



Catholic Diocese of Auckland

## Liturgy Centre

---

30 New Street, Ponsonby  
Private Bag 47 904, Ponsonby, Auckland  
Phone: (09) 378 4380 Fax: (09) 376 2829  
Website: [www.liturgycentre.org.nz](http://www.liturgycentre.org.nz)

### Directive in the use of 'Yahweh' in the Liturgy.

The following documents were printed in the 'Liturgy' magazine, November 2008 & September 2009 issues following the directives issued by the Congregation for Divine Worship and Discipline of the Sacraments.

Since the time these articles were written, all hymns have now been adjusted with the appropriate wording. Please see page 3 and 4 for a list of hymns that have been adjusted.

The Auckland Catholic Diocese now uses [One License](#) for all copyright reporting which covers the OCP publishers as mentioned in the original article on the following page.

If you would like to know more information regarding One License or anything in the following documents, get in touch with us via [email](#) or give us a call on [09 3603042](tel:093603042) we'll be glad to help.

Yours faithfully,

The Team at the Liturgy Centre

## **Directive in the use of ‘Yahweh’ in the Liturgy.**

The below was printed in the ‘Liturgy’ magazine Volume 33, Number 4, November 2008.

### **God’s Holy Name**

It has always been the Jewish tradition, more recently recognized in Christian circles, that the holy name of God is not pronounced. This tradition expresses a profound respect for the mystery of God. When the Tetragrammaton (the Hebrew letters YHWH) usually pronounced as *Yahweh*, occurs in biblical texts the reader typically substitutes the word *Lord* (or *Adonai* in Hebrew, *Kyrios* in Greek, *Dominus* in Latin. In a note sent to bishops’ conferences from the Congregation for Divine Worship and Discipline of the Sacraments in June this year, the reminder was given that the name of God is not to be spoken in the liturgy.

While this matter has already been attended to in the Lectionary and in the texts of the Mass, we may still hear it in our hymnody. Readers will be familiar with Dan Schutte’s *Yahweh, I know you are near* and Gregory Norbet’s *Yahweh is the God of my salvation*. In the meantime the use of these hymns is to be avoided.

To address the situation as quickly as possible liturgical music publisher OCP has approached its composers and asked them to supply an alternative text to their hymns. These texts are being posted on the publisher’s website as they become available at

<http://www.ocp.org/directive08>

GIA Publications, publisher of the well-known ‘Gather’ hymnal, will be unaffected since they have already had an editorial policy against the use of the name Yahweh in the place since 1986.

No information is available for the ‘As One Voice’ collection as Australian publisher Willow Connection could not be contacted at the time of publication.

# Revised Wording for Hymns.

The below was printed in the Liturgy Magazine Volume 34, Number 3, September 2009.

## **God's Holy Name – Revised Wording for Hymns**

In the November edition of *Liturgy*, (Vol 33 No 4) we drew attention to the instruction that the holy name of God, using the Hebrew letters YHWH is not to be pronounced; rather a substitution is to be made. Publishers, authors and composers were asked to make changes to the wording of familiar hymns. Here is a list of those changes that have been made. Please ensure this list is made available to your music ministers.

## **God of my Salvation**

GP 275, AOV1 68 (*formerly Yahweh*)

*New first line:* Lord, you are the God of my salvation.

*Formerly:* Yahweh is the God of my salvation

## **I Lift Up My Soul**

GP 23, AOV1 102

*New Antiphon:* To you Lord, I lift up my soul, O my God

*Formerly:* To you, Yahweh, I lift up my soul, O my God.

## **In Praise Of His Name** GP 28

*New verse 2:* Let all creation rise and give praise to our God,  
Creator of heaven and earth...

*Formerly:* Let all creation rise and give praise to our God,  
for Yahweh alone is God...

## **Like A Seal** GP 34

*New verse 1:* The flash of it is a flash of fire, a flame of the Lord himself.

*Formerly:* The flash of it is a flash of fire, a flame of Yahweh himself.

## **Michah's Theme** CWB 748, GA 486

*New Refrain:* Hear then what God asks...

*Formerly:* Hear then what Yahweh asks...

## **Sing A New Song** AOV 80, GA 414, GP 47

*New Verse 1:* Shout with gladness! Dance for Joy!

*Formerly:* Yahweh's people dance with joy!

## **Strong And Constant** AOV1 110, EW 1

*New first line:* I will be God who walks with you.

*Formerly:* I will be Yahweh who walks with you

**The Faithful One** GP 58

(formerly Yahweh the Faithful One)

*New Refrain:* God's mighty love will last forever, from age to age till the end of time. Steadfast is our loving God, forever the faithful One.

*Formerly:* Yahweh's love will last forever, his faithfulness till the end of time. Yahweh is a loving God, Yahweh the faithful One.

**You Are Near** GA 451, GP 59, AOV1 112

*New Refrain:* Lord, I know you are near...

*Formerly:* Yahweh I know you are near...

**Abbreviations:**

GP *Glory and Praise*, AOV *As One Voice*, CWB *Catholic Worship Book*, GA *Gather Australia*, EW *Eagles Wings*.