

ENGLISH WORD USAGE IN REFLECTIONS

Pronouns that refer to Jesus have the first letter capitalized. Also, capitalization is used in such words as “Brother” when it refers to Jesus. apostled and apostling– the verb form of the noun apostle. It means “sent on a mission. :”

atonement - reparation or expiation for sin. Another way to look at the word is “at-one’ment” or the state of being “at one” with GOD.

church vs Church – Capitalized means the one Church of GOD with Jesus as the Cornerstone, Keystone, and Capstone, and the apostles as the foundation and the believers as building blocks. Lower cased it refers to physical buildings or local communities.

command/commandment – from three Latin words: *cum* – with; *manus* – hand; and *do/dare*. Thus, command is something given to a person so that the one gifted can be hand and hand with the Giver.

compassion, compassionate – from the Latin words, com (with) patior/passio (pain, suffering). Thus, to be compassionate means to “suffer with” other people. The Greek words **συμ παθικος** (*sym patikos*) and **εμ παθικος** (*em patikos*) also means “suffering with” or “suffering in conjunction with) and from which we get the English words “sympathy” and “empathy.”

discipline and disciple – from the Latin word for learning

Emmanuel or Immanuel – Hebrew name meaning “GOD is with us.”

enthusiastic, entthusism, enthused -- comes from two Greek words **εν** (*en* = “in”) and **θεο** (*theo* = “GOD”). Thus, a person who is enthusiastic is “in GOD” and “GOD is in” the person. They are energized by being in relationship with GOD.

Epiphany – from the Greek words **επι** (*epi* - “upon”) and **φανια** (*phania* - “shining”) – thus, a “shining upon.” It is often translated as “revelation” or “manifestation.”

GOD – (all in capital letters) refers to the Hebrew GOD of the Old Testament or the Triune GOD of New Testament. Other words which have the GOD in them are GODly, GODhead.

GOoD or GOoDness – used to remind us that true GOoD is from GOD.

Inspired – the “breath” or “Spirit” of GOD has been blown into a person. The person is moved by the Spirit, for the “Spirit” is “in” the person, leading to a “Spirited” thought or action.

LORD – English translation of the Hebrew *Adonai* that is used when ever the tetragram of the proper name of GOD – *YHWH* – “**I am Who AM” or “I AM.”**

OCIA – Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (formerly known as RCIA – Rite of Initiation of Adults). It is the process of preparing adults to receive the Sacraments of Initiation – Baptism, Confirmation, and Holy Eucharist.

patience and patient – from the Latin *patior* and *passio* meaning “suffering”

phosphorescence of certain materials (*phosphors*), which comes from two Greek words **φος** – *phos* (“light) and **φορεας** – *phoreas* (“bearer”)

reconciliation – from three Latin words, *re* (again), *con/cum* (with); and *clia* (eyebrow). Thus, reconciliation is being able to look eye-to-eye with another person. It implies a repaired relationship.

religion – from the Latin words *re* (meaning “again) and *ligio* (binding). It is the binding again of a person with GOD or the process that helps a person bond again with GOD, particularly after sin has caused a rife in the relationship with GOD.

sacramentalize – “symbolize” or “sign forth”

Sadducees – the Jews who did not believe in life after death. An easy way to remember in what they didn’t believe: *[It is “sad, you see,” that the Sadducees did not believe in eternal life*

Tradition – from Latin *trans* – over and *do, dare* – give or hand on, thus, something that is “handed over” or “handed down”

Yeshua, Joshua, Jesus – a Hebrew name *Yehoshua* (**יהושע**) that means “GOD saves” or “GOD’s salvation.”

TRANSLATION OF GREEK AND HEBREW WORDS

Abba or *Abba-Father* – comes from the Hebrew word, *abba*, that means one's own father. It is a personal word for a father, similar to the English "Daddy" or "Papa." When *Abba* or *Abba-Father* is used with capital letters, it refers to GOD the Father, the First Person of the Blessed Trinity.

adama - -the Hebrew word, אדמָה means "ground" or "clay." From this comes the name Adam - אָדָם.

ad Deum – the Latin phrase means "to GOD." It implies that a person is "on their way to GOD." It comes into Spanish as "*aDios*" or into French as "*aDieu*" and has come to mean "Good-bye" or "Be heading to GOD."

