



Church of St. Patrick | 6820 St. Patrick's Lane | Edina, MN 55439 | 952-941-3164 | www.stpatrick-edina.org



Understanding the Revised Mass Texts New words...deeper meaning...same Mass

This change in translation will help us be more aware of how our liturgical texts are rooted in the Scriptures and this can help draw us more deeply into the meaning of the words we pray.

Liturgy and Scripture

As well as the issue of translation, another reason for some of the changes in wording is to make more apparent the references to the words of Scripture that often provide the foundation for the phrasing found in many of our liturgical texts. In the current English version, the relationship between many of our liturgical words and the words of the Bible is sometimes easy to miss. This change in translation will help us be more aware of how our liturgical texts are rooted in the Scriptures and this can help draw us more deeply into the meaning of the words we pray.

An example may help make this clear. Just before communion, the priest holds up the Host and says in our current wording: "This is the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world..." The scriptural episode that this wording echoes comes from the Gospel of John, where John the Baptist says of Jesus "Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world" (Jn. 1:29). So when this gospel passage is read during the liturgy, we hear not "This is the Lamb of God ..." but "Behold, the Lamb of God ...". The new Mass translation will bring the more formal word "behold" into this communion invitation, so as to echo more directly the phrasing of the Gospel text itself.

For more information visit: <http://old.usccb.org/romanmissal>