

LITURGYNOTES – FOR AUGUST 2015

NEWS FROM THE USCCB & FDLC

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CDWDS Confirms Order of Celebrating Matrimony, 2nd edition.

The Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments has confirmed the English translation of the *Order of Celebrating Matrimony, Second Edition* (OCM), with a *recognitio* decree dated June 29, 2015 (Prot. n. 84/14). At present, the Secretariat for Divine Worship is engaged with a standard review to resolve any issues that are commonly addressed with new liturgical translations. Following this process, Archbishop Joseph E. Kurtz, USCCB President, will issue a decree of publication establishing the implementation date. While the basic overall structure of the rite remains the same in this new edition, there are a number of interesting changes. We will mention these changes in future edition of the *LiturgyNotes*, as well as go over the adaptations for the US (Rome approved the use of the alternate form of consent based on the Sarum Rite and the use of the coins (*arras*) and either the *lazo* (wedding cord or lasso) or veil that is common in Spanish-speaking communities. Rome did not approve our request to have the option of moving the Nuptial Blessing during Mass from its place after the Lord's Prayer to after the Universal Prayer nor did they approve the optional inclusion of the Litany of the Saints following the homily.

We will keep you posted re: the publication of a final text for the US as well as the scheduling of workshops on the new Rite.

The Order of Confirmation

Noting the frequency with which Bishops celebrate confirmation in both English and Spanish, a bi-lingual edition of the rite will be published.

The Roman Missal – A Book of the Chair

Due to the weight of the *Roman Missal, third edition*, many priests had asked for a “book of the chair” or an edition for Sundays and Solemnities only. After reviewing the data produced in an informal FDLC survey last winter, the Committee endorsed the idea of a Book of the Chair. The final edition would have to be approved by the Committee, the body of Bishops, and then be confirmed by the Holy See.

The Lectionary for Mass Supplement

This Supplement will contain in one book the readings and psalms for an expanded Vigil Mass on Pentecost; the suggested readings for the liturgical celebrations entered into the Roman Calendar and the US Proper calendar since 2001; and readings available for the “Mass for Giving Thanks to God for the Gift of Human Life.”

YEAR OF MERCY

The Diocese of Davenport now has a webpage dedicated to our observation of the Year of Mercy. Check it out at: <http://www.davenportdiocese.org/lit/litYearOfMercy.htm>!

RESOURCE: HOMILETIC DIRECTORY

Summary §§20-25

As mentioned in the last issue, the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* lays out three criteria for interpreting the Scriptures in accord with Vatican II (§17):

1. Being attentive “to the content and unity of the whole Scripture” (CCC 112; Directory §§18-19);
2. Reading the Scriptures “within the living Tradition of the whole Church” (CCC 113; Directory §20); and
3. Being attentive to the analogy of faith (CCC 114; Directory §21).

Each of these criteria needs to be unpacked. In the last issue, we commented on #1 – that we attend to the unity of the Scriptures. Now we attend to the other two points.

As Catholics, we interpret the Scriptures within the life of the Church (§20). While the “relationship between Tradition and Scripture is profound and complex,” *Dei Verbum* – Vatican II’s Dogmatic Constitution on Divine Revelation – makes it clear that there are *not* two revelations but a single revelation, Jesus Christ, mediated through both the Scriptures and the Tradition of the Church (see especially paragraphs 2, 6, 9-10). The liturgy is a “unique manifestation of this relationship.” Not only was the liturgy the original setting for the development of what eventually became the New Testament, but the liturgy itself – its words and its actions – are rooted in the Bible.

The “analogy of faith” refers to the fact that our various doctrines work together in a “hierarchy” of truths (§21). At the core of our faith lies the mystery of the Trinity, and God’s invitation to share in this divine life – a reality “revealed and effected through the Paschal Mystery” of Jesus Christ. Therefore, at the heart of Catholic preaching lies the proclamation of the Paschal Mystery; at Eucharist, such a proclamation should help the hearer enter into that mystery through the celebration of the Eucharist. Such an encounter with Christ is transformative – and preaching can help draw out the implications of that transformation (§22).

Resources for connecting Scripture and Tradition include the *Catechism* (§23) and the writings of the Church Fathers (§25), who were “great masters of the spiritual interpretation of the Scripture” that transcends the literal meaning revealed through exegesis (while remaining rooted in it) and interprets the Bible through the lens of the Paschal Mystery (§24).

This section summarizes: Vatican II has given us “[1] a renewed understanding of the homily as integral to the liturgical celebration, [2] a fruitful method for biblical interpretation, and [3] an incentive for preachers to familiarize themselves with the riches of two thousand years of reflection on the word of God” which is our heritage (§25). *How* to do so is the subject of the next section of the document.

Response

All preaching needs to be rooted in the Tradition; that is, it needs to be doctrinally sound. What we preach is the faith of the Church, not our own opinions. And we can certainly learn from the preachers and teachers who have gone before us. So far, so good. But we need to be careful.

First, as Pope Francis, the US Bishops, and even this document remind us: the homily is not an academic lecture. To be “catechetical” – that is, to echo (teach) the faith – does not mean to present material as if one is in a classroom. The homiletic genre needs to be respected.