Adonai – "Lord" or "LORD." In the Old Testament of the New American Bible, "the LORD" is used to translate the Hebrew tetragram of *YHWH*, the proper name of GOD given by GOD to Moses, and is never spoken by Jews. It is translated into English as "I AM WHO AM" or simply "I AM."

adventus – the Latin word for "coming"

agape -the Greek word, ἀγάπη (*agape*) is "love." It is one of the greatest qualities of GOD. In Greek, there are four words for "love." The greatest type of "love" is *agape*. It is sometimes translated as "unconditional love." St. John in his First Letter speaks about this "unconditional love." It is often the word that is the translation of the Hebrew word *hesed*. *Agapas* is a verb which means "you love." *αγαπατε* – *agapate* is the Greek imperative (command): "you all love."

agnos – αγνός – Greek word meaning "pure" from which we get the English name Agnes

aparneomai – the Greek word, ἀπαρνεόμαι – meaning, "total rejection or renunciation of one's ideas"

anenegkein -the Greek word, ἀνενεγκεῖν, means "to take away." In Hebrews 9: 28 it describes Jesus in the act of taking away sins.

a theos or *a theoi*- Greek phrase means "away from GOD" or "against GOD." The English word atheist, comes from the phrase and means someone who is against GOD or heading away from GOD. It can mean someone who is in mortal sin.

almah – Hebrew word for woman, or virgin

Anawim – Hebrew word of poor, disenfranchised, burdened or lowly people. It literally means "the bent over people." Thus, it can refer to people who bent over because of being overburdened or carrying a heavy load. It can also mean those people who bent over in their coming before GOD and seeking GOD's help.

amenmesis – the Greek word, ἀνεμνησις, means "remembering," This type of "remembering" is much more than recalling an event. It implies re-living or a re-enactment of a past event and making it come alive again. It is the Greek translation of the Hebrew word, *zikaron* - זִכְרוֹן – meaning "to remember." When Jesus told His apostles at the Last Supper, "Do this in Memory of Me,." He was telling them to re-enact what He did as He changed bread into His Body and wine into His Blood, thus making Him present in what we call the Eucharist.

angelos from the Greek word, ἄγγελος, – meaning "messenger" or "angel." The word comes into Latin as *angelus*. In Spanish is *ángel*, plural *ángeles*.. Thus, the city in California is Los Angeles ("the angels) or "the City of the Angels" The proper name of the city is *El Pueblo de Nuestra Señora la Reina de los Ángeles del Río Porciúncula* – "The town of Our Lady, the Queen of Angels of the River Porciuncula."

anathen –the Greek word, ἄνωθεν, has a double meaning. It can mean "again" or "from above." In John chapter 3, Jesus speaks to Nicodemus and says that one needs to be born *anathen*. Nicodemus thinks that he must be born "again." Jesus wants him to be born "from above."

aparneomai – the Greek word, ἀπαρνεομαι, meaning "to renounce" or "to deny."

apostolos – the Greek word, ἀπόστολος (*apóstolos*), meaning "one who is sent off" or "one on a mission", from two Greek words, + *apó* (*apó*), "off, away from" and. *στέλλειν* ("*stellein*"), "to send" It comes into Latin as *missionarius* meaning missionary or "one on a mission/sending."

baptizo -from the Greek word βαπτίζω meaning "to plunge or immerse in water. The words baptize and baptism come from the Greek word.

berakah – the Hebrew word, בְּרָכָה, means "blessing. It is used to signify a prayer of blessing.

charisma (plural *charismata* – “gift.” The English word, “charism,” is an exact translation. A charism is more than just a gift given to an individual. It is a gift given to a person, but it is meant to enhance not just the person, but to be used to enhance the lives of other people. The word, “charismatic,” comes from this word.

Cheit – the Hebrew word **חַיָּת** is translated in to Greek as **ἁρμαία (harmatia)**. Both the Hebrew word and the Greek word mean “missing the mark” or “sin.”

