



# NewsLetter

C O M M I T T E E O N D I V I N E W O R S H I P

## Members

Most Rev. Leonard P. Blair, *Chairman*  
*Archbishop of Hartford*  
Most Rev. Steven J. Lopes, *Chair-Elect*  
*Bishop of the Chair of Saint Peter*  
Most Rev. Paul S. Coakley  
*Archbishop of Oklahoma City*  
Most Rev. Samuel J. Aquila  
*Archbishop of Denver*  
Most Rev. Joseph M. Siegel  
*Bishop of Evansville*  
Most Rev. Christopher J. Coyne  
*Bishop of Burlington*  
Most Rev. John T. Folda  
*Bishop of Fargo*  
Most Rev. Daniel E. Garcia  
*Bishop of Monterey*  
Most Rev. Daniel H. Mueggenborg  
*Bishop of Reno*  
Most Rev. Timothy C. Senior  
*Auxiliary Bishop of Philadelphia*

## Consultants

Right Rev. Gregory J. Polan, OSB  
*Abbot Primate of the*  
*Benedictine Confederation*  
Right Rev. Jeremy Driscoll, OSB  
*Abbot of Mount Angel Abbey*  
Rev. James W. Bessert  
Rev. Ryan T. Ruiz  
Sr. Marilú Covani, SP  
Mr. Christopher J. Carstens  
Dr. Jennifer Donelson-Nowicka  
Mrs. Rita A. Thiron

## Secretariat

Rev. Andrew Menke  
*Executive Director*  
Rev. Dustin P. Dought  
*Associate Director*  
Mrs. Silvina Cerezo  
*Multicultural Specialist*  
Mr. Matthew M. Godbey  
*Administrative Assistant*  
Mr. David K. Ringwald  
*Staff Assistant*

**USCCB Secretariat of  
Divine Worship**  
**3211 Fourth Street, NE**  
**Washington, DC 20017**  
**Tel: (202) 541-3060**  
**Fax: (202) 541-3088**  
[www.USCCB.org](http://www.USCCB.org)

© 2022 USCCB

**Volume LVIII**

**January 2022**

## **CDWDS Confirms Liturgical Texts for the Memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church**

By a decree dated January 13, 2022 (Prot. n. 459/21), the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments informed the USCCB that it had confirmed the English translations of liturgical texts for the Memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church, celebrated yearly on the Monday after Pentecost.

At the direction of Pope Francis, the celebration was inscribed in the General Roman Calendar by the Congregation on February 11, 2018, and English translations of its liturgical texts were approved by the USCCB on June 17, 2021.

The prescribed Mass formulary of Our Lady, Mother of the Church is already found among the Votive Masses in the *Roman Missal*, and the Secretariat of Divine Worship has provided the Lectionary readings on the USCCB website since shortly after the celebration's inscription. New texts that required translation were those of the *Liturgy of the Hours* and the *Roman Martyrology*. An English edition of the *Martyrology* is currently in preparation, and when it eventually appears the following entry for this day will be included among the texts for movable celebrations:

### 10A. *Monday after Pentecost Sunday*

Memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church, whom Christ has entrusted to his disciples, so that, persevering in prayer for the Holy Spirit, they may work together in proclaiming the Gospel.

In the *Liturgy of the Hours*, the Second Reading for the Office of Readings is an excerpt from Pope St. Paul VI's 1964 address to the Second Vatican Council, formally proclaiming Mary as the Mother of the Church. There are also new Gospel canticle antiphons for Morning and Evening Prayer.

The hymns for the Office of Readings and Morning Prayer, composed by Dom Anselmo Lentini, O.S.B., are the same as the two assigned for the observance of the Blessed Virgin Mary on Saturday, except that the Holy See changed the closing verse of each hymn for use in this celebration. In both the hymn for the Office of Readings (*O virgo mater, filia*) and the hymn for Morning Prayer (*Quæ caritatis fulgidum*) the fifth verse is modified to:

Praise to the Father and the Son  
and to the Holy Paraclete,  
for by their gift you are proclaimed  
the blessed Mother of the Church. Amen.

