

Liturgical Reform of the Mass through the Ages



FDLC Webinar

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Focus of the webinar

- ◆ how shape of liturgy has changed over time
- ◆ snapshots: before, at, & after Vatican II
- ◆ 2 qq: what do we do? meaning for how we live?
 - ◆ 1) core pattern of mass (synoptics & Pl)
 - ◆ 2) some main themes of that meaning
- ◆ today's session: leftovers from first session
Vatican II

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19th - 20th Century Movements

- ◆ patristic studies 19th
- ◆ liturgical history 19th
- ◆ liturgical movement 19th
- ◆ biblical revival 19th / 20th
- ◆ ecumenical movement 20th
- ◆ inculturation 20th

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Key Papal Contributions

- ◆ *Mystici Corporis* (1943)
→ ecclsiology; opened way to ecum
- ◆ *Divino afflante Spiritu* (1943)
→ modern bibl methods, vernacular translations from orig languages
- ◆ *Mediator Dei* (1947)
→ greater acceptance of liturgical movement
- ◆ "Pian Committee" for lit. reform (1948-1960)
→ Easter Vigil restored (1951)
→ then rest of Holy Week (1955)
→ rubrics simplified (1955)



Pope Pius XII
1939-1958

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Key Papal Contributions

- ◆ came from share-cropper family
→ knew problems of workers
- ◆ organized Society for Propagation of Faith
- ◆ papal delegate to Bulgaria, Turkey, Greece, nuncio to France
→ concern for ecumenism & world peace
- ◆ elected as "transitional pope" (1958)
→ created Secretariat for Promot Christ Unity
- ◆ surprise proposal of Vat II council (1959)
- ◆ 1st Roman Synod (1960), ratified 755 canons (1 wk)
- ◆ warm personality – "nonno" to Italians



Pope John XXIII
1958-1963

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Recap of Major Points

- ◆ home liturgies → basilicas, cathedrals
- ◆ rites simpler → elaborate, formal
- ◆ core pattern: word+eucharist → overlays
- ◆ broad sense of mystery → death only
- ◆ presence of Christ throughout → in host
- ◆ full participation → watch & adore
- ◆ belief → theology → recovery movements
- ◆ mystery-thinking → thing-thinking

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Q & A

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Liturgical Reform of the Mass through the Ages

Session 2. Vatican II



Federation of Diocesan
Liturgical Commissions

FDLC Webinar

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A Milestone



1962 – 1965, convened by Pope John XXIII



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Context

- ◆ Early & patristic church diversity gave way to uniformity & fixity in middle ages & thereafter
- ◆ seeds for renewal sprouted & grew in 19th – 20th C
- ◆ dilemma: stand pat, or return to the medieval or the patristic liturgical heritage?
- ◆ welter of opinions that not only differ but conflict
- ◆ antagonism had been the case with all renewal movements since the mid 19th century
- ◆ opposing positions on lit. renewal had grown & solidified even more by the eve of Vatican II
- ◆ would be first challenge of the Council



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Ante-preparatory work 1959-1960

- ◆ 2,850 invited to submit proposals; 77% response
- ◆ most: tighten status quo; condemn modern evils; further define doctrines (esp. Marian); condemn modernism; concern over communism [past conciliar style]
- ◆ some: more responsibility for laity; extend vernacular; modify/abrogate priest celibacy (West)
- ◆ 5,000+ pages of replies submitted to the Ante-Preparatory Commission

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Ante-preparatory work 1959-1960

- ◆ 5,000+ pages reduced to 9,348 propositions
- ◆ by 10 subcommissions under Curia Prefects [status quo people]
- ◆ then synthesized into 54 topics (70+ questions in 11 categories)
- ◆ topics reduced to 23, from 70+ schemata
- ◆ and sent up to Preparatory Commission

4 volumes in 16 tomes

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Preparatory work 1960-1962

- ◆ complaints over lack of plan for Council → draft plan by Suenens, later revision by Montini
- ◆ seven schemata drafts to be considered first sent for prior review meet strong protest
- ◆ opposition to liturgy reform (esp. music & vernacular) beginning to coalesce in prep phases
- ◆ PS: *Veterum Sapientia* episode (Feb 1962)

4 volumes in 8 tomes

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Opening Procession, Oct 12, 1962



Watercolor by Franklin McMahon
Catholic Theological Union

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Pope John's Opening Address

"... the Christian, Catholic and apostolic spirit of the whole world expects a step forward toward a doctrinal penetration and a formation of conscience in faithful and perfect conformity to authentic doctrine ...
... The substance of the ancient doctrine of the Deposit of Faith is one thing, and the way in which it is presented is another ...
... The Church prefers to make use of the medicine of mercy rather than that of severity. She meets the needs of today by demonstrating the validity of her teaching rather than by condemnations ..."

