The International Commission on English in the Liturgy

A MIXED COMMISSION OF CATHOLIC BISHOPS' CONFERENCES

1100 Connecticut Avenue, NW, Suite 710 Washington, DC 20036-4101 USA TELEPHONE 202-347-0800 FAX 202-347-1839 www.icelweb.org The Right Reverend Arthur Roche BISHOF OF LEEDS, CHAIRMAN The Revd Mgr Andrew Wadsworth EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

14 July 2011

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

I am pleased to write a letter of commendation acknowledging the contribution Dr. Geoffrey Cox has made since September 2005 to the development of over 350 pages of chants for the new English translation of *The Roman Missal 2010*. These chants will be sung by over sixty million Catholics in every country throughout the world, in which English is used in the celebration of the Mass of the Roman Rite. He is one of only three experts in Latin chant adaptation to serve on the Music Committee for the International Commission on English in the Liturgy (ICEL), a joint Commission of English-speaking Catholic Bishops Conferences charged since 1963 with the responsibility of providing English translations and chants for the revised liturgical books of the Roman Rite.

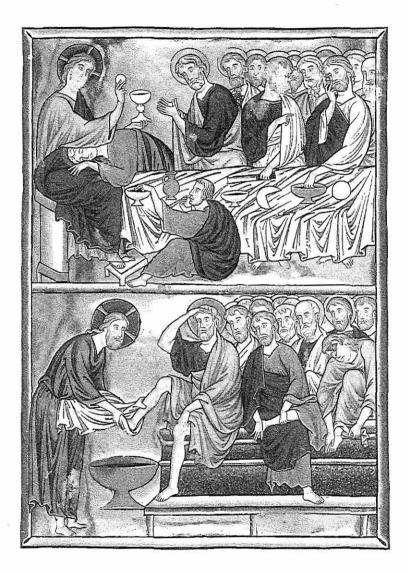
The Music Committee was formed to provide an adaptation of the Latin chants of the Missal to the new English translation of the texts. The work has involved a painstaking analysis of the principles that govern the Latin chants, has required an encyclopedic knowledge of all the literature, schools of thought, and approaches to chant adaptation in the last 150 years, and has called for a practical, pastoral sense of how the chants can be shaped in such a way that priests and people with various levels of musical ability will find them engaging and singable. At every stage of the work on the chants, Dr. Cox has met the challenges of this task with great competence, keen insight, and a wisdom that is the fruit of his many years of experience in working with choirs, priests and congregations in the singing of the chants in the liturgy.

The work of preparing the chants for the Roman Catholic Church's liturgical books is a demanding task done in anonymity. Composers, authors, translators, editors are neither named nor acknowledged in the Church's published ritual books. Dr. Cox has generously contributed to ICEL's work knowing that he was giving enormous amounts of time, expertise, and energy to a work that would not bring him public recognition and indeed very little in the way of monetary compensation. I can state unequivocally that the Bishops of the Commission and the members of the Commission's Secretariat are deeply grateful to Dr. Cox for the remarkable and lasting achievement represented by his major and indispensable role in preparing the chants for the new edition of *The Roman Missal*.

ours sincerely. Peter C. Finn

Associate Executive Director

The Antilles, Australia, Bangladesh, Canada, CEPAC (Pacific Islands), England and Wales, Gambia-Liberia-Sierra Leone, Ghana, India, Ireland, Kenya, Malaysia-Singapore, Malawi, New Zealand, Nigeria, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea and The Solomons, The Philippines, Scotland, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Tanzania, Uganda, The United States of America, Zambia, Zimbabwe



THE ROMAN MISSAL

RENEWED BY DECREE OF THE MOST HOLY SECOND ECUMENICAL COUNCIL OF THE VATICAN, PROMULGATED BY AUTHORITY OF POPE PAUL VI AND REVISED AT THE DIRECTION OF POPE JOHN PAUL II.

> ENGLISH TRANSLATION ACCORDING TO THE THIRD TYPICAL EDITION



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Music for the Roman Missal

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