

Dear companions at the Table,

As you know by now, John Kiley, Director of Social Action for our diocese, died suddenly earlier this month. The Social Action and Liturgy Offices had just launched a cooperative venture—meeting together to engage in *lectio divina* with the Sunday readings for Lent, and, from our prayer, producing a brief reflection for preachers and intercessions for parishes to use. These resources are being e-mailed to preachers and parishes, and are posted on the Liturgy homepage of the website (<http://www.davenportdiocese.org/lit/index.htm>). We hope that you find them helpful.

Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord. And may perpetual light shine upon him.

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FOR YOUR INFORMATION...

Bulletin announcements for the Lenten RCIA rites are available on our website; please see the Liturgy Events page. The direct URL is:
<http://www.davenportdiocese.org/lit/liturgylibrary/litLentBulletinAnnouncements.pdf>

“SING TO THE LORD” (PART 9)

The US Bishops conclude Part III of *Sing to the Lord* with a reminder that parishes, schools, and other institutions “have a legal and moral obligation to seek proper permissions and to pay for reprinting of published works when required...” (§105). It is also important to remember that any music used in the liturgy must be approved by the bishop of the diocese where it is published; one can’t just insert any piece of music into the liturgy: the texts must “express the faith of the Church with theological accuracy” and be “appropriate to the liturgical context” (§108).

Next time: What Parts Do We Sing? – The Principle of Progressive Solemnity

Our discussion of *Sing to the Lord* (available at:
<http://www.usccb.org/liturgy/SingToTheLord.pdf>) will continue next month.

THE NEW ROMAN MISSAL

On October 13, 2008, Bishop Arthur J. Serratelli, Chairman of the USCCB Committee on Divine Worship, addressed the 2008 National Meeting of Diocesan Liturgical Commissions. A copy of his speech can be found on the Bishops’ Committee on Divine Worship website:
<http://www.usccb.org/liturgy/missalformation/serratellispeech.shtml>.

UPCOMING EVENTS

DIOCESAN LITURGIES

Chrism Mass

Please remember that the Chrism Mass will be celebrated at Sacred Heart Cathedral on Monday, March 30, at 5:00 p.m. Parishes may find it helpful to include this bulletin announcement (also found on our website) in their bulletins:

You are invited to take part in one of the most special liturgies in the life of a diocese—the Chrism Mass. At this liturgy, the bishop gathers the faithful of the diocese—priests and deacons, religious and laity—around him for the blessing and consecration of the oils that will be used in all our parishes in the coming year. Here the Oil of the Sick, used to strengthen and console and heal those who are infirm, will be blessed. Here the Oil of Catechumens, used to strengthen and free those who are preparing for baptism, will be blessed. Here the Sacred Chrism, used to ordain bishops and priests, to confirm, and to dedicate churches and altars, will be consecrated. And here, too, we will witness the Rite of Recommitment to Ministry by our priests. May our presence at the Chrism Mass be a sign of our support and gratitude for their ministry—and a reminder that baptism calls all of us to lives of service.

CONTINUING FORMATION OPPORTUNITIES

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

North American Forum on the Catechumenate

The Forum will be returning to Davenport on July 24-25, 2009, for a workshop on Mystagogy. Please reserve those dates. The flyer and registration brochure are now available on the diocesan website under Liturgy Events (<http://www.davenportdiocese.org/lit/litevents.htm>).

LITURGY PREPARATION

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

The Month of May

May is traditionally regarded as a Marian month. Please recall, however, that the Easter Season (including Pentecost) should remain the primary focus in both prayer and in the liturgical environment. Popular devotions are to take their life from the liturgy, not overshadow it.

Sunday, May 10, the Fifth Sunday of Easter, is also Mother's Day this year. As a secular holiday, it should in no way overshadow the primary celebration of the paschal mystery and the Easter Season. The Book of Blessings (#1724ff) contains an appropriate rite for parish use. The same applies to Father's Day, June 21 (See BB #1729ff).

Anniversary of Episcopal Ordination of Bishop Amos

The anniversary of the episcopal ordination of Bishop Amos, observed as a Feast in the Diocese, will be celebrated on June 8 this year (having been transferred from the preceding Sunday, June 7). On June 8, the Mass “For the Bishop” (Masses for Various Needs and Occasions I. For the Church 3. For the Bishop) with its appropriate readings should be celebrated. It would also be appropriate to include a particular petition for the Bishop as part of the Prayers of the Faithful on the weekend of June 6-7.

INTERCESSIONS

(1) “Intercessions for Life” may be found on the USCCB website at:

<http://www.usccb.org/prolife/liturgy/wolarchive.shtml>

(2) Monthly intercession for vocations:

For our young people, that they may find a joyful faith in their families, and encouragement to respond to a life of ministry and service; we pray to the Lord.

(3) Weekly intercessions from the Liturgical Commission:

- April 5 PALM SUNDAY OF THE LORD’S PASSION
For those persecuted for proclaiming peace and working for justice; we pray to the Lord.
- April 12 EASTER SUNDAY: SOLEMNITY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD
For the courage to proclaim the Good News in word and deed; we pray...
- April 19 2nd SUNDAY OF EASTER (Divine Mercy Sunday)
For the Church: that we would be one in heart and mind, showing God’s mercy to all; we pray...
- April 26 3rd SUNDAY OF EASTER
For those who hunger around the world: that we would witness to Christ’s resurrection by attending to their needs; we pray...

POPULAR DEVOTIONSMARY AND THE MONTH OF MAY

The *Directory on Popular Piety and the Liturgy* (§§190-191) also reminds us, as also mentioned above, that celebrating May as a “Marian Month”—while a worthwhile practice—must in no way compete with or overshadow the liturgy and liturgical season. It would be better, instead, to find connections between the two, for example, highlighting Mary’s role in the paschal mystery (Easter Season) and in the early church (Pentecost).

Dayton University hosts a very helpful Marian website; here is the URL for the page dealing specifically with May (including a section on the popular devotion of May Crowning):
<http://campus.udayton.edu/mary/meditations/crownmed.html>

The website rightly points out that the popular practice of crowning a Marian image in May is not the same as the formal Rite of Crowning an Image:
(<http://campus.udayton.edu/mary/resources/crowning.html>).

A way to celebrate a family May Crowning is found here:
<http://www.catholicculture.org/culture/liturgicalyear/activities/view.cfm?id=1078>.

MOTHERS' DAY & FATHERS' DAY

As mentioned above, the *Book of Blessings* contains the appropriate liturgical rites for parishes. *Catholic Household Blessings and Prayers* has a section entitled "Prayers and Blessings for Family Members" which includes a Prayer for Mothers and a Prayer for Fathers.

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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