

# A Guide to the New Translation of the Mass

## Running a Parish Information Session

This is an exciting time as we prepare to welcome the *Third Edition of the Roman Missal*. Over the coming months, parishioners across the country and around the world will begin learning the new translation of the Mass in preparation for its implementation in Advent 2011.

As Catholics are learning the new words and responses to the Mass, they will undoubtedly have questions. “Why is there a need for a new translation? What do these new words mean?” etc. To assist you in your pastoral ministry, we have prepared a ready-made Information Session to help you educate your parishioners on the changes and their significance.

This Information Session, along with the accompanying materials, will help to answer your parishioners’ questions and foster a sense of excitement for the coming changes. From the ‘step-by-step’ plan, to your marketing materials, and more, the following outline will help your parish transition to the new translation with ease.

### Running the Information Session

We have timed the following Information Session to last one hour. In light of this brevity, we believe the parish should consider running multiple sessions to accommodate the busy schedules of parishioners. Offering multiple sessions will also convey the uniqueness of this moment in Catholic history. Most of your parishioners could likely be introduced to the changes in three or four Information Sessions. If you do not have a projector and need to rely on a television/DVD player option, you may need to run more sessions.

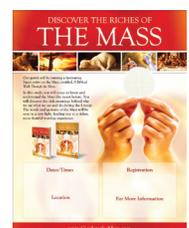
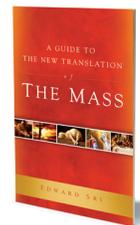
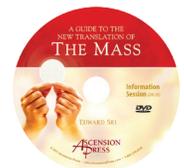
### Materials Needed for Your Information Session

The materials you and your parishioners will need are:

- A room dedicated to holding the information session that includes a television set and a DVD player. For larger crowds, you should plan on a computer, an LCD projector, and a large screen.
- *A Guide to the New Translation of the Mass* Information Session DVD

This video is included on the third disc of *A Biblical Walk Through the Mass* DVD series. It is also available for free by calling 1-800-376-0520. You just pay a modest shipping charge.

- One copy of *A Guide to the New Translation of the Mass* Booklet for each attendee.
- If your parish is running *A Biblical Walk Through the Mass* study then be sure to have flyers about the study, with sign-up forms, available for each participant.
- Customizable, downloadable forms, flyers, and posters are available at [www.GuidetotheMass.com](http://www.GuidetotheMass.com).
- Have pens or pencils available for people to take notes and to fill-out the study registration form.



## I. Welcome & Opening Prayer (10 minutes)

(Here are some suggested words for you to use at the Information Session. Feel free to change these words to suit the needs of your parish.)

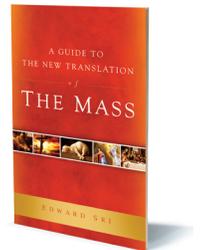
Welcome everyone, and thank you for joining us. Before we begin, let's take a moment to offer our time in prayer.

*O Lord Jesus Christ, you have said "He who eats My Flesh and drinks My Blood, abides in Me and I in him." At your command we continually celebrate the Eucharistic feast as a memorial of your saving Passion. Grant that we who receive you in the Most Blessed Sacrament may inherit the kingdom prepared for those who love you. Amen.*

As many of you know, a new translation of the Mass is scheduled to be implemented this coming Advent. Over the past several years, the bishops of the United States and other English-speaking countries have worked on this new translation and have received Vatican approval for it. While there will be changes in the words we use in the Liturgy, the Mass itself remains the same. At this session, you will be introduced to these new words and learn some of the reasons why a new translation of the Mass is being implemented.

## II. Distribute a copy of *A Guide to the New Translation of the Mass* booklet to each participant.

In a few moments, we will play a short video that explains some of the changes that are taking place in the Mass. But before we get to that, I want to make sure each of you has received a copy of this booklet, *A Guide to the New Translation of this Mass*. (Hold up a copy of the booklet.)



This is for you to take home and read. It answers some of the basic questions about why the Mass is changing and what those changes will be. At the back of the booklet is a handy, tear-out pew card that lists the revised people's parts of the Liturgy. I encourage you to bring this with you to Mass starting November 27<sup>th</sup>, so that you will be able to follow-along with the changes.

After we play the video, there will be some time for questions.

[There will also be an opportunity to sign up for a fascinating video study on the Mass that our parish will be running.]

## III. Play *A Guide to the New Translation of the Mass* DVD (23 minutes)

## IV. Question and Answer Session (15 to 30 minutes)

Based on our experience, Catholics generally have a lot of questions about various aspects of the Catholic faith. Although the actual changes may be new to your pastor/priest, his theological training should more than suffice in giving answers to questions about the Mass, the Eucharist, the changes, and the Catholic faith in general. Even still, we recommend keeping the session brief as the hand-out booklet, and more expansive adult faith formation study (*A Biblical Walk Through the Mass*) will answer many of their questions.

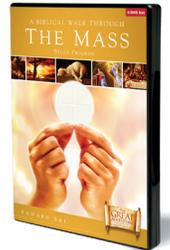
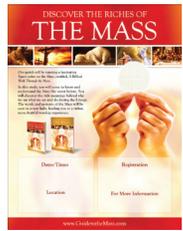
## V. *A Biblical Walk Through the Mass* Study Sign-Up, Optional (15 minutes)

(Hand out the study flyers with a sign-up form. A customizable download is available at [GuidetotheMass.com](http://GuidetotheMass.com).)

As we are learning the words and responses of the new translation, many of you may be asking yourselves: “Why do we say what we say and do what we do in the Mass? What does it all mean?” If you want to experience the Mass at a deeper level, then I encourage you to join us for this study, *A Biblical Walk Through the Mass*. (Hold up *A Biblical Walk Through the Mass* DVD set and Workbook.)

In this fascinating study, we will explore the scriptural roots of the Mass and discover the beauty and riches it has to offer. When you see the profound significance of what we are doing in the Liturgy, you will be able to experience the Mass like never before, leading you to a deeper, more fruitful worship experience.

We will be offering this study starting (date) on (days) at (times). If you are interested, please be sure to sign up using the form at the bottom of the flyer.



## VI. Closing, Final Prayer and Dismissal

Thank you all for joining us. Please be sure to read through *A Guide to the New Translation of the Mass*, [and consider joining us for *A Biblical Walk Through the Mass* study.]

Let us close in prayer. (Here say a *Glory Be* or another suitable prayer.)