What’s New…and What Have We Failed to Do

Mr. Jeremy Helmes, MA
Why is this happening?

- *Liturgiam Authenticam* (2001)
  - Order of Mass and *GIRM* (2011)
  - Confirmation, Marriage, Blessing of a Church, etc.
  - Baptism, and then other ritual books
- Timeline for *OBC*
- New translation of the 2nd “typical edition” (Latin master text)
Value of communal celebration

- *General Introduction to Christian Initiation #27:* “As far as possible, all recently born babies should be baptized at a common celebration on the same day.”

- **AND:** “Except for a good reason, baptism should not be celebrated more than once on the same day in the same church.”
Before we start...

Three modes:
- Several Children
- One Child
- “Large Number”

Vestments:
- OLD: “of festive color”
- *NEW*: color “proper to the day or liturgical time” or white
*NEW* INTRODUCTORY MONITION:

“Dear parents and godparents: your families have experienced great joy at the birth of your children, and the Church shares your happiness. Today this joy has brought you to the Church to give thanks to God for the gift of your children and to celebrate a new birth in the waters of Baptism.
At the door of the church

This community rejoices with you, for today the number of those baptized in Christ will be increased, and we offer you our support in raising your children in the practice of the faith. Therefore, brothers and sisters, let us now prepare ourselves to participate in this celebration, listening to God’s word, praying for these children and their families, and renewing our commitment to the Lord and his people.”
#16: “Reception of the children”

#35: Begin with a psalm or hymn “suitable for the occasion”

#41: *NEW* exhortation: “The Church of God receives you with great joy. In her name I sign you with the Sign of the Cross of Christ our Savior; then, after me, your parents and godparents will do the same.”

#42: Procession to place for Liturgy of the Word “if circumstances permit”
At the ambo

• #14: “During the Liturgy of the Word, it is desirable that children be taken to another place.”

• #17: Choice and number of readings: “One or more passages from Holy Scripture”;

• #46: after the homily, silence, or “if convenient” a song may be sung.

• Intercessions
At the ambo

- Litany of the Saints
  - Sung in place where the LotW took place
  - *NEW*: litany is same as in Easter Vigil; names of other saints may be added: patrons of the children, parish church, city, etc.

- Prayer of Exorcism

- Anointing with Oil of Catechumens

- Procession to the font
Anointing with Oil of Catechumens

OLD:
In the United States, may be omitted “only when the minister of baptism [priest or deacon] judges the omission to be pastorally necessary or desirable.”

*NEW*:
"In the United States, if, for serious reasons, the celebrant judges it pastorally necessary or desirable, the Anointing before Baptism may be omitted.

In this case, the minister says: ‘May the strength of Christ the savior protect you. Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.’”
At the font

- Blessing of water
- Renunciation of Sin & Profession of Faith
  - *Outside of Mass*: Parents and godparents ONLY
  - *Within Mass*: ALL
- Baptism: Immersion, partial immersion, or pouring
  - *General Introduction to Christian Initiation*
  - #22: Immersion is “more suitable as a symbol of participation in the death and resurrection of Christ” than pouring.
- Pastoral AND practical
At the font

- Acclamation after Baptism:
  - *NEW*: one acclamation will be in place, other 20! In back of the book.
  - “Blessed be God who chose you in Christ.” (Ephesians 1:3-4)
Anointing with Chrism

**OLD:**
“The God of power and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ has freed you from sin and brought you to new life through water the Holy Spirit. He now anoints you with the chrism of salvation, so that, united with his people, you may remain forever a member of Christ who is Priest, Prophet, and King.”

**NEW:**
“Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, has freed you from sin, given you new birth by water and the Holy Spirit, and joined you to his people. He now anoints you with the Chrism of salvation, so that you remain members of Christ, Priest, Prophet, and King, unto eternal life.”
Clothing with the White Garment

**OLD:**

“N. you have become a new creation, and have clothed yourselves in Christ. See in this white garment the outward sign of your Christian dignity. With your family and friends to help you by word and example, bring that dignity unstained into the everlasting life of heaven.”

**NEW:**

“N. you have become a new creation and have clothed yourselves in Christ. May this white garment be a sign to you of your Christian dignity. With your family and friends to help you by word and example, bring it unstained into eternal life.”
“Receive the light of Christ. Parents and godparents, this light is entrusted to you to be kept burning brightly. These children of yours have been enlightened by Christ. They are to walk always as children of the light. May they keep the flame of faith alive in their hearts. When the Lord comes, may they go out to meet him with all the saints in the heavenly kingdom.”

“Receive the light of Christ. Parents and godparents, this light is entrusted to you to be kept burning brightly, so that your children, enlightened by Christ, may walk always as children of the light and, persevering in the faith, may run to meet the Lord when he comes with all the Saints in the heavenly court.”
Ephphetha
(Prayer over Ears and Mouth)

- #65: may be performed “at the discretion of the minister”
- Why would we omit it? Why would we include it?
At the altar

- If Mass, then Prep of Gifts is now. If not Mass, then:
- Song during procession to altar
- Lord’s Prayer
- Blessing and Dismissal
- Blessing of mothers (“who hold the children in their arms” #70), then fathers, then all
- #71: Hymn “which suitably expresses thanksgiving and Easter joy, or they may sing the song of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Magnificat”
- If customary, the child can be brought “to the altar of the blessed Virgin” if appropriate.