

LITURGYNOTES – FOR JULY 2017

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CONTACT:

Deacon Frank Agnoli, MD, DMin
Director of Liturgy &
Director of Deacon Formation
E-Mail: agnoli@davenportdiocese.org
Phone: 563-888-4257

NINTH BISHOP OF DAVENPORT

Heartfelt thanks to the many, many individuals who lent their gifts and talents to the celebration of three beautiful liturgies. Particular thanks to the pastor and people of St. Mary in Iowa City and St. John Vianney in Bettendorf, for their unparalleled hospitality, and to those involved in music and other liturgical ministries... I have heard so many positive comments these past weeks!

LITURGY NEWS – FROM THE FDLC

On June 14, during their Spring General Assembly in Indianapolis, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops voted to approve two new liturgical documents. A vote is pending on a third item.

The revised *Guidelines for the Celebration of the Sacraments with Persons with Disabilities* were approved by a 180-1-0 vote. The document is a revision of an earlier guideline, last updated in 1995. These new guidelines take into account medical and technological innovations of recent years and stress the importance of the inclusion of all parishioners in the liturgical life of

the parish. Advocates for persons with disabilities, healthcare professionals, liturgists, and canonists were consulted in the formation of these guidelines. While not legislative in nature, they will be a helpful resource for dioceses and parishes.

The bishops also voted 178-3-0 in favor of a new translation of the *Order of Blessing the Oil of Catechumens and of the Sick and of Consecrating the Chrism*. Now confirmation by the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments is required.

In March 1988, the Administrative Committee of the NCCB approved the English version of the *De Benedictionibus* for the dioceses of the United States. It also contained proper blessings approved for use in the dioceses of the USA. It was subsequently confirmed by the Holy See on January 27, 1989. The Book of Blessings began liturgical use on the First Sunday of Advent 1989. In order to make the Spanish version compatible in content with the English, the USA adaptations were collected into a "sixth part." On June 14, the U.S. Bishops voted on this -- *Bendicional: Sexta Parte* is a collection of blessings in Spanish for use in the dioceses of the USA. The proposal received 171 votes in favor, 2 votes against, and 2 abstaining, falling short of the required two-thirds vote of the Latin Church members of the USCCB. Therefore, the voting will be completed by mail ballot with the Latin Rite bishops who were not present. After passage, this vote also requires subsequent recognition by the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments.

UPCOMING EVENTS

See the Liturgy Events webpage at: <http://www.davenportdiocese.org/liturgy-events>.

DIOCESAN LITURGIES

Ordinations

The members of Deacon Formation Class VII will be ordained at St. John Vianney Church in Bettendorf on Saturday, July 8, at 10:00 a.m. Due to the crowd expected, admission will be *by ticket only*. Thank you for your understanding.

You may want to include intercessions for these men as part of the Universal Prayer at Mass; for example:

For those who will be ordained this year for ministry in our diocese; we pray to the Lord:

That those who will be ordained to the diaconate and priesthood this year would faithfully follow the Good Shepherd as they serve the Diocese of Davenport; we pray to the Lord:

CONTINUING FORMATION FOR LITURGY / LITURGICAL MINISTRY

For more opportunities, see the Liturgy Events webpage at: <http://www.davenportdiocese.org/liturgy-events>.

FDLC Annual Meeting

We look forward to welcoming you to our forty-eighth annual national meeting, which will be held in Bloomington, MN on October 3-5! This year's theme is "Pastoral Care of the Sick: Touching the Hem of His Garment." We will focus on the pastoral care of the sick and the dying. We are excited about the subject and even more excited about the impressive line-up of presenters who will be joining us. Visit: <https://fdlc.org/national-meeting>.

LITURGY PREPARATION

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

World Day of Prayer for Creation (Friday, September 1)

Pope Francis has asked that we mark September 1 as the World Day of Prayer for Creation – a day that we now observe in common with the Orthodox. We posted a resource from the FDLC on our website: <https://www.davenportdiocese.org/documents/2016/6/litWorldDayofPrayerforCreation2015.pdf>.

Additional resources to help observe this special day may be found at:

- Global Catholic Climate Movement: <http://catholicclimatemovement.global/world-day-of-prayer/>
- USCCB: <http://www.usccb.org/prayer-and-worship/prayers-and-devotions/prayers/prayers-to-care-for-creation.cfm>

Labor Day (Monday, September 4)

Parishes may wish to celebrate the Mass for the Sanctification of Human Labor (#26; readings from #907-911) on this day. Preface V for Sunday is used, and white vestments are worn.

On Labor Day weekend, intercessions for workers ought to be included in the Universal Prayer; for example:

For those who are unemployed or underemployed, for those seeking work; let us pray: (Lord, hear our prayer)

For those who work in hazardous conditions without sufficient protection; let us pray: (Lord, hear our prayer)

For migrant workers and all who work the land and the waters, so we might be fed; let us pray: (Lord, hear our prayer)

For those who work in the service of their sisters and brothers; that they would not be discouraged by lack of support or progress; let us pray: (Lord, hear our prayer)

For all employers, that they may seek to provide a just work environment; let us pray: (Lord, hear our prayer)

For those who face discrimination, harassment, or abuse in the work place; let us pray: (Lord, hear our prayer)

For those who must balance job commitments with the needs of their family; let us pray: (Lord, hear our prayer)

The *Book of Blessings* also offers a number of opportunities. Pastoral visits could be made to places of work, and the following rites could be used: (18) Blessing of an Office, Shop, or Factory; (23) Blessing of Technical Installations or Equipment, and (26) Blessing of Fields and Flocks.

Or, at Sunday Masses or at Mass on Labor Day itself, workers could bring the tools of their trades to be blessed, and (24) Blessing of Tools or Other Equipment for Work be used. Special attention should be paid to laborers and those seeking work during the Prayer of the Faithful, as should those who are treated unjustly in the workplace, as in the examples above.

Monday, September 11

During the week of September 11, parishes may wish to celebrate a special Mass for “first responders” – such as police officers, firefighters, and emergency medical technicians/paramedics – using the Mass for Those in Public Office (#22) or the Mass for the Preservation of Peace and Justice (#30). Appropriate intercessions could also be included at the preceding Sunday Masses.

INTERCESSIONS

Here are resources for the Universal Prayer:

- (1) Intercessions for various life issues may be found on the USCCB website at:
<http://usccb.org/about/pro-life-activities/prayers/intercessory-prayers-for-life.cfm>
- (2) Intercession for vocations (in English and Spanish) keyed to the lectionary cycle may be found at the Diocese of Arlington website:
http://www.arlingtondiocese.org/vocations/voc_intercessions.aspx
- (3) The Center for Liturgy website offers general intercessions for each Sunday as well:
<http://liturgy.slu.edu/>
- (4) The Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops offers intercessions and homily ideas as part of their Pastoral Initiative for Life and Family:
<http://www.cccb.ca/site/eng/church-in-canada-and-world/catholic-church-in-canada/life-and-family/3296-documents-and-activities-proposed-by-the-ccb>

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Phone: 563-888-4220

E-Mail: hoefling@davenportdiocese.org