

16 February 2016

Dear Bishop _____ ,

On **20 November 2012** the Bishops' Liturgy Committee (USCCB) confirmed that you gave your approval—which they call your “tacit” approval—for all the texts we've been using in our Ordinary Form Masses to replace the ones approved by Pope Paul VI.

You're probably aware that 99% of parishes replace the official texts (approved by Pope Paul VI) with other texts: some written by Catholics, many by non-Catholics. As you know, the GIRM specifically requires (§48) that anyone replacing the official Mass texts must first obtain approval from the local bishop for the substitution text. *

I'm writing to double check that you have, in fact, approved these texts & melodies (which you've never seen or heard) as the Bishops' Liturgy Committee says you did “tacitly.”

I'm going to start putting your name on all these variant texts—which replace the ones approved by Pope Paul VI—so everyone will know that you have approved them.

Sincerely yours,

* The Bishops' Conference can also approve replacement texts according to the GIRM: “cuius textus a Conferentia Episcoporum sit approbatus.”