Christos or **Χριστος** – Greek word for the Hebrew, **מָשִׁיחַ - מִי שֶׁנִּשְׁמָח or מִי שֶׁנִּשְׁמָח – mashiach** –Messiah, meaning “the Anointed One.”

dabar or debar – the Hebrew word for “word.” The **Debar YHWH** (Word of GOD) is not just a spoken sound or a writing of letters, it is the action of GOD what makes things happen. It is translated into Greek as **Logos**.

demos – the Greek word, **δῆμος**) meaning “people,” See below **nike** for a possible use of demos in the name Nicodemus..

diakonos – the Greek word, **diakonos** means “servant” or “minister.” The plural of **diakonos** is **diakonoi**, The English word, “deacon” comes from this Greek word and signifies one is of service to others. **Diakoniai means** “ministries.”

Ego eimi – the Greek phrase, **“ἐγώ εἰμι,” means “I am.”** This is linked to the Hebrew proper name of GOD **YHWH** (sometimes translated as “I AM Who AM”). In John’s Gospel, particularly, Jesus uses this phrase to link Himself to the YHWH GOD.

ekklesia – the Greek word, **ἐκκλησία**, meaning “assembly” or “church.” It comes into Latin as **ecclesia**. In Spanish it is **iglesia**. It refers more to the coming together of people than a building made of bricks or wood. We are the **ekklesia** – the Church – the Body of Christ (Ephesians 1: 15-23).

Emet – the Hebrew word **אֱמֶת**, means “enduring fidelity,” or “truth,” “faithfulness.” It is sometimes transliterated as **amet** or **emeth**. What is interesting in the three-letter word, is that begins with first letter of the Hebrew alphabet, and the third letter of the words is the last letter of the Hebrew alphabet. The middle of the three letters is the middle letter of the 27 lettered Hebrew alphabet. Thus, the word begins in the beginning, goes to the middle, and ends with the last.

episcopus – the Greek word, **ἐπίσκοπος**, means “bishop” or “overseer.” The English word, episcopal comes from this work.

eskenosen – the Greek word **ἐσκηνώσεν** mentioned in John 1: 14 “He dwelt among us” or “made His dwelling among us,” or “pitched His tent among us.” – the Greek word **σκηνή** – **skene** means “tent” from which we get the English word, “scene,” that is a tent at the back of the Greek stage that could show different backgrounds. The Israelite people believed that if a person pitched a tent among them, the person was willing to live fully as a member of the community.

euangelion or **evangelion** come from the Greek word **εὐαγγέλιον** – which is composed of two Greek words **εὐ (eu or ev** meaning “GOoD”) and **αγγελιον (angelion) meaning** “message” or “news.” Thus, **euangelion** or **evangelion** means “GOoD News” “GOD’s message” or “Gospel.” Also coming from the Greek word is the English words “evangelist.” “evangelize,” and “evangelical”

eucharistia – the Greek word, **ευχαριστία**, means “thanksgiving.” The Eucharist is first and foremost a prayer of “thanksgiving” to GOD our **Abba**-Father for sending the Son to save us. We give thanks by re-enacting and make present Jesus as His words, “This is My Body. . .and this is My Blood” are spoken.

ex cathedra – Latin for “from the chair.” When the Pope proclaims an infallible dogma, he does “from the Chair” of St. Peter.

fiat – Latin, “let it be” – Mary’s response to GOD’s request for her to be the Mother of Jesus

guadete – Latin word meaning “You [all] rejoice.” Guadete Sunday is the Third Sunday in Advent, reminding us to rejoice because the Coming of the Lord Jesus is near.

haggadah – the Hebrew word, **הַגְּדָה**, means “story.” It is the story from Exodus that re-tells and allows the Jewish people to re-enact and celebrate the Exodus experience.

Hallel – the Hebrew word, **הַלֵּל**, means “praise.” The English word, Hallelujah or Alleluia come from Hallel and means “Praise the LORD.”

hesed -the Hebrew word for love. It is sometimes transliterated as **chesed**. It refers to one of the two major qualities of GOD and is sometimes translated as “unconditional love” or “loving kindness. The other major quality of GOD is **emet** (or **emeth**) which is translated as eternal or everlasting mercy.

homologeō – the Greek word, **ὁμολογέω**, comes from two Greek words **homos** (ὁμός – “same”) and **logia** (λογία – “speaking”). Thus, **homologeō** means “speaking the same.”

