

PARISH LITURGICAL LIBRARY

With the changes being made in priest assignments, this is a good time to look through your parish liturgical library and see what is in need of updating. Here is a list of important resources to have on hand:

The Eucharist

The Missal (Sacramentary) – updated in 2002, it is currently undergoing re-translation. As mentioned before, this is not a good time to purchase a new copy—since the re-translation will hopefully be available in a few years. The English version in current use is dated 1985.

The Lectionary – 4 volumes; updated in 1998 and 2000. Also currently being reviewed and revised—a process that is expected to take quite some time.

Holy Communion and Worship of the Eucharist outside Mass – contains the texts for distribution of Eucharist outside of Mass as well as for Eucharistic Adoration and Exposition; 1973.

Sunday Celebrations in the Absence of a Priest – the 2nd edition of this ritual text has been released this year; however, we are still reviewing matters – so don't rush out and get one yet!

Other Sacraments

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults – 1988 U.S. edition with National Statutes.

The Rite of Baptism for Children – 1973 edition, with changes made after *Code of Canon Law* promulgated in 1983.

The Rite of Confirmation – A pastor may rarely be the one to celebrate the sacrament, and it would be good for the catechist preparing individuals for confirmation to have access to the ritual text. The English translation of the Rite was approved in 1975. A new bilingual edition is available from the USCCB.

The Rite of Penance – 1974-5; note changes made by Pope John Paul II by his apostolic letter, a *motu proprio* called *Misericordia Dei* (2002).

Pastoral Care of the Sick – U.S. edition of all the texts needed for the sacramental care of the sick and the dying, including Anointing of the Sick and *Viaticum*, and rites used after death. There are two 1983 editions – one published before and the other after the promulgation of the new *Code of Canon Law*. It is the latter edition that you will want to have on hand. (A quick check will reveal which edition you have: if #14 reads “may be conferred” it is the older edition; if it reads “is to be conferred” then you have the right one.)

The Rite of Marriage – currently, the first (1969) edition is still in use in the U.S. The second edition was promulgated in Latin in 1991. Adaptations were completed in 1998. We are still waiting for the new English translation.

Other Rites

The Order of Christian Funerals – 1989 edition; Appendix for Cremation (1999).

The Book of Blessings – 1989 edition.

Optional Ritual Texts

While not strictly necessary for a parish to have, the following really ought to be part of a parish's liturgical library:

The Book of the Gospels – revised in 2000.

The Lectionary for Masses with Children – for use in Masses where most participants are children, or for Children's Liturgy of the Word, these texts are also being revised and a parish would do well postponing any purchase at this time.

The Liturgy of the Hours – 1986 edition.

Collection of Masses of the Blessed Virgin Mary – 1990.

Order for the Solemn Exposition of the Holy Eucharist – The Liturgical Press took the norms from *Holy Communion and Worship of the Eucharist outside Mass* and prepared a number of Eucharistic services; helpful if you don't want to do all the preparatory work.

Resources

The Code of Canon Law – 1983; later additions by Pope John Paul II are included in the updated translation and commentary from the Canon Law Society of America – 2000.

The Ceremonial of Bishops – 1984 edition.

The major liturgical documents can be found in three texts from Liturgy Training Publications: *The Liturgy Documents, volume 1* (4th edition; an erratum for the *Norms for the Celebration and Reception of Holy Communion Under Both Kinds in the Dioceses of the United States of America* is needed); *The Liturgy Documents, volume 2*; and *Eucharistic Documents for the New Millennium: Ecclesia de Eucharistia & Redemptionis sacramentum*.

I would also add *Sacramentum caritatis* by Pope Benedict XVI as an excellent resource.