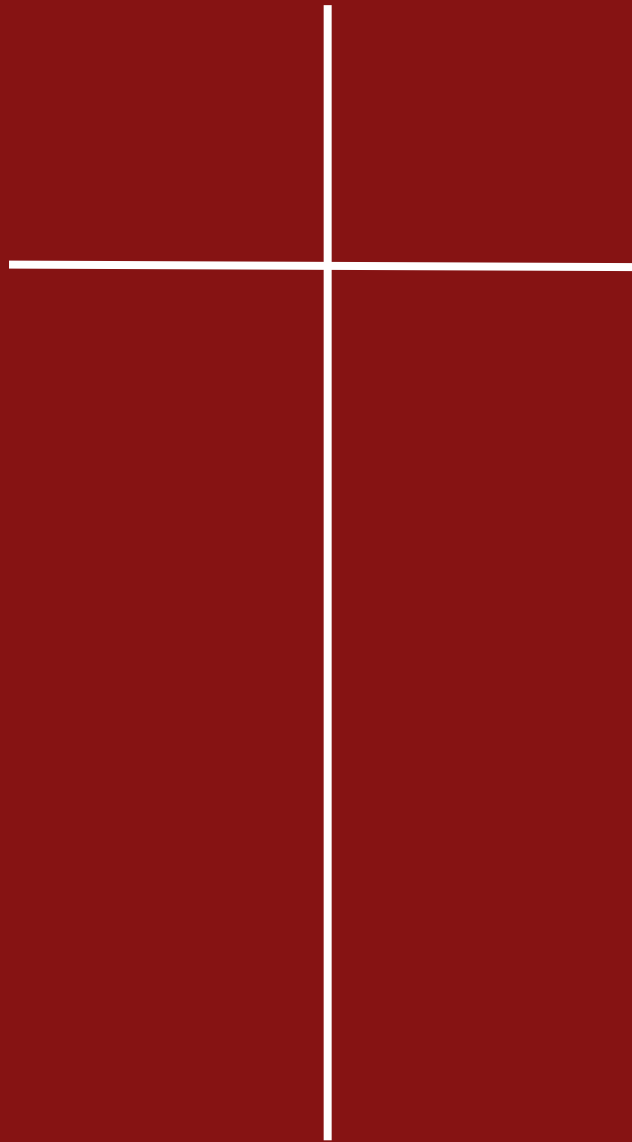


Roman Missal



For use with the Signing Deaf community

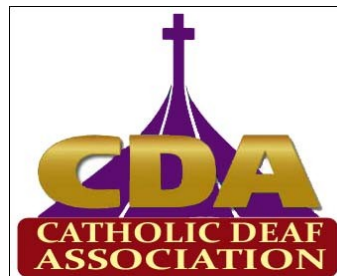
Roman Missal

For use with the Signing Deaf community

This is the text which adapted the 3rd edition of the Roman Missal for use with signing Deaf congregations within Britain using SSE/BSL. Produced by Fr Paul Fletcher SJ and Peter McDonough, with support from Fr David Quiligotti.

No parts of the Roman Missal may be reproduced without the permission of the Catholic Deaf Association.

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INTRODUCTION

British Sign Language (BSL) is recognised as the first language Deaf people in the United Kingdom. As a natural language with its own grammar, syntax, and lexicon, BSL is distinct from spoken and written English. For many Deaf individuals, BSL serves not only as their primary mode of communication but also as a central marker of cultural and linguistic identity.

The UK Government formally recognised BSL as a language in its own right in 2003, and its status was further strengthened by the British Sign Language Act 2022, which places a duty on the Catholic Church to promote and facilitate the use of BSL in any liturgical celebrations.

British Sign Language is transmitted through a different mode of communication; whereas spoken language is transmitted from mouth to ears, sign language is transmitted from hands and body to eyes. However, BSL is not the only mode that Deaf people use. A sign system such as Sign Supported English (SSE) also exists which helps to bridge the gap between Deaf and hearing people; it is not a natural sign language nor effective. For many Deaf people, English is their second language. Unfortunately, during liturgical celebrations, it is difficult, though not impossible to speak and sign, as doing so requires a high level of proficiency gained through years of training. This is where a resource such as 'Signs of God' lectionaries and this 'adapted third edition of the Roman Missal' are invaluable as they enable signing clergy to render the prayers with dignity and with accuracy.