Johanan – Hebrew name of יהוהנן “John,” meaning “GOD is gracious” or “GOD’s Gift”

karpos – the Greek word, καρπός, is a singular word which means “fruit” or harvest. In Galatians 5: 22-23, I prefer the usage of “harvest,” as St. Paul talks about the **karpos** of the Holy Spirit. A harvest can have many crops or fruits being picked and processed. Harvest also implies that work has been done to prepare the crops and fruits to be grown and then collected.

laetare – Latin word mean “Rejoice.” Laetare Sunday is the Fourth Sunday in Lent. We are asked to look forward to rejoicing as Jesus shares with us His Body and Blood, He dies, and He is risen.

logos – the Greek word, λογος, means “word.” The **Logos** of GOD is GOD’s speaking and causing things to happen. In John 1, the **Logos** of GOD is with GOD in the creation, is divine, and becomes human in Jesus’s incarnation (or taking on flesh). **Logos** is the Greek translation of the Hebrew word, *debar*.

magnificat – Latin - magnifies – the first word of Mary’s prayer “My soul magnifies the Lord” or “My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord.” Luke -1: 46

mardi gras – the French phrase which is literally translated into English as “Fat Tuesday.” It is the day before Ash Wednesday. Another name for “Fat Tuesday” is Carnival (from the Latin *carne levare* meaning “remove meat”)/ In former times, it was the last day that meat could be eaten during Lent.

martyros – the Greek word, μαρτυρος, means “witness.” The English word, “martyr” comes from this Greek word. μαρτυρεῖτε – **martyreite** – imperative (command) – meaning “give witness.”

Mašia - מָשִׁיחַ or מְשִׁיחַ – **mashiach** translated into English as Messiah or into Greek as Χριστος or **Christos** – **Christ** – **Meaning “the Anointed One.”**

Massah – the Hebrew word, מַסָּה – meaning “rebellion” -- the place where the Israelites tested GOD (Exodus 17: 7).

Meribah – the Hebrew word, מְרִיבָה, meaning “rebellion” -- the place where the Israelites rebelled against GOD (Exodus 17: 7).

metanoia – two Greek words: μετά - **meta** - “above” or “beyond” or “after”; and νοια - **noia** - “mind” or “thought”, thus μετάνοια – “change of mind” or “after thought” or “repentance”

Mysterion – Greek word μυστηριον from which we get the English word, “mystery.” A **mysterion** is not a problem to be solved (like a murder “mystery”) but something that symbolizes or is a sign of something greater. It comes into Latin as **sacramentum** – an outward sign of something beyond the normal experience.

nike – the Greek word, νικη, means “victory,” It maybe part of the name Nicodemus. The last part of the name Nicodemus may be the Greek word, δεμος (**demos**) meaning “people,” thus Nicodemus would mean “People’s Victory.” An appropriate name for one who finally is committed to the One Who brings victory to the people.

Parakletos -- -the Greek word, παρακλήτος, meaning “advocate,” “helper,” “mediator,” “intercessor” or “supporter.”

Petros – the Greek name for Simon Peter. It is the Greek spelling of the name of Peter Πέτρος. **Petra** (Greek πέτρα) means rock. In Matthew 16:18, Jesus uses the Aramaic word for rock (כִּיפָא) when He says to Simon, son of Jon, “You are ‘Rock’ and on this rock (כִּיפָא) I will build my Church.” The Aramaic word, (כִּיפָא) is transliterated into Greek as Κηφός. Although the Aramaic and Hebrew pronunciation of the word uses a “c” sound – thus, “Cephas,” it comes into Greek with a “k” sound “kephas” (Κηφός). If Jesus had used English, He would have called Simon, “Rocky.”

philia – the Greek word, φιλια, means “love.” It refers to love of a friend or relative. Phileo is a verb which means, “I love,” or “I care for you as a friend or brother.”

philadelphia -the Greek word, φιλαδελφία, is translated as “mutual love,” but it is composed of two Greek words, **philia** (φιλια meaning “love”) and **adelphia** (αδελφία – meaning “brotherhood” “brothers,” or “brotherly”). Thus, **Philadelphia** means “brotherly love.” There was an ancient city in Greece with that name. Also the largest city in Pennsylvania is Philadelphia.

