

TEN QUESTIONS OF THE ROMAN MISSAL, THIRD EDITION

Part II of III

4. **What is the timeline for the approval and implementation of the Missal?**

After the Latin *Missale Romanum* was published in 2002, ICEL began its work of preparing a draft English translation of the text. ICEL presented the first section—the Order of Mass, which contains the fixed prayers of the Mass, including the people’s parts—to the English-speaking conferences of bishops in 2004. The USCCB approved the final version in 2006, and the Holy See confirmed this section in June 2008. The remaining sections were approved between 2007 and 2009. The USCCB completed its approval of the *Missal* in November 2009. The Holy See granted the final approval of the text in the spring of 2010. Cardinal Francis George, OMI, president of the USCCB, announced that parishes may begin using the revised translation on November 27, 2011.

5. **Can we start using the texts approved by the bishops immediately?**

The translation of the *Missale Romanum* could not be used in the celebration of the Mass until the complete text was confirmed by the Holy See. Now that the translation has received the *recognitio*, the USCCB has established the first day on which the new translation may be used. Use of the revised text requires preparation and catechesis for both priests and the faithful. When the time comes to use the texts in the celebration of the Mass, priests will be properly trained, the faithful will have an understanding and appreciation of what is being prayed, and musical settings for the liturgical texts will be readily available.

6. **What will the process of implementation look like?**

Now that the *recognitio* has been granted, final preparation and publication of the *Missal* will commence. Catechesis on the new translation and on the Liturgy itself will become even more important. Training for priests, music ministers, and other liturgical leaders (liturgy committees and liturgical commissions), as well as formation for all Catholics, will help to ensure the successful implementation of the new text.