

Liturgy of the Word

The use of Scripture in the New
Translation of the Mass

Sacrosanctum Concilium (1963)

Sacred scripture is of the greatest importance in the celebration of the liturgy. For it is from scripture that lessons are read and explained in the homily, and psalms are sung; the prayers, collects, and liturgical songs are scriptural in their inspiration and their force, and it is from the scriptures that actions and signs derive their meaning. Thus to achieve the restoration, progress, and adaptation of the sacred liturgy, it is essential to promote that warm and living love for scripture to which the venerable tradition of both eastern and western rites gives testimony (SC 24).

Liturgiam Authenticam (2001)

Characteristic of the orations of the Roman liturgical tradition as well as of the other Catholic Rites is a coherent system of words and patterns of speech, consecrated by the books of Sacred Scripture and by ecclesial tradition, especially the writings of the Fathers of the Church. For this reason the manner of translating the liturgical books should foster a correspondence between the biblical text itself and the liturgical texts of ecclesiastical composition which contain biblical words or allusions (LA 49).

Biblical Passages in the Mass

Current Translation	New Translation	Scripture
And also with you.	And with your spirit.	<p>The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit (Phil 4:23).</p> <p>The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brethren. Amen (Gal 6:18).</p> <p>The Lord be with your spirit. Grace be with you (2 Tim 4:22).</p> <p>The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit (Phlm 1:25).</p>

Biblical Passages in the Mass

Current Translation	New Translation	Scripture
Lord, I am not worthy to receive you, but only say the word and I shall be healed.	Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.	But the centurion answered him, "Lord, I am not worthy to have you come under my roof; but only say the word, and my servant will be healed (Mt 8:8)

Biblical Passages in the Mass

Current Translation	New Translation	Scripture
<p>This is the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world. Happy are those who are called to his supper.</p>	<p><u>Behold</u> the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world. <u>Blessed</u> are those called to the supper of the Lamb.</p>	<p>The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "<u>Behold</u>, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!" (Jn 1:29).</p> <p>And the angel said to me, "Write this: <u>Blessed</u> are those who are invited to <u>the marriage supper of the Lamb</u>." (Rev 19:9).</p> <p>Behold (idou-Gk or ecce-Lt) appears almost 200 times in the NT.</p>

Biblical Passages in the Mass

Current Translation	New Translation	Scripture
I confess ... that I have sinned through my own fault, in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done, and in what I have failed to do.	I confess ... that I have <u>greatly</u> sinned, in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done and in what I have failed to do, <u>through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault.</u>	And David said to God, "I have sinned <u>greatly</u> in that I have done this thing (1 Chr 21:8).

Through my fault, through my fault, through my grievous fault...

Ps 51:1-4

Have mercy on me, O God, according to thy steadfast love; according to thy abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.

Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin!

For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me.

Against thee, thee only, have I sinned, and done that which is evil in thy sight, so that thou art justified in thy sentence and blameless in thy judgment.

Prayer of Manasseh 9, 11-12

For the sins I have committed are more in number than the sand of the sea; my transgressions are multiplied, O Lord, they are multiplied! I am unworthy to look up and see the height of heaven because of the multitude of my iniquities.

And now I bend the knee of my heart, beseeching thee for thy kindness.

I have sinned, O Lord, I have sinned, and I know my transgressions.

Biblical Passages in the Mass

Current Translation	New Translation	Scripture
Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.	Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to <u>people of good will</u> .	"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace <u>among men of good will</u> ." (Lk 2:14).

Biblical Passages in the Mass

Current Translation	New Translation	Scripture
Take this, all of you, and drink from it: this is the cup of my blood, the blood of the new and everlasting covenant. It will be shed for you and for all so that sins may be forgiven.	Take this, all of you, and drink from it, for this is the chalice of my blood, the blood of the new and eternal covenant, which will be <u>poured out for you and for many</u> for the forgiveness of sins.	And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he gave it to them, and they all drank of it. And he said to them, "This is my blood of the covenant, which is <u>poured out for many</u> (Mk 14:23-24).

