

# A Catechism for Liturgical Reconciliation

a summary of *Handouts* nn. 190-193 in 28 Q&As

\* To English Mass folk: I beg you re-read Vatican II **VCII's Sacrosanctum Concilium SC** on Liturgy 1963 and discover it was **not implemented faithfully** in 1970's New Order *Novus Ordo* or many changes since.

\* To Latin Mass folk: I beg you re-read Pius XII's *Mediator Dei MD* 1947 on Redemption and Liturgy and discover that VCII's SC in 1963 was faithful to it.

## INTRODUCTION

### SEE

1. *What is the liturgy ?*

**Liturgy is the public worship of God by Christ as Head of, and we His members in, His Mystical Body the Church.** (MD 20, SC 7)

2. *What forms has the present Roman Rite liturgy ?*

**The present Roman Rite liturgy has 3 forms:**

1. **Parish Masses from Bugnini's New Order,**
2. **Latin Mass from 1962 Missal, and**
3. **Ordinariate Mass for ex-Anglicans, each with its altar Missal from CTS London.**

### JUDGE

3. *How did Benedict XVI judge SC's implementation ?*

**Benedict XVI judged SC's implementation a "collapse of the liturgy" in urgent need of "Liturgical Reconciliation".**

quoted in *The Catholic Weekly* 11<sup>th</sup> May, 1997, p. 4

4. *Why did Benedict XVI allow all pre-VCII Liturgy?*

**Benedict XVI allowed all pre-VCII Liturgy hoping that goodwill and respect for truth would pave the way for a convergence.**

### ACT:

5. *How can this Liturgical Reconciliation be achieved ?*

**Liturgical Reconciliation can be achieved by prayer, goodwill and education for everyone in the Work of our Redemption and how we participate in it in the Liturgy.**

## THE WORK OF OUR REDEMPTION

6. *What is the Work of our Redemption :*

**The Work of our Redemption is what Christ won by His Incarnation & Paschal Mystery: namely a New Creation of repentant souls adoring God and living in grace and virtue.**

7. *What is the Paschal Mystery ?*

**The Paschal Mystery is Christ's Good Friday's offering Himself in Sacrifice, His Resurrection on Easter Sunday to show His Father's acceptance of it and His Ascension taking it into Heaven.**

8. *What was pre-VCII perception of Redemption ?*

**Pre-VCII stressed Redemption by the Cross and tended to overlook the Resurrection.**

9. *But how did SC speak of Redemption ?*

**"Christ Our Lord redeemed mankind and gave perfect glory to God.**

**He achieved His task**

**principally by the paschal mystery of**

**His blessed passion, resurrection from the dead, and glorious ascension,**

**whereby "dying, He destroyed our death,**

**and rising, restored our life."** SC n. 5; also 6, 47, 61 etc

## CHRIST

10. *Quote Christ linking His Death & Resurrection.*

**"Destroy this temple & in three days I will raise it up"; He spoke of the temple of His Body"** John 2:19-21

11. *When else did He link His Death & Resurrection ?*

**Three times He prophesied the Paschal Mystery linking His Death and Resurrection:**

1. **"must suffer, be killed, on third day be raised."**
2. **"delivered into the hands of men; they will kill Him and He will be raised on the third day."**
3. **"delivered to the Gentiles to be mocked, scourged/crucified & be raised on the third day."**

Matthew 16:21; 17:22-23; 20:19.

## St Peter

12. *What did St Peter say ?*

1. **Born anew through the resurrection of Christ from the dead.** (1 Peter 1:3)

2. **Raised Him from the dead so that your faith and hope are in God.** (1 Peter 1:21)

3. **Saves... through the resurrection.** (1 Peter 3:21)

## St Paul

13. *What did St Paul say ?*

1. **Put to death for our trespassers and raised for our justification** (Romans 4:25).

2. **If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile & you are still in your sins** 1 Corinthians 15:17

3. **That I may know Him and the power of His Resurrection, and may share His sufferings, becoming like Him in His death that if possible I may attain the resurrection of the dead.**

Philippians 3:10-11

## St Thomas Aquinas:

14. *What did St Thomas say ?*

"Therefore as to efficient cause, both the Passion and Resurrection are the cause of justification.

But as to exemplary cause, the Passion and Death of Christ is the cause of the remission of sins, through which we die to sin: the Resurrection, however, is the cause of the newness of life, which is through grace and justice.

And therefore the Apostles says, Romans 4:25, that He was delivered up, namely to death, on account of our sins, namely to take them away, and He rose on account of our justification.

But the Passion of Christ is also the meritorious cause, as has been said."

