

## New Words for Worship Part 6

This final handout outlines some more of the changes to the texts of the Mass in the 3<sup>rd</sup> edition of the English translation of Roman Missal and looks at musical settings of the new texts.

Instead of **'Happy are those who are called to his supper'**, the **Invitation to Communion** concludes with **'Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb'**.

There is a marked change in the text of the response by priest and assembly to the Invitation to Communion: **'Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed'**. These are the words spoken by the Roman centurion who comes to Christ asking him to heal his servant (Matthew chapter 8).

In the **Concluding Rites**, the **Blessing** remains the same but there are changes in the **Dismissal**.

Instead of the present three choices:

**'Go in the peace of Christ'**

**'The Mass is ended, go in peace'**

**'Go in peace to love and serve the Lord'**

there will be four, all different from the current versions:

**'Go forth, the Mass is ended'**

**'Go and announce the Gospel of the Lord'**

**'Go in peace, glorifying the Lord by your life'**

**'Go in peace'**

As mentioned in previous handouts, the revision of the English translation of the Missal meant that new musical settings were needed for a number of the parts of the Mass sung by the people. Most of the texts sung by the priest celebrant will also change.

In 2009 the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference invited composers to submit musical settings of the new Mass translation for use in Australia. Approximately 50 settings were received from 43 composers, including both well-known names and newcomers. The works covered a range of musical styles: simple chant-like settings; compositions utilising cantors, choirs and instruments in traditional harmonic styles; and those which reflect a more 'contemporary' musical genre. A number of submissions were re-workings of existing Mass settings to accommodate the new text.

Submissions were sent to a group of eminent Australian liturgical musicians who made recommendations. The National Liturgical Council Music Board considered the reviewers' assessments and made a final selection.

So that a common core of musical repertoire can be developed across Australian parishes, something which does not exist currently, only six settings were recommended. Knowing and using common musical settings will foster unity and facilitate singing at large regional and national celebrations.

Details of the selections are on the National Liturgical Music Board page in the Bishops' Commission on Liturgy section of the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference website at <http://www.catholic.org.au/>.

The introduction of the new Missal does not mean that the entire repertoire of existing liturgical music will become redundant. It is only the musical settings of the Mass parts, not the hymns sung in liturgy, that will change and the change-over process will be done in stages and with pastoral sensitivity.