Biblical Passages in the Mass

Current Translation	New Translation	Scripture
Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation. Through your goodness we have this bread to offer, which earth has given and human hands have made. It will become for us the bread of life.	Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation, for through your goodness we have received the bread we offer you: <u>fruit of the earth</u> and <u>work of human hands</u> , it will become for us the bread of life.	“Fruit of the earth” “Work of human hands”
Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation. Through your goodness we have this wine to offer, fruit of the vine and work of human hands. It will become our spiritual drink.	Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation, for through your goodness we have received the wine we offer you: <u>fruit of the vine</u> and <u>work of human hands</u> , it will become our spiritual drink.	“Fruit of the vine” “Work of human hands”

Fruit of the earth/Fruit of the vine

- In the course of time Cain brought to the LORD an offering of the fruit of the ground, and Abel brought of the firstlings of his flock and of their fat portions. And the LORD had regard for Abel and his offering (Gen 4:3-4).
- For there shall be a sowing of peace; the vine shall yield its fruit, and the ground shall give its increase, and the heavens shall give their dew; and I will cause the remnant of this people to possess all these things (Zec 8:12).
- Be patient, therefore, brethren, until the coming of the Lord. Behold, the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient over it until it receives the early and the late rain (James 5:7).

Work of God's hands

- “Work of hands” appears over 80 times in the Bible.
- Of old thou didst lay the foundation of the earth, and the heavens are the work of thy hands (Ps 102:25).
- Yet, O LORD, thou art our Father; we are the clay, and thou art our potter; we are all the work of thy hand (Is 64:8).
- And on the sabbath he began to teach in the synagogue; and many who heard him were astonished, saying, "Where did this man get all this? What is the wisdom given to him? What mighty works are wrought by his hands!" (Mk 6:2).

Work of human hands

- The LORD your God will make you abundantly prosperous in all the work of your hand, in the fruit of your body, and in the fruit of your cattle, and in the fruit of your ground; for the LORD will again take delight in prospering you, as he took delight in your fathers (Dt 30:9).
- Because they have forsaken me and have burned incense to other gods, that they might provoke me to anger with all the work of their hands, therefore my wrath will be kindled against this place, and it will not be quenched (2 Kings 22:17).
- But we exhort you, brethren, to do so more and more, to aspire to live quietly, to mind your own affairs, and to work with your hands, as we charged you; (1 Th 4:10-11)

The Works of God (Jn 6)

- Then they said to him, "What must we do, to be doing the works of God?"
- Jesus answered them, "This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent."
- So they said to him, "Then what sign do you do, that we may see, and believe you? What work do you perform? Our fathers ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, `He gave them bread from heaven to eat.'"
- Jesus then said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven; my Father gives you the true bread from heaven (Jn 6:28-32).

Biblical Passages in the Mass

Current Translation	New Translation	Scripture
<p>Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.</p>	<p><u>Holy, Holy, Holy</u> Lord God of <u>hosts</u>. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. <u>Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord</u>. Hosanna in the highest.</p>	<p>And one called to another and said: "<u>Holy, holy, holy</u> is the LORD of <u>hosts (sabaoth)</u>; the whole earth is full of his glory." (Is 6:3, cf Rev 4:8). And the crowds that went before him and that followed him shouted, "Hosanna to the Son of David! <u>Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord</u>! Hosanna in the highest!" (Mt 21:9).</p>

Biblical Passages in the Mass

Current Translation	New Translation	Scripture
Through him we ask you to accept and bless these gifts we offer you in sacrifice.	... that you accept and bless these gifts, these offerings, these <u>holy</u> and <u>unblemished</u> sacrifices, which we offer you ...	On the first day there shall be a <u>holy</u> convocation: you shall do no laborious work, but offer an offering by fire, a burnt offering to the LORD: two young bulls, one ram, and seven male lambs a year old; see that they are without <u>blemish</u> (Passover instructions, Num 28:18-19).