*Summa Theologica IIIae q56, a2, ad 4.*

## CHANGES REQUIRED BY SC

**16. Are the faithful meant to be silent at Mass ?**

**The faithful are not meant to be silent, not "mute onlookers," said Pius XII (MD 192) not "silent spectators," said SC (48, *muti spectatores*), but "follow all that happens on the altar with ear, eye, heart & mouth," said St Pius X. "The whole congregation can answer the priest, or sing hymns suitable to the parts of the Mass, or do both; at High Mass answer prayers/chants."** (MD 105)

**17. What changes did SC decree to the Latin Mass ?**

**SC decreed:** (SC 1, 4, 21, 50 etc.)

- make it clear that the Mass is in two parts;
- simplify rituals but preserve their substance;
- Bible readings to be spread over more than one year;
- homily (sermon) is part of the liturgy;
- restore the Prayer of the Faithful (PoF);
- some vernacular, especially Bible Readings and PoF;
- laity able to say Latin and sing chants meant for them;
- Communion Hosts better from current Mass (MD 121);
- Communion with Both Kinds on a very few occasions;
- attend entire Mass, (i.e. neither come late nor leave early);
- some *Concelebration* if individual Masses not needed.

**18. What vital words of SC were mistranslated ?**

**Some mistaken translations of SC are**

**Renew** (*instaurare*) the Liturgy (SC 1, 4, 21, 50 etc.)

**was mistranslated as Reform the Liturgy;**

**Review** (*recognoscere*) the Liturgy (SC 23, 25)

**was mistranslated as Revise the Liturgy:**

**Actual** (*actuosa*) Participation (SC 11 etc 14 times in all)

**was mistranslated as Active Participation.**

**19. What changes did SC not authorize ?**

**SC did NOT authorize or even mention**

- facing the people after the Offertory
- tabernacles moved off the altar
- Communion in the hand, standing, lay ministers
- alternatives to the Roman Canon
- a whole new Rite of the Mass
- abolishing Latin chant,
- altar girls and women in albs
- omitting Psalm 42, changing Offertory prayers etc.

## BUGNINI'S *Novus Ordo* DISTORTED SC

**20. Did Bugnini's private enthusiasms ignore SC ?**

**Bugnini's private enthusiasms ignored SC's**

• "No innovations unless the Church's good genuinely & certainly requires them." (SC 23)

• "The use of the Latin language, with due respect to particular law, is to be preserved in the Latin rites." (SC 36 (1))

**21. What went wrong with English translations**  
**English translations were banal (until 2011),**  
**rejected *Thee, Thou, Thy and Thine*,**  
**surrendered to 'fem-speak',**

**reduced Sense of Sacred, favoured dumbing down,**  
**discouraged any admixture with Latin texts.**

## HISTORY of the LITURGICAL MOVEMENT

**22. What Popes blessed the Liturgical Movement ?**

**St Pius X blessed Liturgical Movement (1903):**

1. urged frequent Holy Communion (1905),
2. early First Holy Communion (1906),
3. actual participation by eye, heart and lips<sup>1</sup> which was acted on by Pius XI & XII, & SC<sup>2</sup>.

<sup>1</sup> Quoted in pre-VII people's missals but not sourced.

<sup>2</sup> Pius X, 1903-1906; Pius XI, 1929; Pius XII, 1947; SC 1963

**23. What liturgical enrichments began before SC ?**

**Liturgical enrichments before SC included people to follow the priest's words and actions, people's English Missals, with/without Latin; labelling two Mass parts<sup>1</sup> *Catechumens, Faithful; Option Offertory Processions, vernacular*<sup>2</sup> hymns**

<sup>1</sup> although this labelling was not in priest's *Missale Romanum*;

<sup>2</sup> from 1947 vernacular hymns; from 1958 Apostles' Creed, etc.

## DEVELOPMENT OF DOCTRINE

*Every truth no matter who said it is of Holy Spirit*

**24. What is doctrinal development ?**

**Doctrinal development is a deeper understanding of the mysteries God has revealed by "relating them one to another and with the ultimate end of man".<sup>1</sup>**

<sup>1</sup> Vatican Council I in 1870 regarding Faith and Reason (*Dei Filius* ch. 4; DS 3013; DB 1796). Thus SC did enrich the doctrine of sacrifice with "Paschal Mystery", akin to St Thomas Aquinas on Redemption: see 14 above.

**25. Who wanted us to demonize VCII ?**

**The Devil wanted us to demonize VCII**

**using enthusiasts to twist its implementation and blaming the disastrous outcomes on VCII, thus dividing Catholics into warring groups, each blaming the other as infiltrated by Satan to destroy Christ's Church.**

Similar infiltration to Satan's desacralized liturgy were catechesis without creed, demythologized doctrine, relativized morals etc.

## THE WAY FORWARD

*In essential things, unity; in unessential, liberty; in all things charity.*

**26. Why does Latin Mass appeal to young families ?**

**The Latin Mass appeals to young families when it is perceived as more God-centred than what purports to be VCII's SC but is not.**

**27. What does Liturgical Reconciliation depend on ?**

**Liturgical Reconciliation depends on goodwill, prayer and not filtering facts through prejudices.**

**28. What practical moves can priests make ?**

**Practical moves converge on SC's actual texts, which did not abolish the Latin Mass but made slight modifications including some vernacular. New Mass allows some textual choices to suit SC:**

1. priest facing east leading people to the altar (never to be described as "back to the people": *Handouts* n. 168 p.2)
2. turned to the people when addressing them,
3. always choosing the Roman Canon (GIRM 365a),
4. Holy Communion on tongue, kneeling (GIRM 160),
5. reverential silence in church (GIRM 45),
6. singing some parts in Latin (GIRM 41).

*Father James Tierney*