

BELOW is an excerpt from Bugnini's book which ought to give an idea of the haphazard way the Reform was implemented. What was the big rush? On 4 May 1967, Bugnini's Concilium said this about the Liturgical Reforms of 1964:

Their rich yield is becoming quite clear from the many reports of bishops, which attest to an increased, more aware, and intense participation of the faithful everywhere in the liturgy, especially in the holy sacrifice of the Mass.

14. Initial Use

The Congregation for Divine Worship was also concerned about the use to be made of this monumental opus that is the Lectionary for Mass. On July 15, 1969, it therefore issued a suitable instruction in which it provided the episcopal conferences with some guidelines.²³

1) The First Sunday of Advent (November 30, 1969) is appointed as the first day on which the new Lectionary may be used along with the new Order of Mass. But the use is optional; it becomes obligatory when the episcopal conferences determine the date on which the vernacular Lectionary is to be placed in use in each country.

2) The considerable number of the readings will require that the new Lectionary be published in several volumes. The conferences will decide how to distribute the material among the various volumes in order to facilitate their liturgical use.

3) Provision must be made first for publication of the volumes with the readings for Sundays and feasts, beginning with the volume containing the readings of Year B, that is, the cycle used in the 1969–70 liturgical year.

4) Until the new weekday Lectionary is published, the systems presently being used in almost all countries may continue in use.

5) For the same reason, continued use may be made of the Roman Missal for the Proper and Common of the Saints, the votive Masses, and the Masses on various occasions until the new Lectionary is ready.

Other guidelines had to do with the translation and printing of Lectionaries in the vernacular.

²³. *Instructio de editionibus apparandis et de usu novi Ordinis Lectionum Missae* (July 25, 1969): *Not* 5 (1969) 238–39; *DOL* 233 nos. 1879–77. See also “De textibus biblicis in editione latina Missalis romani et liturgiae horarum,” *Not* 9 (1973) 39–40.