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*DO you know of anyone who
would benefit from having their
ad in our bulletin?*

*Please call the parish office at
352-5481, with your suggestions.*



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The Rev. Peter B. Mottola - fr.peter.mottola@dor.org
Deacon Craig Stratton - Senior Deacon
Ralph Preish - Finance Director - ralph.preish@dor.org
Kathy Cammilleri - Parish Secretary - [sstjohnc@dor.org](mailto:ssstjohnc@dor.org)
Julie Bailey - Coordinator of Religious Education
Ivan Bosnar - Organist, Music Coordinator
Mike Burke - Maintenance Coordinator
www.stjohnschurchspencerport.org
www.facebook.com/StJohnTheEvangelistSpencerport/

Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 9:00am-5:00pm
Friday Closed

February 21, 2021 The First Sunday of Lent

“One” word changed at Mass: did you notice?

On Ash Wednesday, the English translation of the Mass changed a single word that the priest says at every Mass—did you catch it? Below is an explanation of this change from *The Pillar* (www.pillaratholic.com) published on February 9th.

God bless,
Fr. Peter

The U.S. bishops’ conference issued a memo last week explaining that the “collect,” one of the opening prayers of the Mass, has been mistranslated since Mass translations in English were first published after the Second Vatican Council. Effective Ash Wednesday, bishops and priests celebrating Mass are instructed to pray the collect with the appropriate translation. The Pillar answers your questions:

How many words are changing?
One.
What word is changing?
“One.”

Here’s what’s happening:
The “collect” is a prayer that concludes the opening rites of the Mass. The collect invites people to pray in silence for a moment, and then offers a prayer to God that is drawn from the readings or feast of the day, or the purpose for which the Mass is being offered. The collect ends with an invocation to Christ, which includes mention of the Father and the Holy Spirit, and ends, in Latin, with “...Deus, per omnia sæcula sæculorum.” In English this has been translated as “one God, forever and ever.” A particular collect might conclude, for example, “Through our Lord, Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.” But here’s the thing. In Latin, the prayer doesn’t say “one God.” It just says “God.” And the prayer isn’t meant to be an affirmation of the oneness of the Holy Trinity. Instead, it is meant to affirm that Christ is God — because of the pervasiveness of the Arian heresy, which taught otherwise, in the centuries in which the prayer first came into being. So to better reflect this — and to more accurately convey the official Latin text of the Mass — the English text will drop the word “one.” The prayer above will now read: “Through our Lord, **Jesus Christ**, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, **God**, forever and ever.” (bold added for clarity.) Other conclusions to the collect prayer will undergo similar changes.

Why is this changing?
In May 2020, Cardinal Robert Sarah, head of the Vatican’s Congregation for Divine Worship and Sacraments, wrote to English-speaking bishops’ conferences pointing out the error, and asking them to change it. The U.S. bishops voted to make a change to their official English translation of the Mass, as have episcopal conferences in England and Wales, Canada, and Ireland.

Ok, but, there’s a global pandemic. And world hunger. And wars! Why spend time and money to change something like this?

I guess this is a matter of perspective. The Church has an ancient maxim: *Lex orandi, lex credendi, lex vivendi*— as we pray, so we believe, and so we live.

This saying is meant to remind the Church that prayer is central to Catholic life, and forms minds and hearts, which in turn form action. In this sense, praying with the Church, in the prayers the Church prescribes, accurately translated, might be the best formation for believing and living like a Catholic — which includes loving the poor, caring for the sick, being peacemakers, and doing other good things.

It might seem like a minor thing, sure. On the other hand, in the grand scheme of things, it hasn’t taken all that much to get it right, either.

Were Masses celebrated with a mistranslation invalid? Illicit?
No. The words of the collect are not the central words of consecration in the Mass, and do not affect the validity of the Masses celebrated with them, either. The Masses weren’t illicitly celebrated either, since — even while priests are warned not to change any of the words of the Mass unilaterally — this was an official mistake, and one officially approved by the Vatican, not a personal choice by some priest to change the words to his personal preference. In fact, it would, arguably, [have been] contrary to the Church’s rules for a priest to change the words of the collect ahead of the official Ash Wednesday change, since he is exhorted to follow the missal exactly. Why are priests urged in that way? Because the Mass is the prayer of the entire Church, not the prayer of one priest who wants to change things to suit his personal viewpoints or preferences.

