

# THE NEW TRANSLATION OF THE ROMAN MISSAL

## The Mystery of Faith

We continue examining the revised Order of Mass by looking further at the Liturgy of the Eucharist. As part of the new Mass translation, after the consecration of Christ's Body and Blood, rather than saying, "Let us proclaim the mystery of faith," the priest now simply announces, "**The mystery of faith**" (*"Mysterium fidei"*). It is intended to be a declarative statement about the holy Eucharist now present.

Blessed John Paul II reflected on these words in his papal encyclical, *Ecclesia de Eucharistia*, writing that the very thought of the mysterious gift of the Holy Eucharist should fill us with "profound amazement and gratitude."

In response, the people now make one of three revised acclamations. All three are rooted in Scripture. Option A, and especially option B, are derived from 1 Cor 11:26 – "For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the death of the Lord until he comes." And Christ's title in option C is found in Jn 4:42, when the woman who met Jesus at the well is told by her fellow Samaritans, "we know that this is truly the savior of the world."

The three acclamations all incorporate familiar elements from the previous translation, although some of the phrases have been rearranged. One of the old acclamations – "Dying you destroyed our death..." – has been

Previous Translation	New Translation
<p><i>Priest:</i></p> <p><b>Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:</b></p> <p><i>People:</i></p> <p>A – Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.</p> <p><i>or B</i> – Dying you destroyed our death, rising you restored our life. Lord Jesus, come in glory.</p> <p><i>or C</i> – When we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim your death, Lord Jesus, until you come in glory.</p> <p><i>or D</i> – Lord, by your cross and resurrection, you have set us free. You are the Savior of the World.</p>	<p><i>Priest:</i></p> <p><b>The mystery of faith.</b></p> <p><i>People:</i></p> <p>A – <b>We proclaim your death, O Lord, and profess your Resurrection until you come again.</b></p> <p><i>or B</i> – When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we proclaim your death, <b>O Lord,</b> until you come <b>again.</b></p> <p><i>or C</i> – <b>Save us, Savior of the world, for</b> by your Cross and Resurrection, you have set us free.</p>

substantially amended to shift the emphasis more upon Christ's own death and Resurrection.

What is conspicuously absent now is the popular acclamation from the former translation: "Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again." This line, although powerful, is not found in the Latin. In addition, unlike the other acclamations, it does not directly address Christ made present in the Blessed Sacrament, nor does it speak of our relationship with Him.

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*This series was prepared by the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend. For more Roman Missal resources, please visit <http://www.diocesefwsb.org/diocesan-offices/worship-office/roman-missal/>*