

No lack of resources available to prepare Catholics for new missal

WASHINGTON (CNS) -- As Catholics look toward Nov. 27, when the new edition of the Roman Missal goes into use in the United States, there is no lack of resources to help them prepare for the new sound and feel of the liturgy. Dozens of books and brochures have been published or are in the works, along with many DVDS and audiotapes aimed at specific audiences -- from priests to teens to elementary school students. But how can average Catholics know what the best resources are for their particular circumstances? Father Richard Hilgartner, executive director of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' Secretariat on Divine Worship, advises people to look to their pastors, diocesan worship offices or Catholic bookstores for recommendations. "Anything will ultimately be helpful in some way," he told [Catholic News Service](#). "But some materials are more targeted at different age groups and audiences." He does not recommend that Catholics get their information about implementation of the new missal exclusively from the blogosphere, however. Much of the liturgical information on popular Catholic blogs is "not fact but opinion," he said. "And it is hard to discern what is helpful." Some of the resources are designed to work best in an adult religious education or small-group faith formation program. Ascension Press, for example, has released "A Biblical Walk Through the Mass," a five-part DVD series, book and workbook, along with a 20-page "Guide to the New Translation of the Mass," which includes a pull-out reference card detailing the new responses by the people at various parts of the Mass. "Perhaps more than any other time in recent history, people's attention will be focused on the Mass," said Catholic theologian Edward Sri, who wrote "A Biblical Walk Through the Mass" and the briefer guide. "This is an excellent opportunity for catechesis and faith formation."