phos – φος –Greek word for “light.” In John 1: 7-9, the **Logos** (Word) is **Phos** (Light) that/Who shines in the darkness and the darkness cannot over take the **Phos** (Light)

Pnuema – the Greek word, Πνευμα, meaning “Spirit,” “breath,” “wind,” “breeze.” It is the Greek translation of the Hebrew word, **ruah** (רוּחַ). It is something not able to be seen, but something whose actions and effects can be experienced.

polloi – the Greek word **πολλοι** means “many,” or “the many,” or “all.” In Hebrews 9:28, the author speaks of Jesus taking away the sins of the **πολλῶν**. Some scholars translate this by saying Jesus took away the sins of **all people**; while others say that Jesus took away the sins of the many. A common use of the phrase is **οἱ πολλοι (hoi polloi)** meaning “all the people.”

Rabbi – the Hebrew word, **רַבִּי**, means “master” or “teacher.” On Easter Sunday, Mary calls Jesus **Rabbouni**, which is translated “My Teacher,” signifying a personal and close relationship with Jesus.

rachamim – the Hebrew word, **רַחֲמִים**, meaning “mercy” or “compassion”

radix radices – Latin word for “root” from which we get the English word, “radical.” Thus, something what is rooted in a person or a belief.

ruah – the Hebrew word, **רוּחַ**. It means “Spirit,” “breath,” “wind,” “breze.” Thus, it is something not seen, but the effects can be experienced.

sacramentum – the Latin word that is the translation of the Greek word **mysterion, μυστήριον** meaning “sign” or “symbol” – something that cannot be fully comprehended and something that refers to a greater reality.

salus or **salvus** -Latin word for salvation, healing, wholeness, or holiness

shalom or **salem** – Hebrew word, **שָׁלוֹם**, means “peace” but it is more than a lack of conflict; it is the way two persons or nations relate in a positive and loving way.

simul justus et peccator – the Latin phrase that is translated as “at the same time just and sinner.”

skandilon -Greek word, **σκανδῖλον** –tumbling block or scandal

splanchnon, σπλάγχχον which is translated as “one’s inmost self” or “inmost feelings,” or “affection,” or “Love,” or “moved with pity.”

THEOtocos – Greek word, **ΘΕΟΤΟΚΟΣ** is a title given to the Virgin Mary. It is composed of two Greek words **ΘΕΟ -THEO** – “GOD” and **τοκος -tokos** – “bearer” – thus, it means “bearer of GOD.” Plural would be **THEOtokoi** – “bearers of GOD.”

Sukkoth – the Hebrew word, **סוכות**, means “booth,” or “tabernacle.” It was a place that was weaved for protection. It is part of the fall Pilgrim Festivals.

tradition – the Latin word from which we get the English word, “tradition.” From two Latin words: **trans** – “over” and **do, dare** – “give” or “hand on,” thus, something that is “handed over” or “handed down”

triduum -- a Latin word which means “three days.” The Triduum are three days in Holy Week: Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday-Easter Vigil. They are the three most important and holiest days of the Church year.

YHWH – the Hebrew transliteration of **יהוה**, the proper name of GOD from Exodus 3: 14. This name for GOD is called “the tetragrammaton” (four letters) to translate the Hebrew name for GOD. The Tetragrammaton occurs 6, 828 times in the Bible. The Jewish people never pronounce this name. Instead, they say **Adonai (אֲדֹנָי)** – which is translated into English as “the Lord.” The New American Bible uses the smaller capitalized font for the second, third, and fourth capital letters to signify the translation of the tetragrammaton, thus “the LORD.”

zikaron -the Hebrew word **זִכְרוֹן** – meaning “to remember.” This type of “remembering” is much more than recalling an event. It implies re-living or a re-enactment of a past event and making it come alive again. It is translated into Greek as **ἀνεμνησις (amenmesis)**.

zoe – **ζωή** – the Greek word for “life.” The **Zoe** (Life) of God is the what the **Logos** (Word) of GOD creates and takes on in the person of Jesus. He then extends **zoe** (life) to all creation and especially to those who believe in the **Logos** (Word) made flesh. See John 1: 1-18.