

The New Roman Missal is Coming!!!
Invitation to Communion

| <i>Current</i> | <i>New</i> |
|--|---|
| <i>Priest:</i> This is the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world. Happy are those who are called to his supper. | <i>Priest:</i> Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb . |
| <i>All:</i> Lord, I am not worthy to receive you, but only say the word and I shall be healed. | <i>All:</i> Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed. |

The new translation recovers the word, “behold,” which also evokes the words of Pilate to the crowd in presenting the scourged Jesus: “Behold, the man” (“*Ecce homo*” – Jn 19:5). The Holy Eucharist is a re-presentation of that same sacrificial Victim, and our partaking in it is a foretaste of the heavenly wedding banquet of the Lamb (Rev 19:9).

The replacement of our current, “not worthy to receive you” with “I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof” is a significant change. The new line comes directly from the Gospels, particularly Matthew 8:8, in which the faith-filled centurion begs Jesus to heal his paralyzed servant: “Lord, I am not worthy to have you enter under my roof; only say the word and my servant will be healed.” It is therefore a Biblical text that conveys humanity’s unworthiness on account of sin, and our need for sincere humility before receiving the Holy Eucharist. Let us never approach the reception of the Blessed Sacrament casually or with pride.

“Amen, I say to you, in no one in Israel have I found such faith” (Mt 8:10)