Two hymns are provided for Evening Prayer. One is the well-known *Ave, maris stella*, which is already the Evening Prayer hymn in the Common of the Blessed Virgin Mary. The other hymn is a new addition, titled *Virgo, mater Ecclesiae*, and like many hymns of the *Liturgy of the Hours*, this new text is in Long Meter. The text is based on a 15th century trope (a literary expansion) on the *Salve Regina* and has been translated as follows:

1. O Virgin, Mother of the Church,  
O *glorious*, everlasting gate,  
come, be our refuge, plead for us  
before the Father and the Son.
2. O *glorious* Mother, Ark of God,  
created by your heavenly Son,  
remember us and pray for all  
who honor you with praise this day.
3. Star of the sea, resplendent light,  
and royal offspring, Mother blest,  
beseech the Father and the Son  
to send the Holy Paraclete.
4. O clement Virgin, gracious Queen,  
most loving Virgin, Cause of joy,  
sweet Virgin Mary, hear the prayers  
of all who cry to you with love.
5. Pour forth these prayers to Christ your Son,  
who wounded, scourged, and crowned with thorns,  
was given bitter gall to drink  
and for our sake was crucified.
6. O Mother of the King of kings,  
O light and gate to heaven on high,  
with gracious love bend down to those  
who mourn and weep with sighs and tears.
7. Praise to the Father and the Son  
and to the Holy Paraclete,  
for by their gift you are proclaimed  
the blessed Mother of the Church. Amen.

All the confirmed liturgical texts are available at [USCCB.org/motherofthechurch](https://USCCB.org/motherofthechurch), and an English translation of the Holy See's decree of confirmation is reprinted below for the benefit of our readers:

CONGREGATION FOR DIVINE WORSHIP AND THE DISCIPLINE OF THE SACRAMENTS

Prot. n. 459/21

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

At the request of His Excellency the Most Reverend José Horacio Gomez, Archbishop of Los Angeles in California, President of the Conference of Bishops of the United States of America, in a letter dated September 8, 2021, and by virtue of the faculty granted to this Congregation by the Supreme Pontiff FRANCIS, we gladly confirm the text of the English translation of additions to the liturgical books of the Roman Rite for the Memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church, approved on June 17, 2021 by the same Conference according to the norm of law, as found in the attached copy.

In printed editions, mention must be made of the confirmation granted by the Apostolic See.

All things to the contrary notwithstanding.

From the offices of the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments, January 13, 2022, the Memorial of Saint Hilary, Bishop and Doctor of the Church.

✠ Arthur Roche  
Prefect

✠ Vittorio Francesco Viola, OFM  
Archbishop Secretary

## **Update on the *Liturgy of the Hours, Second Edition***

“Let everything that breathes praise the LORD!” (Ps 150:6). Sacred Scripture encourages and commands us to praise the Lord God and to pray without ceasing. Our response to these words of Scripture finds its expression not only in the Mass and celebration of the sacraments, but also in the Divine Office, better known as the *Liturgy of the Hours*. A new English translation of the second typical edition of the book has been in preparation since the bishops of the United States approved a scope of work for the project in November 2012. An overview of the complexity of the task was detailed in the March 2015 *Newsletter*.

The project has taken longer than anticipated, but now the *Liturgy of the Hours, Second Edition* is moving closer to completion. The Secretariat of Divine Worship wishes to provide an update on the progress of revisions, translations, and approvals of the various categories of material that comprise the book.

### **Antiphons, Intercessions, and Other Ecclesiastical Texts**

Since 2014, the International Commission on English in the Liturgy (ICEL) has completed translations of material from various sections of the Divine Office, each in fascicle form: Proper of Time, the Four-Week Psalter, Proper of Saints, Commons, and Office for the Dead. These fascicles included antiphons for the *Benedictus* and *Magnificat*, Intercessions, and concluding prayers. The USCCB consolidated these texts into collections that were approved by the bishops in June 2018 and June 2021. In May 2021 ICEL transmitted to its member Conferences of Bishops a new translation of the Ordinary, the section of the breviary that outlines each of the hours and provides commonly used texts. This marked the completion of the retranslation work the USCCB requested of ICEL in its scope of work for the project. However, ICEL is now finalizing one last fascicle, containing corrections of errors and other suggestions for modification that were not part of the scope of work. For example, the Second Readings from the Office of Readings are not being retranslated, but there are various errors that need to be corrected in the body of those texts. That fascicle is expected later this year.

The USCCB is responsible for preparing proper texts for the various saints and blessed inscribed in the U.S. calendar. While there are concluding orations for all these celebrations, some of them – including Sts. Damien de Veuster, Junípero Serra, and Kateri Tekakwitha – currently lack Second Readings for the Office of Readings. The Secretariat has been consulting with the Holy See and with relevant religious communities to find texts to propose which fill these lacunae. The USCCB is also responsible for any adaptations that the bishops might wish to make to the ritual book. The Committee on Divine Worship is expected to begin its review of proper texts and possible adaptations this year, with a possible vote from the body of bishops in 2023.