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Pope John: Vision & Spirituality of Vatican II

*pastoral rather than purely doctrinal
 resourcement & aggiornamento*



the Good Samaritan

4 volumes in 31 tomes eventually added by Vat II

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First working session

- ◆ election of 160 members of Committees
 - to prepare, present, revise major council docs
 - list of nominees from Preparatory Com.
 - additional names submitted by Ottaviani
 - Card Liénart (one of 20 chairs) call to postpone
 - other chairs agreed, vote delayed for week
 - meeting then adjourned
 - gave bishops time to caucus, get to know nominees
- ◆ first sign bishops intend to exercise rights
- ◆ in this & other ways Ottaviani seeks control episode]



Card
Liénart



Card Ottaviani

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Presentation of SC

- ◆ first item on agenda because
 - best option, prepared, ready for discussion
 - most apt to have impact
- ◆ revisions in continuity with work of Pius X & Pius XII
- ◆ pastoral problem of laity "mute spectators"
- ◆ criteria for schema:
 - conserve liturgical patrimony
 - principles to undergird renewal
 - derive practical directives from doctrinal basis
 - instill deeper sense of lit. spirituality in clergy
 - more active lay participation in liturgy

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Discussion & Acceptance of SC

- ◆ 3 weeks / 15 sessions & discussion:
 - 328 oral & 297 written interventions
- ◆ 2 most hotly debated issues:
 - use of vernacular
 - episcopal [conference] competency to decide & extent of authority of Cong. of Rites
- ◆ vote called to accept schema as base text
 - 2,162 yes, 46 no
- ◆ final vote on amended text, Dec 4, 1963
 - 2,247 yes, 4 no

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Retrospect for Period I

- ◆ Preliminary discussion of church schema [LG]
 - neo-scholastic framework not accepted
 - put on hold for a mixed commission to recast
- ◆ Preliminary discussion of Fonts of Revelation [DV]
 - impasse: rel of SS↔Trad↔Mag; ecum; SS meth
 - Bea proposal (mixed com) won delay
- ◆ larger impact of SC
 - principles “unity within diversity” & “local authority,” more from early Church (*ressourcement*) than from updating (*aggiornamento*)
 - help of evening seminars (theology, SS), floor struggles, bishops on way to true synodality

Augustin
Bea

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Recoveries & Renewal

- *Recovering the Mystery*
- *Encountering Christ Present*
- *Participating Together*
- *Renewing Theology & Rite*
- *Liturgy & Culture*
- *Linking Liturgy & Life*

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Renewed Theology

- ◆ fuller paschal mystery at heart of liturgy [SC 2, 60]
- ◆ Christ present in many ways [SC 7]
- ◆ liturgy performed by Christ & his Body [SC 7]
- ◆ primary source for deriving christian spirit [SC14]



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Renewing the Rite

- ◆ full, conscious, & active participation [SC 14]
- ◆ liturgical catechesis on all levels [SC 14, 18-19]
- ◆ revision & simplification of rites [SC 24, 34]
- ◆ move lavish use of scripture [SC 24]
- ◆ vernacular; adaptations poss [SC 36, 37-40]



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Reprise: 19th - 20th Century Movements

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➤ *How did each of these impact SC?*

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Recap Main Points of SC

- ◆ Paschal Mystery fuller, at heart of liturgy [2]
- ◆ liturgy manifests true nature of Church [2]
- ◆ liturgy summit & font of all church activity [10]
- ◆ Christ present in liturgy in 4 ways [7]
- ◆ people celebrate liturgy with Christ [7, 48]
- ◆ aim: full, conscious, active partic [14, 30, 48]
- ◆ catechesis at every level [14, 16-19, 35.3]
- ◆ simplification of the rites [34]
- ◆ vernacular [36]
- ◆ richer fare of scripture [24, 35.1, 35.4]

theological principles

pastoral practice

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Q & A

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