

Major principles of *Liturgiam Authenticam* in plainer language

- Translate the original [Latin] text integrally and in the most exact manner, without omissions or additions in terms of their content (19);
- Retain biblical or liturgical words found in the ancient languages (such as Amen, Alleluia and Kyrie Eleison) (23);
- Make sure that people who don't have years of education can understand the translated text (25);
- Assure that the language is easily understandable, yet preserves the dignity, beauty and doctrinal precision of the texts (25);
- Make sure the text is doctrinally sound (26);
- Avoid expressions that hinder understanding because they are too unusual or awkward (27) ;
- Avoid trendy language (27);
- Retain the formational and doctrinal aspects of the texts (28);
- Let the signs and images in the text speak for themselves since the liturgy engages the whole person in active participation (28);
- Use homilies and catechesis to set forth the meaning of the texts (29);
- Don't limit the sense of the original text (32);
- Keep words that are commonly used in catechesis and devotional prayer (40);
- Don't confuse or upset the people: avoid words or styles that might be confused as Protestant (40);
- Foster correspondence between the biblical text and the Church's centuries-old liturgical texts that contain biblical words or allusions (49). Let the locally-used translations of scripture be your guide (49) (In the English-speaking world, these would be the New Revised Standard Version [NRSV], the New American Bible [NAB], and the Jerusalem Bible [JB].)
- Try to use language used in the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* for words referring to doctrinal matters (50);
- Keep the typical Roman style of expression: straightforward, concise, and compact. Make sure there's internal consistency when you translate words or phrases. (57)
- Follow as closely as possible the sentence structure of the Latin (57b);
- Translate in such a way that the text can be sung (60);
- Keep in mind how the text will be used: Will it be used frequently? How much time is needed to speak it? Is this suitable for singing? (62);
- Change as little as possible in the "previously approved vernacular texts of the Eucharistic prayers" that people know by heart (64);
- Change the parts of the people "only for a just and considerable reason" (75);
- If you have to change, make the changes all at once. Don't prolong the pain (75);
- Have only one translation of the people's parts in any vernacular language (87);
- You can compose new texts in response to a pastoral or cultural need. Just make sure they sound almost exactly like the existing texts (107).