



HELPING YOU REACH HISPANIC CATHOLICS

CATHOLIC SPANISH TRANSLATIONS

BY PATTI'S CATHOLIC CORNER



Client Translation Preferences

* If you're not sure about these, don't worry. We'd be happy to talk you through the options free of charge with a quick consultation call. Just let us know.

Client Name & Ministry:

Name of Project:

#1 - FORMAL OR NOT

More than English, Spanish has a formal and an informal way of speaking that should remain consistent throughout a text.

- I want to speak to my audience in a professional, respectful and formal way.
- I prefer a more laid-back, friendly and conversational style.

#2 - PLURAL OR SINGULAR

In Spanish the word for "you" must be singular or plural. You need to decide if you want to address your reader as a group of people (plural) or as one person (singular).

- I want to address my audience as a group.
- I want to address this to one person.

#3 - WHO IS YOUR AUDIENCE

Your translator can tailor (localize) the Spanish to your audience if you give them more details.

Mark those that apply:

Educational Level & Native Language

- No schooling or Elementary school only
- Middle and/or High school
- College educated
- Spanish is not their first language (for example many Latin American indigenous groups have their own separate languages but may learn Spanish as a second language)

Location & Origin

- Do they currently live in the U.S.? For how long?
 - They've lived in the U.S. for only months
 - They've lived in the U.S. for years
 - They've lived in the U.S. for decades
- They were born in the U.S.
- They were born in Mexico
- They were born in Central America
- They were born in South America
- They were born in Spain

#4 - TITLE CAPITALIZATION RULES

Spanish rules for capitalization are different than in English. For example, the names of months and days of the week are not capitalized. The grammar rules for titles in Spanish are to capitalize only the first word and any proper nouns. Here in the United States, some organizations choose to follow English capitalization rules so their titles match.

- I want Spanish capitalization rules for titles.
- I want English capitalization rules for titles.

#5 - HOW LITERAL

Translations can vary from a *literal, word-for-word* translation (not recommended!) to a *formal equivalence* translation which tries to maintain the Spanish as close to the English text as possible while still making sense to a *dynamic equivalence or sense-for-sense* translation which conveys the meaning of the English but in a way that would sound more natural to a Spanish-speaking audience.

- I want the Spanish to match the English as closely as possible and still make sense (this is helpful if they will be used in a bilingual group simultaneously or printed side-by-side).
- I want the Spanish to sound as natural as possible while keeping the meaning of the English.

#6 - PREFERRED BIBLE TRANSLATION

Just like in English, there are several approved Catholic Spanish translations of the Bible. We recommend *El Libro del Pueblo de Dios* since that is the one available on the Vatican website.

Choose your preferred Bible translation:

- El Libro del Pueblo de Dios*
- Biblia de Jerusalén*
- Biblia Latinoamericana*
- Dios habla hoy*
- Sagrada Biblia*
- La Biblia de América*
- Other: _____

#7 - CUSTOM TERMS

Be sure to gather and share any materials your ministry already has in Spanish so the translator can maintain consistency.

Use the space below (or email patti@patticc.com) to provide:

- Names or terms for which you already have an official Spanish version (your ministry/office name, your title, specialized terms).
- Names, terms, titles or acronyms that you prefer to be left in English. (for example, the name of a parish or building).

YOUR CUSTOM TERM LIST

English	Spanish
Example: Youth Ministry	Ministerio con adolescentes
Example: Small groups	pequeñas comunidades