

Did Vatican II reform the Mass?

Jeff Ostrowski was asked to “summarize” his recent article:

<https://www.ccwatershed.org/2021/10/10/bewildering-weird-assertion-by-bishop-arthur-roche-congregation-for-divine-worship/>

Mr. Ostrowski has attempted to create a brief summary (below), but please see the full article for details.

VATICAN II MANDATED BUT DID NOT OVERSEE

The Second Vatican Council did not “reform” the liturgy—it mandated (*but did not oversee*) a reform that would not take place until half a decade after Vatican II had already ended. Moreover, the reforms were done by a completely different group of people than the fathers of Vatican II expected when they voted.

“THE PATHETIC CREATURE WE CREATED”

Father Louis Bouyer is an example of someone *deeply involved* in the liturgical reforms who changed his mind when he saw the results. Father Bouyer—a close friend of Pope Paul VI—was the author of “Eucharistic Prayer Number 2.” Once Father Bouyer saw the results, he referred to those liturgical reforms as “the pathetic creature we created.”

HOW CAN WE BE SURE ?

How can we be sure the reforms (which happened more than half a decade after Vatican II had already ended) contradict what Vatican II wanted? Some examples:

Vatican II said Gregorian Chant was to be given “first place in liturgical services” (SC §116).

—*That is not the reform we got!*

Vatican II said “the treasure of sacred music is to be preserved and fostered with great care” and “choirs must be diligently promoted” (SC §114).

—*That is not the reform we got!*

Vatican II said “the Latin language is to be retained by clerics in the divine office” (SC §101).

—*That is not the reform we got!*

Vatican II specifically recommended polyphony (SC §116) for liturgical celebrations.

—*That is not the reform we got!*

Vatican II said the congregation is supposed to “say or to sing together in Latin those parts of the Mass Ordinary which pertain to them” (SC §54).

—*That is not the reform we got!*