

Press Release

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FROM: The Federation of Diocesan Liturgical Commissions

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NATIONAL MEETING OF LITURGISTS FOCUSES ON THE ROMAN MISSAL AND LITURGICAL THEOLOGY/SPIRITUALITY [FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE]

151 delegates from 90 dioceses gathered in Alexandria, Louisiana, October 4-9, 2010, for the 41st annual National Meeting of Diocesan Liturgical Commissions. The meeting, jointly sponsored by the Federation of Diocesan Liturgical Commissions (FDLC) and the Bishops' Committee on Divine Worship (BCDW) assembled diocesan Directors of Worship and members of diocesan Liturgical Commissions to identify national and regional priorities in the area of worship, and to provide an opportunity for the exchange of ideas among participants, and for prayerful celebrations of the liturgy.

In his report to the membership, the Chair of the FDLC Board of Directors, Monsignor John H. Burton, recognized outgoing BCDW Chair, Bishop Arthur J. Serratelli, and BCDW Secretariat Executive Director, Monsignor Anthony F. Sherman, for their tireless work on the Committee and for their support of the FDLC and its work. Bishop Serratelli will complete his term as Chair of the BCDW after the 2010 November USCCB General Assembly and Monsignor Sherman is expected to finish his work with the Secretariat early in 2011. The National Meeting schedule included two days dedicated to intensive study on the theme, *The Implementation of the Third Edition of the Roman Missal: A Gateway to Mystery*, with Monsignor Kevin Irwin and Reverend Paul Turner. Over ninety local priests joined the study, facilitated discussion and workshops. While examining the liturgical act and liturgical language, the Study Day presenters and participants also explored how the implementation of the new texts provide an opportunity to rekindle the spirit of the liturgy. During the closing banquet on Friday, October 8, musician and composer, Mary Frances Reza, received the 2010 McManus Award.

On Saturday, October 3, nearly 300 attended the local Liturgy Day, a day also focused on the Roman Missal, but for parish ministers. Msgr. Andrew G. Varga gave the keynote, *Full, Conscious, Active: Participation as Ministry* as well as a workshop, *What Is the New Roman Missal About*. Other workshops were presented by liturgist/catechist, Sandra DeMasi, SSJ, and musician/composer, David Haas.

During the meeting the delegates adopted two Executive Committee Resolutions:

ECR 2010/1

Vote: Yes=91, No=0, Abstain=1, 98.9%

It is the position of the delegates of the 2010 National Meeting that the FDLC Board of Directors shall establish an ad-hoc committee to develop materials to assist in a process of mystagogical reflection on the text and implementation of the Roman Missal. These resources will be

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available to members and by paid subscription to non-members online by First Sunday of Advent 2011.

ECR 2010/2

Vote: Yes=80, No=10, Abstain=1, 88.8%

It is the position of the delegates of the 2010 National Meeting that in light of the realities of publishing the Roman Missal and in order to ensure that all liturgical ministers, in particular priest presiders and pastoral musicians, are able to adequately prepare for the season of Advent/Christmas 2011, we request that the FDLC Board of Directors inquire to the BCDW to make available the liturgical texts for Advent and Christmas Seasons in adequate time for prayerful preparation.