

## **Bulletin Insert Entitled "Prayer Translation"**

"The only constant in life is change." This is a quote we may all relate to very well as we continue to experience the many changes caused by the recent pandemic. Soon, there will be a new change that we will experience in the Church's prayer at Mass.

Our Catholic Church continues to strive to make consistent and universal what she prays throughout the world. Great effort has been made to translate faithfully and accurately the various prayers of the Mass from its original source language which is Latin. About ten years ago, you might remember the many changes in translation to the Mass that took place. Now, one more small but important change has been made to the conclusion of the collect (opening prayer) at Mass.

Beginning on Ash Wednesday, 2021, the word "one" will be omitted in the doxology or conclusion of the opening prayer at Mass. Thus the prayer will now read, "...in the unity of the Holy Spirit, **God**, for ever and ever." The reason for this change is that the word "God" in this prayer refers to Jesus Christ and his divinity and not specifically to the Holy Trinity. In order to avoid confusion regarding the divinity of Christ, this change has now been made.

This was requested by Pope Francis in the Vatican and overwhelmingly approved by the Catholic bishops of our country. Like all changes, this will take a little getting used to. However, it will soon become part of the way we pray and I believe it will help to strengthen our faith.

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