And with Your Spirit

There are three noticeable changes in the new translation of the Missal.

The Greeting, “The Lord be with you!” comes from the passage in Paul: “All who are guided by the Spirit of God are children of God… the Spirit of adoption that enables us to cry out ‘Abba, Father!’ The Holy Spirit joins our spirit to bear witness that we are children of God” (Romans 8:16).

And then: “When we do not know how to pray properly, the Spirit personally makes our petitions in groans that cannot be put into words, and God, who can see into all hearts, knows full well what the Spirit means” (Romans 8:27).

So the original Greeting was: “May the Holy Spirit be with your spirit!” and the obvious response was, “And with YOUR spirit!” Latin is a very efficient language. They did not like to repeat obvious words. And they like to put the important word near the end, to make sure you remember what we are talking about. So the first part of the greeting got shortened to “Dominus vobiscum” (Lord you-with) and the response, which is part of the mutual greeting is “et cum spiritu tuo!” (and with spirit-yours). “And also with you” carries the same meaning, but “And with your spirit” is more emphatic.

After the greeting, the Mass begins with an act of sorrow for sin. We can choose among three forms:

1) the Conititor;
2) a brief interchange: “Have mercy on us, or Lord… for we have sinned against you.
Show us, O Lord, your mercy… and grant us your salvation;”
3) or a triple invocation:
You were sent to heal the contrite, Lord have mercy, Lord have mercy.
You came to call sinners, Christ have mercy, Christ have mercy.
You are seated at the right hand of the Father. Lord have mercy, Lord have mercy.

The Conititor has always had a triple “through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault. The American version simplified the Conititor, but the Latin Missal has always had it, and now we have it again. This is not all bad. We know from our experience that when we really offend someone, it us usually not enough to say, “I’m sorry” once. We have to be emphatic, and apologize in several ways to restore the person’s trust. This is the reasoning behind the triple “through my fault.”

The prayer, “Lord I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof” comes from the statement by the Roman Centurion who has asked Jesus to heal his son, and when Jesus offers to come to his house the centurion, out of respect for Jewish purity customs, does not allow Jesus to consider such a thing (Matthew 8:8). We use the expression “under my roof” when we are being emphatic, as in giving someone shelter or protection. Being emphatic is fitting when we are in awe at the Incarnation.
Fr. Clotre

Don’t Forget!

Please check the Giving Tree to see if you can help out by providing a gift for someone in need. Please take a tag and purchase the gift on the tag and return it, wrapped, as soon as possible with the tag taped to the outside of the package. We will make sure that your donation gets delivered to the proper family in time for Christmas. Thank you for your generosity.

Wreath Sale

Once again our Youth Group will be selling fresh, decorated, wreaths for the holidays. All proceeds from this sale will help pay for the hotel rooms for the Rainbow Youth Conference that happens shortly after the 1st of the year. See one of our teens to get a Wreath today, and know that you have helped out our teens!

Faces of Lay Leadership

“We met them at the Table”
Diane Renaud

As the daughter of a two parents who spent their entire lives in the field of education, Diane Renaud, Executive Director/CEO was raised with a keen awareness of the power of learning. “As a student, I started my career in education, but I moved on to other non-profits, including working in the arts and healthcare. I tried the for-profit sector, but it simply was not as personally fulfilling. I prayed for guidance on what my contribution in life should be and I was led to St. Vincent and Sarah Fisher Center. Returning to education, that truly makes a difference for the members of our community, has been the greatest gift of my life. I recently lost my mother, but have found solace in my work at the Center. I am blessed with a wonderful team of volunteers and staff, who remind me daily that giving is where we find joy.”

St. Vincent and Sarah Fisher Center has served metro Detroit for almost 170 years and has been a proud partner of the Christ the King Campus for more than 5 years. SVSFC moved to be closer to the heart of the community it serves, providing educational support to at-risk children and adults through free, personalized, one-on-one tutoring. Our Children’s program (After-School and Summer sessions for 1-3 graders) is designed to offer year-round reading and math skill building, to bridge the educational gap in Detroit. Our Adult program is focused upon helping Detroit adults (age 18 or older) to become more self-sufficient and contributing members of the community and economy through obtaining their GED. Both programs are focused upon breaking down the social and economic barriers that prevent students from learning that ultimately will make them employable. To volunteer, please call Sr. Marie Judith Haupt at (313) 535-9200 x3104.