

“The Lord be with you.”

*Advent, 2011:*

**“AND WITH YOUR SPIRIT.”**

On Sunday, November 27, the First Sunday of Advent, we begin using the Revised Roman Missal. The response to “The Lord be with you” is going to become “And with your spirit.”

*Why are we changing this?*

It is a more accurate translation from the original Latin:

***“Et cum spiritu tuo”***

This translation aligns us more closely with how our ancestors worshiped over the centuries. It is a literal translation.

This translation also brings us in closer communion globally with our German, French, Italian and Spanish speaking Roman Catholics who have been using this translation since Vatican II.

The United States is the only country that has used the current response since the Council.

“And with your spirit” is a nobler response, perhaps more appropriate to the weight and purpose of the occasion. The new response draws our attention to the celebrant not simply as a human person, but as one who, through graces received in ordination, is configured to Christ’s Spirit before the assembly and extends to the role of service through ministry.