

From the Diocese of Hamilton....

LITURGY CHANGES COMING - 9

In addition to the changes in the words of the assembly, the Revised English edition of the Roman Missal contains many changes in the words spoken by the priest. These changes have been made in order to bring the English text in line with the Latin text and to express more fully the rich meaning of the prayers of the Church. Many of the prayers are biblically inspired and the new translations will make this obvious. One example will illustrate this point.

During the past forty years, we have become familiar with these words, spoken by the priest in the Third Eucharistic Prayer: *From age to age you gather a people to yourself, so that from east to west a perfect offering may be made to the glory of your name.* The new text, a more accurate translation of the Latin reads: *and you never cease to gather a people to yourself, so that from the rising of the sun to its setting a pure sacrifice may be offered to your name.* These words echo the words found in the Book of the Prophet Malachi (1.11). Furthermore, they highlight the eternal offering rather than a geographical or spatial offering of the one pure sacrifice offered to God.

In addition to the changes in the words, there are a very few changes in the postures of the assembly which are being introduced at this time. These changes are specified in the new edition of the General Instruction of the Roman Missal (the document which provides the instructions for celebrating Mass).

The first change takes place during the Presentation of the Gifts. The priest invites all to pray, saying: *Pray brothers and sisters that your sacrifice and mine may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.* All stand and then respond with the words: *May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands...* The assembly will no longer wait to stand until after they have made their response.

The second change is more of a clarification. The Canadian edition of the General Instruction states that the approved gesture for the sign of peace is a handshake or a bow. The instruction makes no mention of any words being exchanged at this moment.

The third change is related to approaching Communion. As each person approaches the minister to receive Communion he or she is asked to make simple bow of the head. This is a sign of reverence in immediate preparation for the act of receiving Communion, which, in Canada, is to be received standing. This gesture is made only once before receiving Communion. It is not repeated again when

receiving Communion from the chalice. Other personal expressions of piety or devotion, such as profound bows or genuflections are not appropriate. A common gesture of reverence is desirable to foster the unity of faith which Communion expresses.

One of the new dismissal texts in the Roman Missal states: *Go in peace, glorifying the Lord by your life.* To these words, we say: *Thanks be to God.* May the new words of the Mass and our attentiveness to the common postures and gestures in the liturgy lead all of us to take up this commission with renewed commitment.

ADVENT HYMN FESTIVAL

Presented by the

**HAMILTON DIOCESAN CHOIR &
THE CHOIRS OF HOLY ROSARY with
THE CHAPLAIN'S BRASS**

Sunday, November 27, 2011, 7:00 p.m.

Holy Rosary Church, Guelph

A free-will offering will be received at the conclusion of the festival.

DOFASCO FESTIVAL OF CHRISTMAS CAROLS

featuring the

**DOFASCO MALE CHORUS &
DOFASCO LADIES CHORAL ENSEMBLE**
Monday, December 5th at 7:30 p.m.

St. Thomas Church, 715 Centre Rd., Waterdown

For tickets (\$12 per person) call 905 689-4857, cash, cheque or credit card.

HAMILTON CHILDREN'S CHOIR

Annual Holiday Concert

Saturday, December 10th, 3:30 p.m. & 8:00 p.m.

Melrose United Church, 86 Homewood Avenue

Tickets: Adults \$25, Seniors \$20, Students \$15 & Children 10 and under \$10. For tickets call 905 527-1618.

COPING WITH THE HOLIDAYS

... when someone you love is gone

Saturday, December 3rd, 2 - 3:30 p.m.

Chancery Office, 700 King Street West

With Christina Walton, Grief Counsellor. Free of charge, call to reserve a seat - 905 528-7988, ext. 2249. When it does not feel like "Peace on Earth". Know that you are not alone. Learn and share strategies for coping at Christmas. Know that your loss is not forgotten.



Salt + Light TV

The Celebration of Eucharist for the 21st Century Saturday, November 26, 9 p.m. & 1 a.m.

