of the last several weeks we have expounded on the meaning of the Mass. The effort has not been to presume that we do not know what it is, but rather to revisit some familiar things so that our faith may deepen and be nurtured.

If the Mass is a participation in what Saint John sees in heaven – worship of the Lamb of God that has been slain on the Cross for our sins, but also gave us His Body & Blood as food for a journey through this life to our own Resurrection – then shouldn’t our time with the Lord at Sunday Mass get the very best we have to offer? Should we not sing the best possible hymns of praise that we can, instead of something that sounds like a cultural fad found on the radio? Shouldn’t we dress with the absolute best we have?

This coming Advent, we will begin using a new translation of prayers and responses at Mass. While this may be a difficult adjustment at first, the revisions are meant to reflect a more elevated tone. Just as we learn to use a more developed vocabulary as we mature, so also, after 40 years of praying the Mass in English, we will begin using a more polished set of prayers and responses.