So do I have to do anything?
Probably not. Especially if you are not a priest. The collect is prayed by a priest. So starting on Ash Wednesday, just listen and pray along, as you would any other day, but with a nuanced change to the meaning of the prayers. If you are a priest, you’ve likely already seen a memo from the bishops’ conference, which suggests that you probably don’t have to buy a new missal to remember to omit the word “one.” Hopefully, that proves true. There is one exception worth noting. The USCCB has clarified that the change applies to all liturgical books, so if you pray the Liturgy of the Hours, then starting Feb. 17, you should drop the “one” as appropriate — and if you don’t pray the Liturgy of the Hours, you should consider it. Could be a good practice for Lent.

MONDAY
8:00am The Chair of St. Peter
5:30-6:00pm The Frank Family-Herb & Elaine Frank
Confession (Inside Church)

TUESDAY
8:00am *St. Polycarp*
1:00pm-6:00pm Intentions of Fr. Peter-Parish Family
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

WEDNESDAY
5:30-6:00pm Confession (Inside Church)
6:30pm Dee Malouf-The Rosary Group

THURSDAY
8:00am Intentions of Drew & Shayna

FRIDAY
8:00am Traditional Latin Mass
7:00pm Intention of the Celebrant
Stations of the Cross

SATURDAY
3:45-4:30pm Confession (Ring rectory doorbell)
5:00pm Matilde Borraccia-The Thurley Family

SUNDAY
Readings:
7:45am Gn 22:1-2,10-13, 15-18, Rom 8:31b-34, Mk 9:2-10
9:30am Fr. Edward Frank-Herb & Elaine Frank
11:15am People of St. John's
Anna M. Casle-Marge & Scott Murphy &
the Murphy Clan

Collection 2/7/21:	\$11,832.10
Weekly amount needed for budget:	\$9,254.00
Year To Date Collection:	\$274,539.87
Year To Date Needed for budget:	\$296,128.00

February 27/28 Ministry Schedule			
5:00 p.m.	7:45 a.m.	9:30 a.m.	11:15 a.m.
Sacristans			
E. Magin	P. Weitz	S. Edwards	F. Morganti
Lectors			
P. Hurst	H. Frank	S. Edwards	B. Daniels
St. John's Parish Calendar			
Monday, February 22			
6:30pm	GIFT & Confirmation		School
Tuesday, February 23			
9:30am	CGS	Atrium School	
7:00pm	Boy Scouts	Scout Rm/Gym	
Wednesday, February 24			
9:30am	Quilters	PC Dining Rm	
1:00-5:00pm	Grace Collaborative	School	
7:00pm	Peace Faith Sharing Group	PC Dining Rm	
7:00pm	Finance Council	Zoom	
Thursday, February 25			
8:00am-5:00pm	Grace Collaborative	School	
Friday, February 26			
9:00am	Grace Collaborative Odyssey	School Rm 2,6, 10	
Saturday, February 27			
Sunday, February 28			
12:30pm	Lenten Bible Study	PC Basement	



We thank those who have given generously and ask all who have not yet given to prayerfully consider doing so. The CMA helps our Church and our parish in so many ways. Please consider all the ways that God has blessed you and your family and think how the Church has brought goodness into your lives. Join our appeal and give back what you can so that we remain strong and able to do God's great work!



Tracing Jesus's journey from condemnation to crucifixion increases both our sorrow for our sins and our desire for His help in avoiding temptations and in bearing our own crosses. Meditating on Christ's passion can help us become more like Him in imitating His virtues of obedience, humility, charity, patience and perseverance. www.ourcatholicprayers.com/stations-of-the-cross

www.usccb.org/prayer-worship/liturgical-year/lent

From Creation Justice Ministries Lenten Calendar

The meeting will begin at 6:00pm and will include dinner followed by a spiritual talk given by Fr. Peter

- **Mass Schedule:** See page 2
- **Confession:** Sat. 3:45 to 4:30, Mon. & Wed. 5:30-6:00pm or by appointment.
- **Baptisms:** We look forward to the Baptism of your child. Please call the Parish office to make arrangements.
- **Sacrament of Marriage:** Couples are to meet at least six months in advance with the parish priest or deacon. Pre-Cana attendance is required. Please call the parish office to make arrangements.
- **Hospital Visits:** Please state you are a parishioner from St. John's Spencerport during your intake if you want to be visited or call the parish office.
- **Prayer Chain** Call 352-5481, **ext.213**, and leave a message.
- **Food Cupboard:** (585) 397-0290
- **Divine Mercy Religious Shop Ministries:** 352-5485. Temporarily closed due to Covid-19.
- **Parish Cemetery:** General Information: 585-352-5481