Second, I do get a little nervous when individuals hold up Patristic preachers (essentially those from the first 500 years of our history) as the ideal. I worry about a too-facile appropriation of the patristic approach in a contemporary setting: our contexts (including the presuppositions that we bring to the texts) are worlds apart. We can’t just “cut and paste” from an early homily and think it will make sense today. I am especially concerned about how the Jewish people are treated by some of the Church Fathers (ex: Chrysostom) and how for the Church Fathers the Old Testament was seen only as preparatory for the New... while, as mentioned last time, contemporary Catholic teaching accords both the Old Testament and the Covenant with the Jewish people enduring value on their own.

ANNUAL RESOURCES FROM LTP

LTP has announced that its annual resources are once again available. You may order your materials directly from LTP, 800-533-1900 or from Religious Supply Center in Davenport. Religious Supply is willing to provide the parishes with discounted prices. For details or to place your order, call Jim, 563-324-0669 or 800-292-0052, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m., M-F and 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. Saturday. Resources will be delivered to the Clergy Overnighter in November.

UPCOMING EVENTS

See the Liturgy Events webpage at: <http://www.davenportdiocese.org/lit/litevents.htm>.

DIOCESAN LITURGIES

(TBA)

CONTINUING FORMATION FOR LITURGY / LITURGICAL MINISTRY

TeamRCIA: August 14-15, 2015

Last chance to register!

Go to: <http://www.davenportdiocese.org/lit/litevents.htm#TeamRCIA>

Music Workshops

Does your parish or choir have certain hymns that are done well for the glory of God? Are you looking for new hymns for your assemblies and/or choirs? Do you want to get together and sing/share music with other musicians from across the diocese? Then these free workshops are for you!

We are inviting music ministers from around the diocese to come together and share resources for the various liturgical seasons:

Place	Date and Time	Liturgical Seasons
St. Mary Iowa City	Saturday, November 7, 2015 10:00am-Noon	Lent / Triduum / Eastertide
St. Alphonsus Mt. Pleasant	Saturday, May 7, 2016 10:00am-Noon	Ordinary Time Feasts & Solemnities

To register, simply send your music to the host at each site; that's all! No other registration is needed and there is no fee for attending.

For more information, go to: <http://www.davenportdiocese.org/lit/litevents.htm#MusicWorkshops>.

The July workshop was cancelled because of lack of interest; don't let that happen again!

For more opportunities, see the Liturgy Events webpage at: <http://www.davenportdiocese.org/lit/litevents.htm>.

LITURGY PREPARATION

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

The Solemnity of the Assumption, celebrated on August 15, falls on a Saturday this year, and so is not a Holy Day of Obligation. When the obligation is abrogated, ritual Masses (i.e., marriage, confirmation) are still prohibited but funeral Masses may be celebrated. Marriage may be celebrated outside of Mass using texts from the Rite of Marriage. The liturgies of August 14-16 are celebrated as follows:

	Morning Prayer	Mass before 4pm	Mass after 4pm	Evening Prayer
Friday, August 14	Memorial of St. Maximilian Kolbe	Memorial of St. Maximilian Kolbe	Vigil Mass: Assumption of the BVM	EP I of the Assumption of the BVM
Saturday, August 15	Assumption of the BVM	Mass during the Day: Assumption of the BVM	<i>If celebrate an anticipatory Mass:</i> 20 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	EP II of the Assumption of the BVM
Sunday, August 16	20 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	20 th Sunday in Ordinary Time		20 th Sunday in Ordinary Time

(N.B. If your parish is St. Mary of the Assumption, then the Solemnity can be moved to Sunday: the Saturday night Mass would be the Vigil of the Assumption and the Sunday Masses would be the Mass during the Day.)

Labor Day (Monday, September 7)

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 would be 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.

Lest we think that paying attention to the needs of workers is a thing of the past, our director of Social Action, Kent Ferris, has called the following to our attention (please note the second intention above). In addition to our prayers, we can act for justice:

A group of local construction workers who have endured hazardous on-the-job working conditions will be gathering on Tuesday, August 4, from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. in Gannon Hall at SS. Mary and Mathias Church in Muscatine (215 W. 8th St.). All are invited to learn how to best support their ongoing efforts for a better, safer workplace. The gathering will include members of other faith communities as well as others concerned for the common good, and is sponsored by the Center for Worker Justice of Eastern Iowa. For

more information, please contact Kent Ferris, ferris@davenportdiocese.org or at 563-888-4211.

Friday, September 11

On the anniversary 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).

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) Lectionary-based intercessions focused on social justice can be found at the Center of Concern website:
<http://www.coc.org/ef>
- (4) The Center for Liturgy website offers general intercessions for each Sunday as well:
<http://liturgy.slu.edu/>
- (5) 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>
- (6) See also our website for prayer resources in times of crisis:
<http://www.davenportdiocese.org/lit/litlibrary.htm#Prayers>

If you have received this newsletter in error, or no longer wish to receive *LiturgyNotes*, please contact Laurie Hoefling at the chancery and request to be removed from our distribution list.

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