The celebration of the Mass in the 21st century has a new translation, but it keeps the same understanding that was handed on to the Apostles at the Last Supper. This fascinating program, prepared by the National Liturgy Office of the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops, presents the foundational ideas behind the Mass. It also gives guidance to those who want to celebrate it with the noble simplicity that lies at the heart of our entire liturgy.

Healing Mass at St. Patrick Parish

440 King Street East

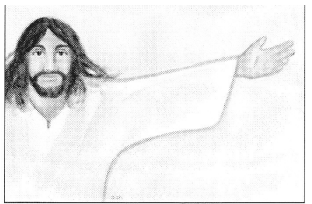
Friday, December 2nd at 7:30 p.m.

Celebrant: Reverend Bill Trusz

PARENTING TIP OF THE MONTH

Our children are healthier and happier when their emotional, physical, intellectual and social needs are looked after. Add to this list one more essential need that requires care - a child's spiritual well-being. A relationship with God is as essential to their welfare as water. Pray together, attend Mass as a family, share readings from the Bible, talk about the awe of God's creation and remind them that God is always present. His love will guide them and be a source of comfort as they grow.

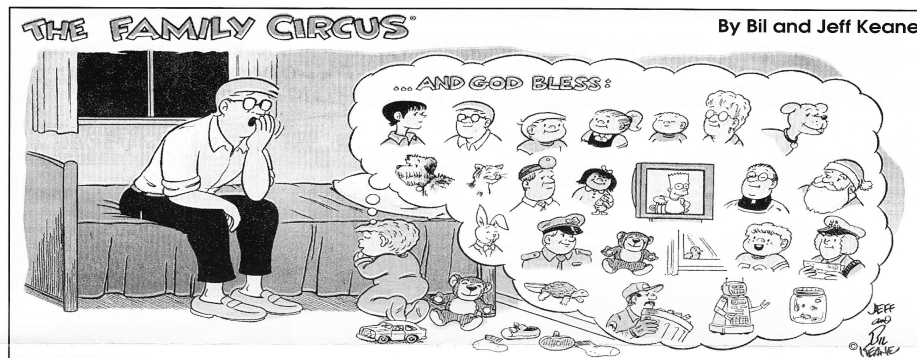
*From: Teresa Hartnett, Family Ministry Office,
Diocese of Hamilton*



Jesus said to his disciples: "Be watchful! Be alert! You do not know when the time will come. What I say to you, I say to all: 'Watch!'"

Mt 13: 33, 37

1st Sunday of Advent



from JoyfulNoiseletter.com Reprinted with permission of Bil Keane ©Bil Keane

Although these reflections usually focus on the Gospels, during the Advent/Christmas season this year, we'll turn to the first reading, which generally comes from the prophet Isaiah. Biblical scholars have long recognized that the Book of the Prophet Isaiah comes out of three different historical periods of the people of Israel. The first part (chapters 1 - 39) was written in the years before the Exile in Babylon. The inhabitants of Jerusalem were well off, confident, and self-reliant. Worship of God was an afterthought. Chapters 40 - 55 were written during the Exile, which lasted from 587 BC to 538 BC. This section of Isaiah is filled with words of comfort and consolation. The final part of Isaiah (chapters 56-66) was composed after the return to Jerusalem and includes some of the most hopeful writing in the Old Testament, with promises of a new heaven and a new earth.

It's little wonder that the church turns to the latter part of Isaiah during the Advent/Christmas season, when we celebrate the birth of the Saviour who is the fulfillment of all our longing.

Much was made earlier this year of the prognostications of radio preacher Harold Camping who suggested that the world would end on May 21. Some people were so caught up in his prediction that they stopped working and spent their time spreading the message of judgment day. Camping's message resonated with those who were looking for certainty in a very uncertain world.

The writer of the third part of Isaiah had to contend with the same thing. The Jewish people had just returned to Jerusalem after fifty years of captivity. Their city was in ruins, and their future was unsure. Isaiah proclaimed that they should focus on the Lord, and at the same time rebuild their city. It is that balance of the heavenly and the worldly that we must especially strive for at this time of year in our own culture.

©2011 Liturgical Publications