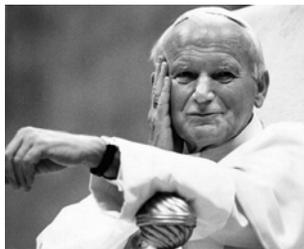


Respect must everywhere be shown for the feelings of all those who are attached to the Latin liturgical tradition, by a wide and generous application of the directives already issued some time ago by the Apostolic See for the use of the Roman Missal according to the typical edition of 1962.



**Pope St. John Paul II (1988)**



I am of the opinion, to be sure, that the old rite [of Mass] should be granted much more generously to all those who desire it. It's impossible to see what could be dangerous or unacceptable about that. A

community is calling its very being into question when it suddenly declares that what until now was its holiest and highest possession is strictly forbidden, and when it makes the longing for it seem downright indecent. Can it be trusted any more about anything else? Won't it proscribe tomorrow what it prescribes today?

**Joseph Cardinal Ratzinger (1997)**

In some regions, no small numbers of faithful adhered and continue to adhere with great love and affection to the earlier liturgical forms. ...

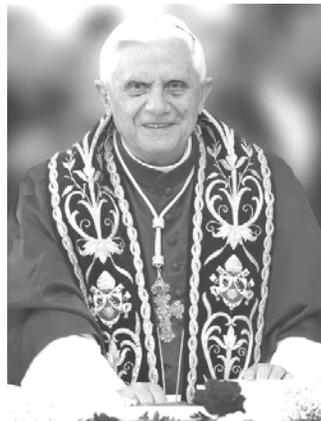
Immediately after the Second Vatican Council it was presumed that requests for the use of the 1962 Missal would be limited to the older generation which had grown up with it, but in the meantime it has clearly been demonstrated that young persons too have discovered this liturgical form, felt its attraction and found in it a form of

encounter with the Mystery of the Most Holy Eucharist, particularly suited to them. ...

Let us generously open our hearts and make room for everything that the faith itself allows. ...

What earlier generations held as

sacred, remains sacred and great for us too, and it cannot be all of a sudden entirely forbidden or even considered harmful. It behooves all of us to preserve the riches which have developed in the Church's faith and prayer, and to give them their proper place.



**Pope Benedict XVI (2007)**

The Apostolic Letter *Summorum Pontificum* constitutes an important expression of the Magisterium of the Roman Pontiff, and of his office of ruling and arranging the Sacred Liturgy, and of his solicitude as Vicar of Christ and Pastor of the Universal Church. The Letter itself has the aim of:

(a) bestowing on all of the faithful the Roman Liturgy in the *usus antiquior* [older usage], as a precious treasure to be preserved;

(b) genuinely ensuring the use of that Liturgy for those who ask for it, bearing in mind that the actual use of the Roman Liturgy in force in 1962 is a faculty given for the good of the faithful and is, consequently, to be interpreted generously in favor of the faithful for whom it is mainly destined;

(c) promoting reconciliation in the bosom of the Church.

**Pontifical Commission  
Ecclesia Dei (2011)**



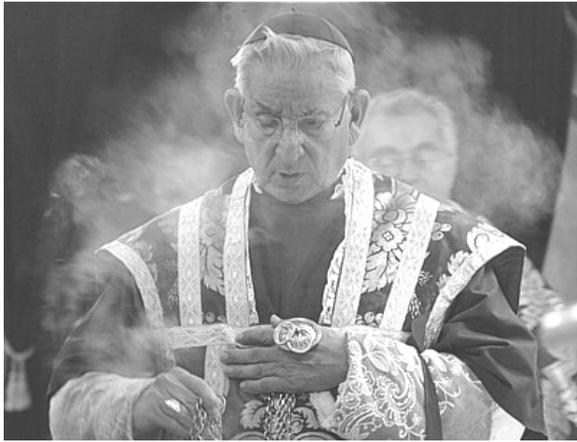
Also to be noted is Benedict XVI's concern to emphasize that the Church does not discard her past: by declaring that the Missal of 1962, "was never juridically abrogated," he made manifest the coherence that the Church wishes to maintain.

In effect, she cannot allow herself to disregard, forget, or renounce the treasures and rich heritage of the tradition of the Roman Rite, because the historical heritage of the liturgy of the Church cannot be abandoned, nor can everything be established *ex novo* without the amputation of fundamental parts of the same Church. ...

But the *motu proprio* also produced a phenomenon that is for many astonishing and is a true "sign of the times": the interest that the extraordinary form of the Roman Rite elicits, in particular among the young who never lived it as an ordinary form and that manifests a thirst for "languages" that are not "more of the same" and that call us towards new and, for many pastors, unforeseen horizons. The opening-up of the liturgical wealth of the Church to all the faithful has made possible the discovery of all the treasures of this patrimony for those who had not known them—among whom this liturgical form is stirring up, more than ever, numerous priestly and religious vocations throughout the world, willing to give their lives to the service of evangelization.

**Antonio Cardinal Cañizares Llovera**  
**Archbishop of Valencia**

*former prefect of the Congregation  
for Divine Worship*



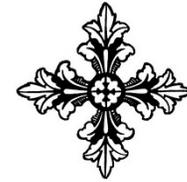
In response to the prayers and sufferings of so many people in these past four decades, Almighty God has raised up for us a Supreme Pontiff who is very sensitive to your concerns. Pope Benedict XVI knows and deeply appreciates the importance of the ancient liturgical rites for the Church—for both the Church of today and for the Church of tomorrow. .Certainly this [reintroduction] must be done in harmony with both ecclesiastical law and ecclesiastical superiors, but superiors also must recognise that these rights are now firmly established in the law of the Church by the Vicar of Christ himself. It is a treasure that belongs to the whole Catholic Church and which should be widely available to all of Christ's faithful. This means that parish priests and bishops must accept the petitions and the requests of the faithful who ask for it and that priests and bishops must do all that they can to provide this great liturgical treasure of the Church's tradition for the faithful. ... Let me say this plainly: the Holy Father wants the ancient use of the Mass to become a normal occurrence in the liturgical life of the Church so that *all* of Christ's faithful—young and old—can become familiar with the older rites and draw from their tangible beauty and transcendence.

**Darío Cardinal Castrillón Hoyos**  
President Emeritus of the Pontifical Commission  
Ecclesia Dei



The Tridentine Mass has its very profound internal values which reflect the whole tradition of the Church. There is more respect toward the sacred through gestures, genuflections, the times of silence. There is greater room reserved for reflection on the action of the Lord and also for the celebrant's personal sense of devotion, who offers the sacrifice not only for the faithful but also for his own sins and his own salvation. Some important elements of the old rite can help also in our reflection on the [proper] manner of celebrating the Novus Ordo. We are in the midst of a journey.

**Malcolm Cardinal Ranjith,**  
**Archbishop of Colombo**  
*former prefect of the Congregation  
for Divine Worship*



## THE CHURCH SPEAKS

about

# The Traditional Latin Mass