As Latin and Greek prayers (eg Kyrie, Sanctus and Agnus Dei) are now sometimes sung during Mass, these texts are included with the translated English words on the following line to enable Sign Interpreters/Support Workers to be better able to translate these into sign language for the benefit of the signing Deaf congregation.

The Addendum (after 'blessings and prayers over the people' at the end of the Mass) also gives the Latin and English words in columns side by side as an alternative.

We welcome your comments and suggestions to enable us to continue improve our adaptation of the Roman Missal into sign language.

2026

Email: secretary@catholicdeaf.org.uk

Fr Paul Fletcher SJ & Peter McDonough with support from Fr David Quiligotti

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ADVENT

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Gloria is not said/signed.

Collect

Almighty God,
we, your faithful people, ask you†:
give us strength so that we may *{will}* meet Christ coming
and at his right side
show ourselves worthy *{good}*
to enter your heavenly kingdom.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
[who] lives and reigns with you†
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.

Creed is said/signed.

Prayer over the Offerings

[O] Lord, we pray,
from all these things you† gave us
now we offer you† these gifts.
Let our worship here give us the reward of eternal redemption.
Through Christ our Lord.

Preface I of Advent, page

Prayer after Communion

[O] Lord,
you† teach us through the celebration of these mysteries;
to do better during our life on earth
and you† help us to love the things of heaven.
Through Christ our Lord.

Solemn Blessing, page

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Gloria is not said/signed.

Collect

Almighty and merciful God,
let no worldly thing stop us meeting your Son;
let heavenly wisdom guide us into Jesus' company.
Jesus lives and reigns with you †
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.

Creed is said/signed.

Prayer over the Offerings

[O] Lord,
we want to please you †
with our humble prayers and offerings.
Without the protection of your mercy,
we are nothing.
We pray you † will come and save us.
Through Christ our Lord.

Preface I of Advent, page

Prayer after Communion

[O] Lord,
you † replenish *{fill}* us with spiritual nourishment *{food}*,
we humbly ask you †,
through the celebration of this mystery,
to teach us to judge wisely the things of earth,
and to remain focussed on the things of heaven.
Through Christ our Lord.

Solemn Blessing, page 248.

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Use violet or rose colour vestments today.

Gloria is not said/signed.

Collect

[O] God,
you↑ see us faithfully waiting
for the feast of the Lord's Nativity *{birth}*,
we pray to you↑ to help us to achieve the joy of salvation,
and to celebrate
with solemn *{respectful}* worship and rejoicing.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
[who] lives and reigns with you↑
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.

Creed is said/signed.

Prayer over the Offerings

Lord, we pray,
let our continual sacrifice and worship,
complete *{finish}* the things begun in sacred mystery,
and powerfully accomplish *{achieve}* your saving work for us.
Through Christ our Lord.

Preface I or II of Advent, page

Prayer after Communion

Lord,
we implore *{pray}* your mercy,
that this divine nourishment,
will cleanse *{remove}* our faults
and prepare us for the coming feasts.
Through Christ our Lord.

Solemn Blessing, page 248.

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Gloria is not said/signed.

Collect

[O] Lord,
we ask you† to pour grace into our hearts
that the message we received of an Angel
about Jesus becoming man,
may {will} through Jesus' suffering and Cross
bring us to the glory {↔ ↔} of his Resurrection.
Jesus lives and reigns with you†
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.

Creed is said/signed.

Prayer over the Offerings

[O] Lord,
the power of the Holy Spirit
blesses {☺↓↓☺} the gifts [on] this your altar,
the same power of the Holy Spirit
filled the womb of the Blessed {☺☺☺↗} Virgin Mary.
Through Christ our Lord.

Preface II of Advent, page

Prayer after Communion

Almighty God,
we received your promise of eternal salvation.
Preparing for the feast of salvation,
we pray we will be eager {keen} to celebrate worthily
the mystery of your Son's Nativity {birth}.
Jesus lives and reigns for ever and ever.

Solemn Blessing, page

ONLY THE FIRST FOUR (ADVENT) MASSES ARE
AVAILABLE HERE.

TO ACCESS THE FULL ROMAN MISSAL,
PLEASE LOG IN VIA THE MEMBERS PAGE.

IF YOU ARE NOT A MEMBER, YOU CAN JOIN.
PLEASE SEE THE HOME PAGE AND SCROLL
DOWN TO THE BOTTOM. THANK YOU.