Biblical Passages in the Mass

Current Translation	New Translation	Scripture
Almighty God, we pray that your angel may take this sacrifice to your altar in heaven. Then, as we receive from this altar the sacred body and blood of your Son, let us be filled with every grace and blessing.	In humble prayer we ask you, almighty God: command that these gifts be borne by the hands of your holy Angel to your altar on high in the sight of your divine majesty, so that all of us, who through this participation at the altar receive the most holy Body and Blood of your Son, may be filled with every grace and heavenly blessing.	<i>Participation on earth with the Heavenly altar...</i>

Biblical Passages in the Mass

New Translation	Scripture
<p>... command that these gifts be borne by the hands of your holy Angel to your altar on high ...</p>	<p><i>The angel appears to the barren wife of Manoah speaking of the birth of Samson. Manoah wants to offer the angel a meal:</i></p> <p>Manoah said to the angel of the LORD, "Pray, let us detain you, and prepare a kid for you." And the angel of the LORD said to Manoah, "If you detain me, I will not eat of your food; but if you make ready a burnt offering, then offer it to the LORD." (For Manoah did not know that he was the angel of the LORD.) So Manoah took the kid with the cereal offering, and offered it upon the rock to the LORD, to him who works wonders. And when the flame went up toward heaven from the altar, the angel of the LORD ascended in the flame of the altar while Manoah and his wife looked on; and they fell on their faces to the ground (Judges 13:15-16, 19-20).</p>

Biblical Passages in the Mass

New Translation	Scripture
<p>... command that these gifts be borne by the hands of your holy Angel to your altar on high ...</p>	<p>And another angel came and stood at the altar with a golden censer; and he was given much incense to mingle with the prayers of all the saints upon the golden altar before the throne; and the smoke of the incense rose with the prayers of the saints from the hand of the angel before God (Rev 8:3-4).</p>

Biblical Passages in the Mass

Current Translation	New Translation	Scripture
<p>Look with favor on these offerings and accept them as once you accepted the gifts of your servant Abel, the sacrifice of Abraham, our father in faith, and the bread and wine offered by your priest Melchizedek.</p>	<p>Be pleased to look upon these offerings with a serene and kindly countenance, and to accept them, as once you were pleased to accept <u>the gifts of your servant Abel the just, the sacrifice of Abraham, our father in faith, and the offering of your high priest Melchizedek</u>, a holy sacrifice, a spotless victim.</p>	<p><i>Gifts of Abel</i> <i>Sacrifice of Abraham</i> <i>Offering of Melchizedek</i></p>

The gifts of your servant Abel the just

In the course of time Cain brought to the LORD an offering of the fruit of the ground, and Abel brought of the firstlings of his flock and of their fat portions. And the LORD had regard for Abel and his offering.

Cain said to Abel his brother, "Let us go out to the field." And when they were in the field, Cain rose up against his brother Abel, and killed him.

Then the LORD said to Cain, "Where is Abel your brother?" He said, "I do not know; am I my brother's keeper?"

And the LORD said, "What have you done? The voice of your brother's blood is crying to me from the ground (Gen 4:3-4, 8-10).

The sacrifice of Abraham, our father in faith (Gen 22)

- Isaac, Abraham's only son.
- Isaac carried the wood of the sacrifice.
- Where is the Lamb? "God will provide himself the lamb for a burnt offering."
- The intervention of the angel to bring Isaac back from the dead.

The offering of your high priest Melchizedek

- Melchizedek king of Salem brought out bread and wine; he was priest of God Most High. And he blessed him and said, "Blessed be Abram by God Most High, maker of heaven and earth; and blessed be God Most High, who has delivered your enemies into your hand!" And Abram gave him a tenth of everything (Gen 14:18-20).
- The LORD has sworn and will not change his mind, "You are a priest for ever after the order of Melchizedek." (Ps 110:4)
- Melchizedek is first, by translation of his name, king of righteousness, and then he is also king of Salem, that is, king of peace. He is without father or mother or genealogy, and has neither beginning of days nor end of life, but resembling the Son of God he continues a priest for ever (Heb 7:2-3)

Presence of Scripture in the Liturgy

Recall Sacrosanctum Concilium, 24.

Scripture is present in:

1. The readings at Mass and the singing of the Psalm.
2. The explanation in the homily.
3. The prayers and collects inspired by Scripture.
4. The songs inspired by Scripture.
5. The liturgical actions and liturgical signs that derive their meaning from Scripture.