



*Our Lady of the Assumption Parish
Beeston*

Our Changing Liturgy

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Why do we need a new Mass Translation?

Until the early 1960s, Mass was celebrated in Latin throughout the world. Wherever you happened to be on Sunday the Mass would be celebrated in the language you were used to.

At the Second Vatican Council, it was agreed that Mass could be said in the language of the country in which it was being celebrated. There would be no fundamental change to the Mass itself, just the language being used. This would enable us to understand more fully what was being said and help us to participate more fully.

In 1970 Pope Paul VI agreed the official Latin text that would be used. This was then translated into different languages to be used throughout the world. This was a huge task which was completed in a short time. However, because it was done so quickly, some of the richness of the original Latin prayers was, quite literally, 'lost in translation'. It was agreed that a more considered translation would be issued later.

40 years on, we now have this new translation! It keeps the original words, meaning and style of the Latin as far as possible. The new translation also means a new edition of the Missal which will include some additional text - such as, prayers for the saints who have been added to the liturgical calendar since 1960.