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**NORTHEASTERN CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD**
"You Are The Light of The World!"

NEWS RELEASE

Catholic School Board Welcomes New Changes to the Mass Northeastern Ontario, November 23, 2011:

The Northeastern Catholic District School Board welcomes the upcoming changes, including new prayers and gestures that the Catholic Church is implementing in all English-speaking counties around the world for the celebration of Mass. These changes will begin on **November 27, 2011**, the **First Sunday of Advent** and the start of the new Church year.

Up until about fifty years ago, Masses throughout the world were celebrated in Latin. During Vatican II, the bishops of the world decided to make Mass more accessible to the people and more easily understood. As such, permission was granted to use the language of the country where Mass was celebrated. So now French people could pray in French, Spanish people in Spanish, Italian people in Italian, and so on.

In the 1960's, the words for the English Mass were translated using a method of translation that allowed one to simply to translate the idea of what the Latin said, not the exact or literal wording.

In the year 2000, Pope John Paul II issued a revised version of the Latin Missal. The current English Missal therefore needed to be revised again. However, at that time, a different method of translation was being used by the Church which required a literal translation from the Latin. The Church realized that they could translate the idea while still preserving the very poetic language and sentence structure that is present in the original Latin.

Glenn Sheculski, Director of Education, noted "When we come together to celebrate our faith, it is important that we reflect on the words and their true meaning. The Catholic Mass is a vehicle for all of us to grow our own faith and personal relationship with Jesus Christ."

These new words are being used by every English speaking Catholic in the whole world. If you went to England or the United States or Australia, you would hear the exact same words.

Fr. John Lemire, Director of Liturgy for the English Pastoral Region of the Diocese of Timmins and Pastor of Our Mother of Perpetual Help in New Liskeard and St. Patrick Parish in Cobalt, commented "This is a historic moment in the life of the Church for the English-speaking world. As I have been preparing for these changes and conducting workshops for parishioners, I have been struck by the richness and beauty of the revised prayers. As we pray with new words and new gestures come the first Sunday of Advent, I believe we will have a more profound experience of the presence of God and be filled with a greater sense of reverence and awe for the gift of the Eucharist."

For more information, please contact:

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