### **Hymns**

Initially, ICEL transmitted to the Conferences translations of hymns section by section, as a part of the fascicles mentioned above, alongside Intercessions and other texts. But later ICEL opted to make further editorial adjustments to the hymns and then compiled all 294 of them into a single fascicle in June 2019. The body of bishops approved that text at the November 2019 plenary meeting, and it was confirmed by the Holy See in May 2020. More information on that approval was provided in the May-June 2020 *Newsletter*. The USCCB and ICEL are currently working on a hymnal that will contain the entire corpus of hymns of the Divine Office, set to both metrical and plainsong melodies. The publication of the book is expected toward the end of 2022 or sometime in 2023 by USCCB Communications.

### **Sacred Scripture**

Texts from the Bible in the liturgical books are the responsibility of each Conference of Bishops. In the United States, an updated version of the *Revised Grail Psalms* was approved by the USCCB in November 2014, followed by a translation of Old and New Testament canticles in June 2015. Both were confirmed by the Holy See in May 2018, and subsequently joined together as *The Abbey Psalms and Canticles*. They were promulgated by USCCB Communications in February 2020 for optional liturgical use upon publication, and this translation will be used for all the psalms and canticles throughout the breviary.

All longer and shorter Scriptural readings in the Divine Office will be taken from the planned liturgical Bible for use in this country, based on a definitive update of the *New American Bible Revised Edition*. That project is under the direction of the USCCB Doctrine Subcommittee on the Translation of Scripture Text. It is not clear how long it will take to finalize the entire Bible, but it is hoped that all the passages included in the *Liturgy of the Hours* can be completed and approved by the end of 2023.

### Conclusion

A table of the various sections of this project and their overall progress is given below. In summary, ICEL has nearly finished its part of the work on the new edition of the *Liturgy of the Hours*. The USCCB should finalize the remaining non-Scriptural elements of the book in the coming year. The last piece to be completed will be the Scripture, and it is hoped that all the necessary votes of the body of bishops will have taken place by the end of 2023. Afterward, the various texts will be assembled and transmitted to the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments for confirmation. The publication process can only begin when that confirmation is received. Taking these factors into consideration, the current estimate is that printed books could be available in 2025. Further updates on the progress of the project will continue to be posted at [USCCB.org/prayer-and-worship/liturgy-of-the-hours/liturgy-of-the-hours-second-edition](https://www.usccb.org/prayer-and-worship/liturgy-of-the-hours/liturgy-of-the-hours-second-edition).

	ICEL Green Book	ICEL (or U.S.) Gray Book	USCCB Vote
1) Advent, Christmas	May 2014	December 2015	June 2018 (Proper of Time)
2) Lent, Triduum, Easter	December 2015	March 2017	
3) Ordinary Time	December 2015	July 2017	
4) Four-Week Psalter	May 2016	December 2017	June 2021 (Additional Intercessions, Psalter Concluding Prayers)
5) Commons, Dead	November 2017	July 2019	
6) Proper of Saints	November 2018	April 2020	
7) Hymns	(included in the above)	June 2019	November 2019
8) Ordinary	April 2020	May 2021	<i>est. June 2023</i> ( <i>Ordinary and Errata</i> )
9) Errata, Rubrics	N/A	<i>estimated 2022</i>	
10) USA Texts, Adaptations	N/A	<i>est. November 2022</i>	<i>est. June 2023</i>
11) USA Scripture	N/A	<i>estimated 2023</i>	<i>est. June/November 2023</i>

### Pope Francis Institutes Lay Men and Women as Lectors and Catechists

On January 23, 2022, the third observance of the Sunday of the Word of God – instituted in 2019 to better celebrate, study, and disseminate the riches of Sacred Scripture – Pope Francis instituted 16 lay men and women in the ministries of Lector and Catechist during the celebration of Mass. In his homily, the Holy Father spoke of the mission of the whole Church: spreading the message of the Gospel to all the peoples of the world. He exhorted those present to “grow passionate about sacred scripture, let us be willing to dig deep within the word that reveals God’s newness and leads us tirelessly to love others. Let us put the word of God at the center of the Church’s life and pastoral activity! [...] Let us listen to that word, pray with it, and put it into practice.”

The Pope made use of a provisional Italian translation of the Rite of Institution prepared for the occasion. As mentioned in the December 2021 *Newsletter*, a new Latin typical edition of the rites for the Institution of Lectors, Acolytes, and Catechists is expected sometime in 2022, at which time the USCCB and other bishops’ conferences can begin the process of translation and approval of the ritual text, along with the necessary reforms of the complementary canonical norms that pertain to these ministries. The *Newsletter* will continue to provide updates on the progress as it develops.